

## Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 29-30, 2016

Reference No.: 2.1a.(2b)  
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Bruce De Terra, Chief  
Division of  
Transportation Programming

Subject: **SHOPP AMENDMENT 16H-004**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the requested State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Amendment 16H-004; in accordance with Senate Bill 486 which requires the Commission to approve any changes or new projects amended into the SHOPP.

### **ISSUE:**

Since the May 2016 report to the Commission, the Department recommends that the Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing near Scotts Valley be amended into the 2016 SHOPP, as summarized in Attachment 1. The amendment noted below would be funded from the Advanced Mitigation Reservation. This amendment into the SHOPP will provide only project development funding for the environmental (PA&ED) and design (PS&E) phases. Right of Way and Construction phases will be locally funded via a November 2016 county-wide sales tax measure and private sources affiliated with Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has committed to working with the Department to identify mitigation that could apply to future Department projects within the area.

2016 SHOPP Summary of New Projects by Category	No.	FY 2016/17 (\$1,000)	FY 2017/18 (\$1,000)	FY 2018/19 (\$1,000)	FY 2019/20 (\$1,000)
Advance Mitigation	1				\$2,751
Total Amendments	1				\$2,751

**BACKGROUND:**

In each even numbered year, the Department prepares a four-year SHOPP which defines major capital improvements necessary to preserve and protect the State Highway System. Periodically, the Department amends the SHOPP to address newly identified needs prior to the next programming cycle. Between programming cycles, the Department updates scope, schedule and cost to effectively deliver projects.

Resolution G-00-13, established in June 2000, provides the Department with means to develop SHOPP projects which require periods longer than the four-year SHOPP cycle. The Commission authorized the Department to program projects for development only when appropriate. Long Lead projects must identify challenges that require additional time beyond the typical four years to complete.

Senate Bill 486, approved by Governor September 30, 2014, requires Commission approval of projects amended into the SHOPP.

Attachment

**List of New 2016 SHOPP Capital Project Amendments**

PPNO	Dist-Co-Rte PM EA Project ID	Project Location and Description of Work	R/W Cost Const. Cost (\$1,000)	FY	Support Costs (\$1,000)	Program Code Leg. /Congr. Dists. Perf. Meas.
Collision Reduction						
2593	5-SCR-17 9.4/9.6  1G260 05 1400 0131	0.06 mile south of Laurel Road to 0.25 mile north of Laurel Road.  Construct wildlife undercrossing. FCO for PA&ED and PS&E only. Local contributions to fund remaining components.  PAED: 09/01/17 R/W: 10/01/19 RTL: 03/24/20 BC: 11/03/20	\$ 0 (R/W) \$ 0(C)	19/20	PA & ED \$739 PS & E \$2,013 RW Sup \$0 Con Sup \$0 <hr/> Total \$2,751	201.010 Assembly: 29 Senate: 17 Congress: 18  1 Location



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Director's Office  
1416 Ninth Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

*EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor*  
*CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director*



March 3, 2016

Kome Ajise  
Chief Deputy Director  
California Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 942873  
Sacramento, CA 94273-0001

Dear Mr. Ajise:

Subj: Highway 17 Laurel Curve

Thank you for our recent conversation regarding planning for a wildlife crossing at the Laurel Curve on Highway 17, Santa Cruz County. Providing strategic and targeted connectivity for wildlife across the state's transportation network is an important topic that the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is committed to addressing.

I understand Caltrans is interested in potentially funding part of a wildlife crossing solution near Laurel Curve using Advance Mitigation funding comprised of dollars earmarked for investment in conservation and mitigation for future transportation projects. During our conversation, you also mentioned that Caltrans is attempting to identify additional non-state funding sources to help finance this project which could reduce the reliance upon the Caltrans Advance Mitigation funding. We further agreed that while the Advance Mitigation funding concept is an important part of transportation planning and project funding, it is a policy construct within Caltrans that the Department wholly supports but for which it cannot provide explicit commitments without additional legislative authority to do so. However, as part of our commitment to move forward on the this particular project, I've asked staff in our regional office to actively engage with local Caltrans staff to identify and quantify wildlife values associated with the project, including wildlife corridor values, that could potentially provide mitigation for similar elements of other future Caltrans projects in a defined and agreed upon geographic area that encompasses the project site.

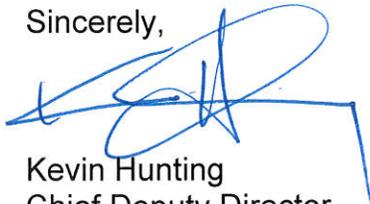
In this way, despite our lack of explicit authority for advanced mitigation crediting, we can provide reassurance and a commitment to work through evaluating project impacts and compensation in a way that may provide for broader use of the Caltrans Advance Mitigation funding base. Wildlife crossings and corridors provide important benefits for many populations of California's native species, and we'll continue to engage with Caltrans on this project as planning proceeds.

*Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870*

Kome Ajise, Chief Deputy Director  
California Department of Transportation  
March 3, 2016  
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We value the opportunity to work with Caltrans to identify ways to work together most effectively on projects that provide benefits for both public safety and wildlife. Feel free to contact me as planning progresses on this project, or as other issues arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KH', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kevin Hunting  
Chief Deputy Director