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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT

A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FOR THE

LAGUNA CREEK INTER-REGIONAL TRAIL CROSSING AT STATE ROUTE 99

PROJECT (WTL016)

February 20, 2025

Notice is hereby given that the City of Elk Grove, as lead agency, has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the below referenced Project. The Draft MND analyzes the potential environmental effects associated with the proposed Project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In accordance with Section 15072 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City of Elk Grove has prepared this Notice of Intent (NOI) to provide responsible agencies and other interested parties with notice of the availability of the Draft MND and solicit comments and concerns regarding the environmental issues associated with the proposed Project.

- LEAD AGENCY: City of Elk Grove 8401 Laguna Palms Way Elk Grove, CA 95758
- CONTACT PERSON: Travis Kuhn, PE Senior Civil Engineer, Capital Program <u>tkuhn@elkgrovecity.org</u> 916.627.3262
- PROJECT TITLE: Laguna Creek Inter-Regional Trail Crossing At State Route 99 Project (WTL016)
- **PROJECT LOCATION:** The proposed Project is located in the city of Elk Grove, Sacramento County, California. Specifically, the Project consists of an approximately 29.7-acre area located between Sheldon Road/SR 99 interchange to the north and the Bond Road/SR 99 interchange to the south. Location of the proposed SR 99 overcrossing is at SR 99 Post Mile 14.3/14.4. The proposed segment of the LCIRT runs perpendicular to SR 99 and extends approximately 1,300 feet east of East Stockton Boulevard and approximately 550 feet west of West Stockton Boulevard.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Project Applicant (City of Elk Grove) proposes to construct a segment of the LCIRT which includes a pedestrian overcrossing spanning West Stockton Boulevard, SR 99, and East Stockton Boulevard; a multi-use trail east of the pedestrian overcrossing; and a pedestrian bridge spanning Whitehouse Creek.

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The proposed segment of the LCIRT consists of a Class I bikeway that will connect to an existing segment of the LCIRT which currently terminates at West Stockton Boulevard and at the northern embankment of the Laguna Creek Bypass Channel. An approximately 760-foot-long concrete overcrossing will then extend east, carrying the LCIRT over West Stockton Boulevard, SR 99 and East Stockton Boulevard where it will parallel the northern bank of Laguna Creek for approximately 980 feet. A prefabricated truss bridge with a concrete deck will then carry the LCIRT over Whitehouse Creek where it will connect with a segment of the LCIRT currently under final design and environmental permitting (previously called the Laguna Creek and Whitehouse Creek Multi-Functional Corridor Project – WDR018). The trail would be approximately 10-feet wide and paved, with 2-foot-wide unpaved shoulders. The trail would also be elevated above the existing ground surface elevation by approximately 2 feet. Post-and-cable fencing would be installed at the edges of the unpaved shoulders, to prevent entry by pedestrians into the surrounding areas.

Right-of-way acquisitions and temporary construction easements are needed where the LCIRT passes through privately-owned parcels and will be obtained during final design of the Project. Below ground and aerial utility relocations are also anticipated and would be completed prior to construction. Additionally, a Caltrans Encroachment permit will be required to accommodate the proposed overcrossing structure that will carry the trail over SR 99, which is a Caltrans owned facility. Construction is anticipated to last approximately 18 months. This Project is funded through both local and federal funds and is subject to compliance with CEQA and the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). The lead agency for CEQA compliance is the City and the lead agency for NEPA is Caltrans, as delegated by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: A **30-day** public review period for the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration will commence on February 20, 2025 and end on March 24, 2025 for interested individuals and public agencies to submit written comments on the document. Any written comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received by the Public Works Department at the above address within the public review period. Copies of the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study are available for review at the City at the above address and on the website at:

https://www.elkgrovecity.org/planning/environmental-review

CITY COUNCIL: The Mitigated Negative Declaration and associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) is tentatively scheduled to be presented at the May 14, 2025 Elk Grove City Council Meeting. For changes to this tentatively scheduled hearing date, please check the City Council Agenda at: https://www.elkgrovecity.org/city_hall/city_government/live_archived_broadcasts

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