

Memorandum

Tab 33

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 21, 2014

Reference No.: 2.2c (1)
Action

From: ANDRE BOUTROS
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE EUREKA WATERFRONT TRAIL
PHASE C PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-14-12)**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Eureka Waterfront Trail Phase C Project (project) in Humboldt 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 City of Eureka (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located in the northeastern portion of the City of Eureka, east of Waterfront Drive and adjacent to the south coast of Humboldt Bay and Eureka Slough. The project will construct an approximately 1.17 mile Class I multi-use trail between Tydd Street and Front Street including a boardwalk, three bridges, viewing areas with interpretive signs, drainage improvements, fencing, trailheads, lighting, and landscape buffers.

On March 28, 2014 the City adopted the final MND for the project and found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation. According to the City, NEPA clearance for this project is anticipated in July 2014.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to Aesthetics, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology & Soils, Hazards & Hazardous Materials, Hydrology & Water Quality, Noise, and Utilities and Service Systems. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: incorporating lighting design to protect wildlife and nighttime views; efforts to minimize impacts to special-status plants, avoidance of wetlands and compensatory mitigation for wetland resources impacted by the project, conducting vegetation

clearing activities outside the active nesting season if possible as well as preconstruction surveys and establishment of buffer zones to minimize impacts to nesting birds; monitoring efforts for archaeological and paleontological artifacts during construction including measures to address the inadvertent discovery of cultural resources; preparation of a design-level geotechnical study; installation of warning signage regarding seismic and tsunami activity; site assessment including pre-construction testing of soil and groundwater to determine presence of contamination and/or hazardous materials and pre-construction implementation of remediation measures to address any contamination discovered; preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan as well as a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan; and restricting construction hours to minimize noise disturbance.

On April 10, 2014 the City 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 \$2,500,000 and is funded through PS&E with STIP (\$140,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2014/15.

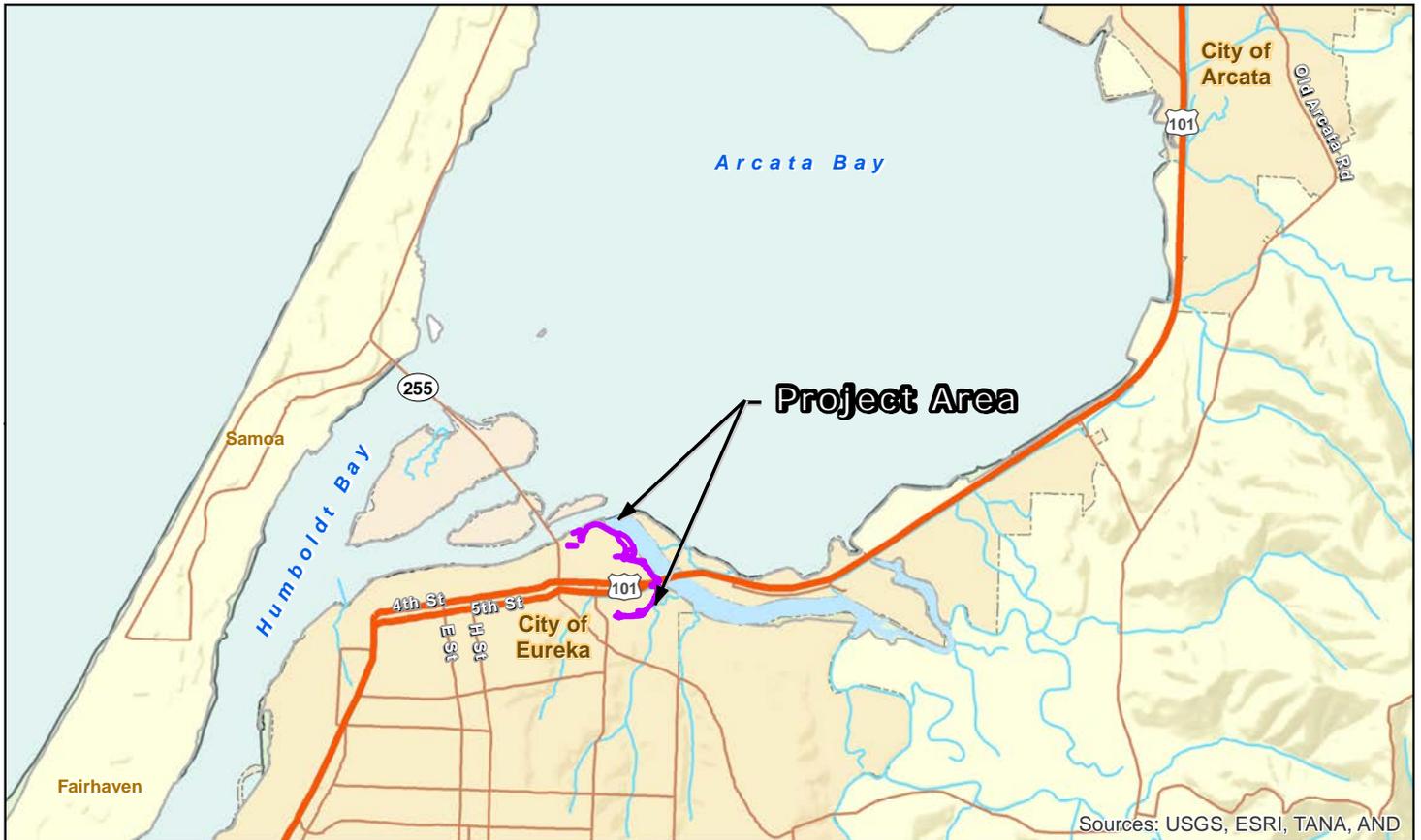
Attachments

- Resolution E-14-12
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 01 – Humboldt County Resolution E-14-12

- 1.1** **WHEREAS**, the City of Eureka has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
- Eureka Waterfront Trail Phase C Project
- 1.2** **WHEREAS**, the City of Eureka 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 an approximately 1.17 mile Class I multi-use trail between Tydd Street and Front Street including a boardwalk, three bridges, viewing areas with interpretive signs, drainage improvements, fencing, trailheads, lighting, and landscape buffers; and
- 1.4** **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5** **WHEREAS**, the City of Eureka found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6** **WHEREAS**, the City of Eureka approved the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1** **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.



- Freeway
- Highway
- Major Road
- Streams
- City Limits
- Humboldt County
- Counties
- Project Study Boundary

1: 72,000 @ 8.5' X 11' (ANSI A)

0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000

Feet

Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California I FIPS 0401 Feet

City of Eureka
Eureka Waterfront Trail Phase C Tydd St.

Job Number 8410915
Revision B
Date 15 Jan 2014

Vicinity and Location Figure 1

G:\01081 HumboldtCounty DPW\8410593 HumBayConceptDesignTechStudies\08-GIS\Maps\Figures\F1_Vicinity_RwT_rev_1.mxd 718 Third Street Eureka, CA 95501 T 707 443 8326 F 707 444 8330 E eureka@ghd.com W www.ghd.com

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