

Memorandum

Tab 38

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: August 27, 2015

Reference No.: 4.10
Information

From: WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

Subject: **QUARTERLY REPORT – COMMISSION COMMENT LETTERS ON NOTICES OF PREPARATION AND DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS**

ISSUE:

For the period of April 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) received three Notices of Preparation and one Draft Environmental Impact Report. The Executive Director's comment letters are attached.

BACKGROUND:

At the June 2009 Commission Meeting, the Commission delegated to its Executive Director the authority to provide comments to routine Notices of Preparation and Draft Environmental Impact Reports. The Commission's delegation to the Executive Director requires that comments to routine Notices of Preparation and Draft Environmental Impact Reports be reported to the Commission quarterly.

Attachments

LUCETTA DUNN, Chair
BOB ALVARADO, Vice Chair
DARIUS ASSEMI
YVONNE B. BURKE
JAMES EARP
DARIO FROMMER
JAMES C. GHIEMMETTI
CARL GUARDINO
FRAN INMAN
JAMES MADAFFER
JOSEPH TAVAGLIONE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EDMUND G. BROWN Jr., Governor



SENATOR JIM BEALL, Ex Officio
ASSEMBLY MEMBER JIM FRAZIER, Ex Officio

WILL KEMPTON, Executive Director

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1120 N STREET, MS-52
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
P. O. BOX 942873
SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
FAX (916) 653-2134
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<http://www.catc.ca.gov>

May 4, 2015

Mr. Oliver Iberien,
California Department of Transportation
Environmental Branch, District 4
111 Grand Avenue MS-8B
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Alameda Creek Bridge Replacement Project 04-
ALA84, PM13.0/13.6

Dear Mr. Iberien,

The California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, received the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the Alameda Creek Bridge Replacement Project in Alameda County. This project proposes to replace the Alameda Creek Bridge, along with realigning the eastern and western approaches to the bridge on State Route 84.

The Commission has no comments with respect to the project's purpose and need, the alternatives studied, the impacts evaluated, and the evaluation methods used. As the project is programmed in the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) and actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated, upon completion of the final environmental document, notification should be provided to the Commission as a Responsible Agency. The Commission cannot allocate funds to a project for design, right of way or construction, or approve a new public road connection or route adoption, until the final environmental document is complete and the Commission has considered the environmental impacts of the project and approved the environmentally cleared project for future consideration of funding.

Upon completion of the CEQA process and prior to the Commission's action to approve the project for future consideration of funding, the Commission expects the lead and/or implementing agency to provide written assurance whether the selected alternative identified in

the final environmental document is or is not consistent with the project programmed by the Commission and included in the Regional Transportation Plan. In the absence of such assurance of consistency, it may be assumed that the project is not consistent and Commission staff will base its recommendations to the Commission on that fact. The Commission may deny funding to a project which is no longer eligible for funding due to scope modifications or other reasons.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Favila at (916) 653-2064.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will Kempton" followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

c: Katrina Pierce, Chief, Caltrans Division of Environmental Analysis

LUCETTA DUNN, Chair
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April 21, 2015

Bahar Heydari
California Department of Transportation, District 12
3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92612

RE: SR-241 / SR-91 Express Lanes Connector Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact
Report/Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Bahar Heydari,

The California Transportation Commission (Commission) received your letter with respect to the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the SR-241/SR-91 Express Lanes Connector (Project).

Since there are no indentified funds subject to Commission action at this time, the Commission has no role in this project's environmental process. However, if in the future, funds or other actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated, please ensure that notification is provided to the Commission as a Responsible Agency. Consideration of the environmental impacts of a project are required prior to the Commission's allocation of funds for design, right of way or construction activities as well as for new public road connections and route adoptions.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Maller, Deputy Director, at (916) 653-2070.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will Kempton".

WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

c: Katrina Pierce, Chief, Caltrans Division of Environmental Analysis

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May 4, 2015

Mr. Oliver Iberien,
California Department of Transportation
Environmental Branch, District 4
111 Grand Avenue MS-8B
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Notice of Preparation - Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Lagunitas Creek Bridge Project

Dear Mr. Iberien,

The California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, received the Notice of Preparation that a Draft Environmental Impact Report will be prepared by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the Lagunitas Creek Bridge Project in Marin County. The Commission has no comments with respect to the project's purpose and need, the alternatives to be studied, the impacts to be evaluated, and the evaluation methods used. As the project is programmed in the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) and actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated, notification should be provided to the Commission as a Responsible Agency. Consideration of environmental impacts of a project are required prior to the Commission's allocation of funds for design, right of way or construction activities as well as for new public road connections and route adoptions.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Favila at (916) 653-2064.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will Kempton".

WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

c: Katrina Pierce, Chief, Caltrans Division of Environmental Analysis

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June 10, 2015

Ms. Michelle Ray
California Department of Transportation
Environmental Branch, District 6
855 M Street, Suite 200
Fresno, CA 93726

RE: Notice of Preparation - Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Madera 41 South Expressway

Dear Ms. Ray,

The California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, received the Notice of Preparation that a Draft Environmental Impact Report will be prepared by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the Madera 41 South Expressway Project in Madera County. The Commission has no comments with respect to the project's purpose and need, the alternatives to be studied, the impacts to be evaluated, and the evaluation methods used. As actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated, notification should be provided to the Commission as a Responsible Agency. Consideration of environmental impacts of a project are required prior to the Commission's allocation of funds for design, right of way or construction activities as well as for new public road connections and route adoptions.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Favila, Senior Transportation Planner, at (916) 653-2064.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will Kempton".

WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

c: Katrina Pierce, Chief, Caltrans Division of Environmental Analysis