

# Memorandum

**Tab 34**

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 21, 2014

Reference No.: 2.2c (2)  
Action

From: ANDRE BOUTROS  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE NELSON ROAD STORM DAMAGE  
REPAIR PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-14-13)**

## **ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Nelson Road Storm Damage Repair Project (project) in Santa Cruz 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 County of Santa Cruz (County) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located at Post Mile 2.0 on Nelson Road near Lockhart Gulch Road in the Scott's Valley area of Santa Cruz County. The project will construct a permanent bypass road around a 350 foot landslide that occurred in 2011. The project will construct two mechanically stabilized embankment retaining walls, drainage improvements, and a new asphalt pavement permanent road. The project will also remove 220 feet of the existing temporary bypass road and complete erosion control, restoration and riparian re-vegetation of the Ruins Creek channel.

On February 20, 2014 the County adopted the final MND for the project and found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to Geology & Soils, Hydrology & Water Quality, Biological Resources, Hazards & Hazardous Materials, and Noise. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: efforts to minimize impacts to water quality including erosion and sediment control measures; preconstruction surveys and establishment of buffer zones to minimize impacts to nesting bird species; development of a

spill prevention and response plan and 50 foot minimum buffers for construction staging areas near streams; and restricting construction hours to minimize noise disturbance.

On March 18, 2014 the County 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 \$1,256,000 and is fully funded through construction with STIP (\$945,000) and Local (\$311,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2014/15.

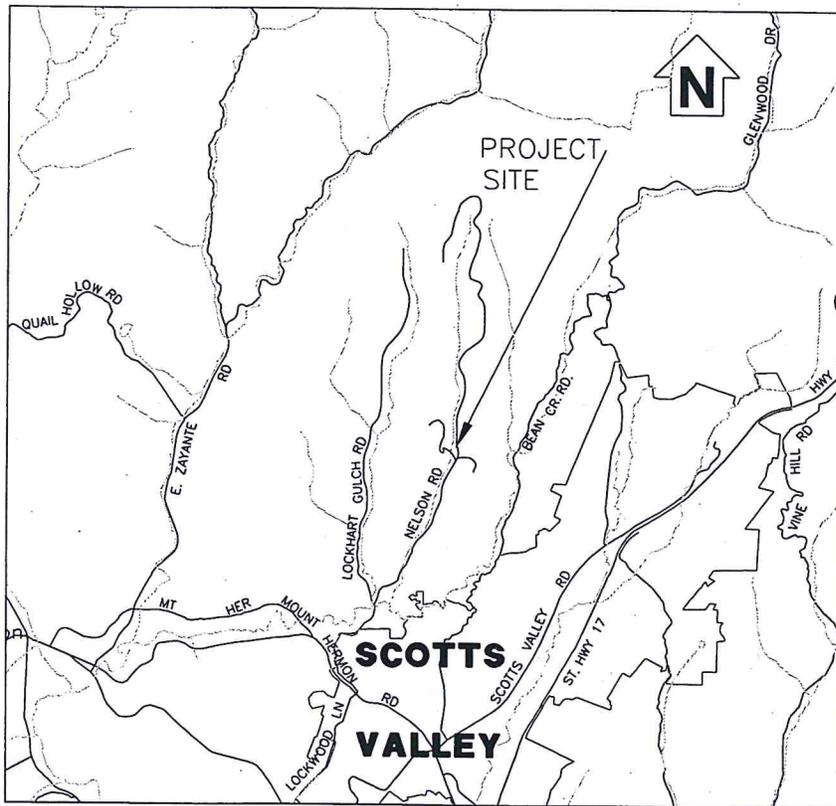
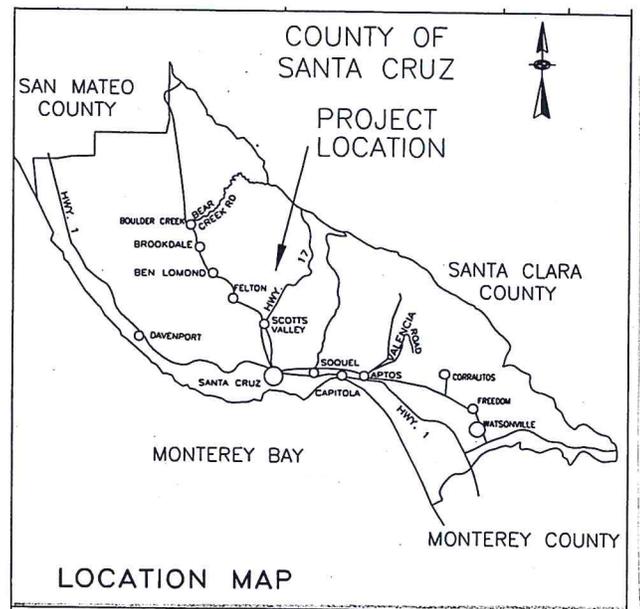
Attachments

- Resolution E-14-13
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 05 – Santa Cruz County Resolution E-14-13

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the County of Santa Cruz has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - Nelson Road PM 2.0 Storm Damage Repair Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the County of Santa Cruz 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 two mechanically stabilized embankment retaining walls, drainage improvements, a new asphalt pavement permanent road, remove 220 feet of the existing temporary bypass road and complete erosion control, restoration and riparian re-vegetation of the Ruins Creek channel; 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 County of Santa Cruz found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the County of Santa Cruz 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.



VICINITY MAP  
NO SCALE

**Directions:** From Ocean St. in the City of Santa Cruz,  
 Travel north on CA-17 (signs for California 17/San Jose) 3.6 miles,  
 Exit onto Mt Hermon Rd and travel 1.6 miles,  
 Turn right onto Lockhart Gulch Rd and travel 0.6 miles,  
 Continue onto Nelson Rd and travel 2.0 miles.

**Nelson Road Vicinity and Location Maps**