

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: October 24, 2012

Reference No.: 2.2c. (4)  
Action

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE SAN YSIDRO FREIGHT RAIL YARD  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-12-68)**

## **ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the San Ysidro Freight Rail Yard Improvement Project (project) in the southeast portion of the City of San Diego in San Diego County and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commission accept the MND and approve the project for future consideration of funding.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. On March 4, 2011 the SANDAG adopted the Final MND and found that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

The project is located in the community of San Ysidro in the southeast portion of the City of San Diego, San Diego County, California. The project will construct improvements to the San Ysidro Rail Yard, including two new track extensions and revisions to the track alignment for additional rail car storage, new truck access road, and drainage improvements.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to biological resources, cultural resources, paleontological resources, and hazards and hazardous materials. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, native vegetation being cleared and grubbed outside the coastal California gnatcatcher breeding season; preparing a Level II Historic American Engineering Record of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railroad in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Architectural and Engineering

Documentation Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)/HAER Standards; and using appropriate abatement measures for hazardous building materials.

On September 25, 2012 SANDAG confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The project is estimated to cost \$40,460,000 and is programmed with State (\$25,900,000) funds, Local (\$5,260,000) funds, and Federal (\$9,300,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2012/13.

Attachment

- Resolution E-12-68
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 11 – San Diego County Resolution E-12-68

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - San Ysidro Freight Rail Yard Improvement Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, SANDAG has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will construct improvements to the San Ysidro Rail Yard including two new track extensions and revisions to the track alignment in the community of San Ysidro, San Diego County; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, SANDAG found that all significant or potentially significant impacts can be reduced by mitigation measures to a less than significant level; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, SANDAG adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, SANDAG adopted a Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program for the project.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

San Ysidro Railroad Yard Improvement Project

