

Memorandum

To: Chair and Commissioners

Date: September 17, 2002

From: Diane C. Eidam

File No:
Reference Number 2.2c.(3)
Action

Ref: San Joaquin Rail Corridor Capacity Improvement Project (Kings County) – Future Consideration of Funding to Install a Second Track in the Vicinity of Hanford, from Guernsey to Shirley, within the San Joaquin Rail Corridor (Notice of Determination) (TCRP #92) Resolution E-02-45

Issue:

Should the Commission adopt the attached resolution to approve future consideration of funding to install a second track in the vicinity of Hanford, from Guernsey to Shirley, within the San Joaquin Rail Corridor in Kings County?

Recommendation:

Commission staff recommends that the Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-02-45. As a responsible agency, the Commission must approve this Resolution prior to allocating funds for capital purposes on the proposed project.

Background:

This resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Mitigated Negative Declaration under the California Environmental Quality Act has been completed:

- Install a second track in the vicinity of Hanford, from Guernsey to Shirley, within the San Joaquin Rail Corridor in Kings County

The project is to install a second track from Guernsey to Shirley to enhance track efficiency within the San Joaquin Rail Corridor. This project will include installing fill adjacent to the existing track; installing the second track over the whole alignment; installing new sidings where needed; upgrading and replacing existing signal systems; and purchase of about 20 acres of new right-of-way along the alignment.

The current estimate for the project is \$20,770,700, of which \$10,000,000 in funding will be provided through the Governor's Traffic Congestion Relief (TCR) Program, Project #92, for Phase 4 (Construction). The remaining \$10,770,700 will come from committed 1996 STIP (SHA/IIP) funds. The Commission, at its May 9, 2002 meeting, approved the Department of Transportation's (Department) original project application.

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The Department has approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration and has filed a Notice of Determination for this project. The Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study has been transmitted to Commission staff. The Commission's approval and the resulting filing of the attached Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Approval of Project for Consideration of Funding San Joaquin Rail Corridor Capacity Improvement Project (Guernsey to Shirley) (Kings County)

Resolution E-02-45

- 1.1** **WHEREAS**, the Department of Transportation has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission Environmental Regulations for the following project
- Install a second track from Guernsey to Shirley within the San Joaquin Rail Corridor in Kings County
- 1.2** **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated 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 for future consideration of funding.