

State of California
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency
Department of Transportation

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS
10-MER-99 PM 23.8/26.5
Action Item

Prepared by:
GARY R. WINTERS
Chief
Division of Environmental Analysis

CTC Meeting: July 18, 2002
Reference No.: 2.2c.(4)

Original Signed By:
ROBERT L. GARCIA
Chief Financial Officer
July 1, 2002

**APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING
TO CONVERT STATE ROUTE 99 FROM A FOUR-LANE EXPRESSWAY TO A SIX-LANE
FREEWAY IN THE COUNTY OF MERCED, NEAR ATWATER.**

RESOLUTION E-02-35

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The attached resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Negative Declaration has been completed:

- Route 99 in Merced County – Convert State Route 99 from a Four-Lane Expressway to a Six-Lane Freeway near Atwater

The total cost of the project is \$41.2 million.

The Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study has been transmitted to Commission staff.

The Department has approved the project for construction. This approval and the resulting filing of the Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends that the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-02-35.

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 10-MER-99 PM 23.8/26.5

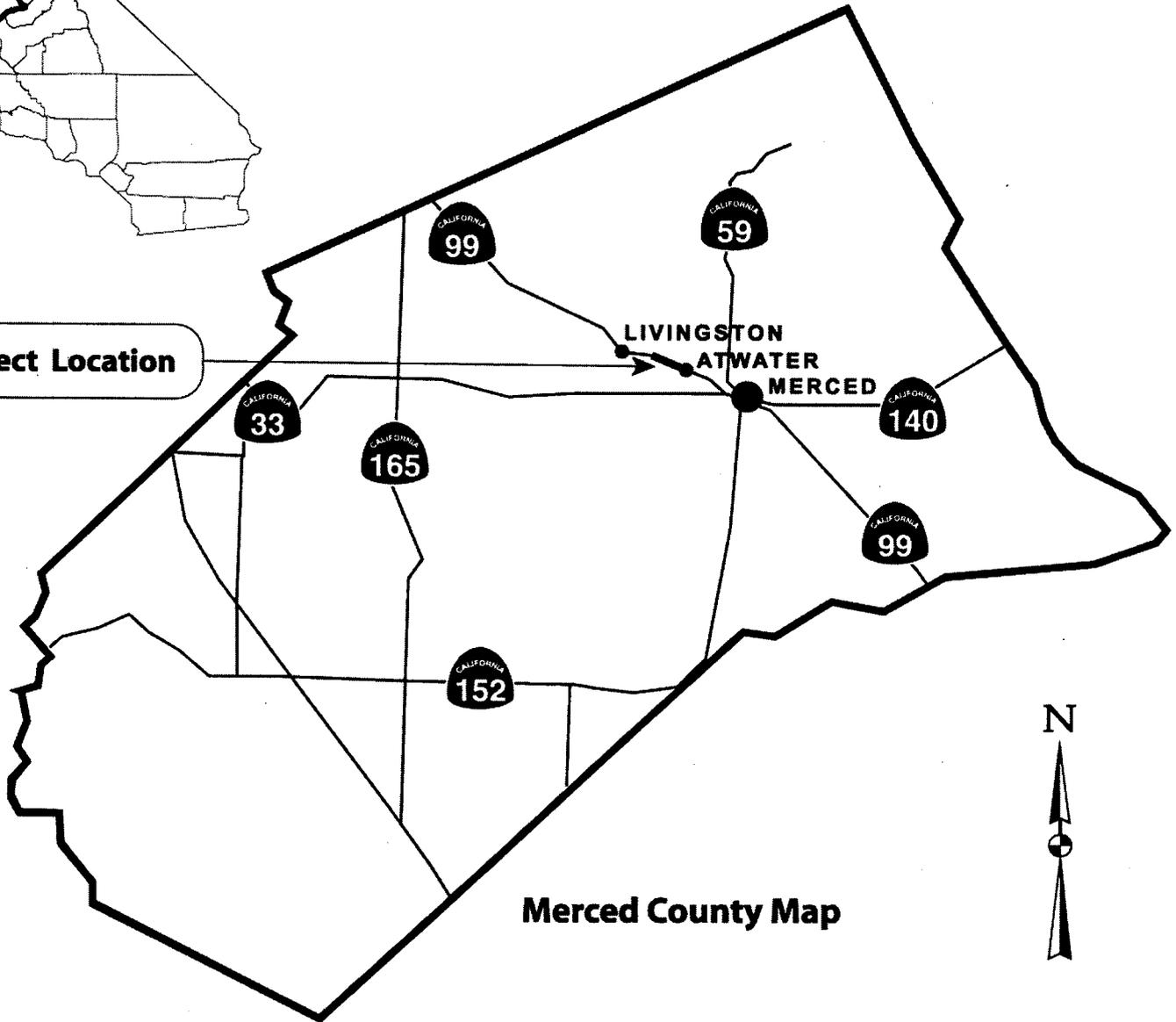
Resolution E-02-35

- 1.1** **WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has completed a Negative Declaration in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission Environmental Regulations for the following project:
- Route 99 in Merced County – Convert State Route 99 from a Four-Lane Expressway to a Six-Lane Freeway near Atwater
- 1.2** **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Negative Declaration; and
- 1.3** **WHEREAS**, the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- 2.1** **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby approve the above referenced project.

**County, Location, and Vicinity Map
Atwater Freeway Project
10 - MER - 99
EA# 10-414800**

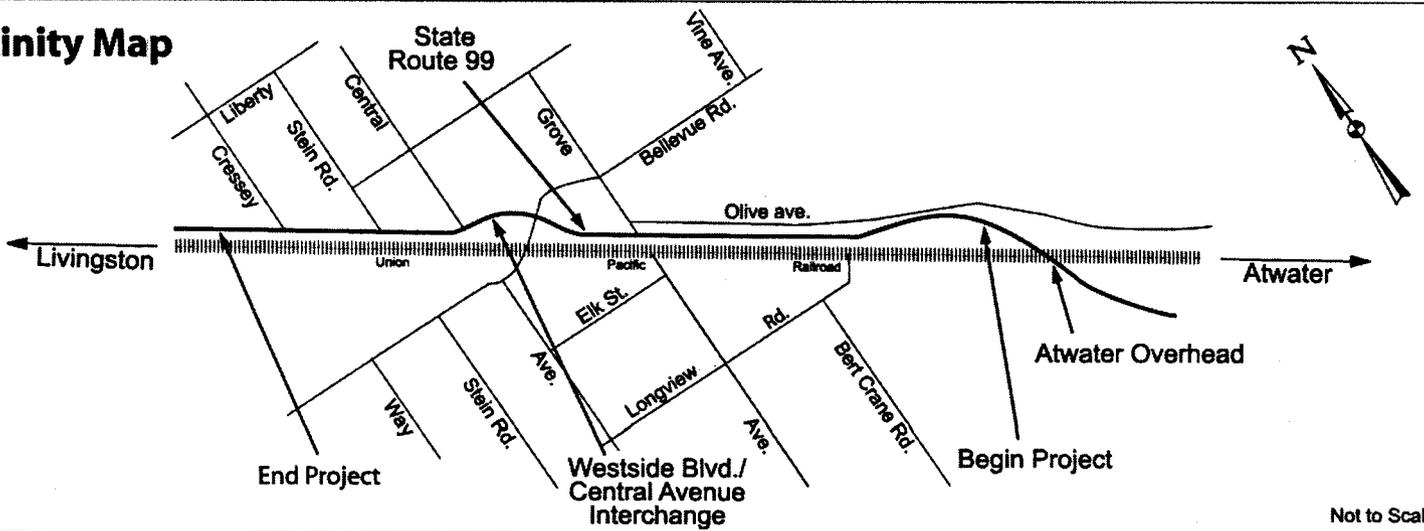


Project Location



Merced County Map

Vicinity Map



Not to Scale

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 122
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Department of Transportation
Central Region
2015 East Shields, Suite 100
Fresno, CA 93726

SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF DETERMINATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 21108 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE.

PROJECT TITLE: Atwater Freeway Project

SCH# 2001111133	Todd Sexauer	(559) 243-8200
State Clearinghouse Number	Lead Agency Contact Person	Area Code/Telephone

PROJECT LOCATION (INCLUDE COUNTY): 10-Mer-99 K.P. 38.3/42.7 (P.M. 23.8/26.5). On State Route 99 between Atwater and Livingston in Merced County.

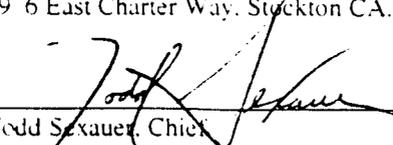
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The California Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration proposes to convert a 4.3 kilometer (2.7 mile) segment of State Route 99 in Merced County from a four-lane expressway to a six-lane freeway. This project would involve realignment east of and parallel to the current alignment. The proposed project would remove all at-grade intersections within the project area. Local traffic would be served by the extension of a frontage road that connects to a planned interchange to be located at the Westside Boulevard/Central Avenue intersection with State Route 99.

This is to advise that the California Department of Transportation (Lead Agency Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on March 8, 2002 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project (will will not) have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions on CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures (were were not) made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A Statement of Overriding Considerations (was was not) adopted for this project.
5. Findings (were were not) made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The above-identified document with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

California Department of Transportation
Stockton District Office
Office of the Public Information Officer
1976 East Charter Way, Stockton CA, 95205


Todd Sexauer, Chief
Sierra Pacific Environmental Analysis Branch
California Department of Transportation

Date received for filing at OPR:

