

MENDOCINO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

----- DRAFT until approved by Board of Supervisors on June 3, 2008 -----

EAST SIDE POTTER VALLEY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

DATE: April 2, 2008

Project Description

East Side Potter Valley Road is one of two collector roads through an unincorporated area of Mendocino County known as Potter Valley. The general location and project location is presented in Figure 1. Eastside Potter Valley Road is heavily used in the Potter Valley area and is the primary route to Lake Pillsbury Recreation Area.

The County of Mendocino Department of Transportation proposes to remove, reconstruct, and widen a portion of East Side Potter Valley Road. The current road structure (base and pavement) is severely deteriorated and is in need of reconstruction. The road currently consists of two 10-foot wide traveled lanes with ½ foot paved shoulders. The proposed project consists of grinding and recycling the current base and pavement using a process called foamed asphalt. The roadway will be further widened to include gravel shoulders of 1-foot to 5-foot widths.

For the most part, the alignment will not be changed from its current position. There is a 1400-foot portion of the road with a sharp switchback curve. The alignment of this section of road is to be straightened. The radii of two other curves will be increased to meet speed design criteria and the profile through a crest will be lowered to provide required sight distances.

Determination

In accordance with Mendocino County's procedures for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the County has conducted an Initial Study to determine whether the proposed project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. On the basis of that study, it has been determined that:

Although the project, as proposed, could have had a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because mitigation measures required for the project will reduce potentially significant effects to a less than significant level; therefore, it is recommended that a **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** be adopted.

The attached Initial Study incorporates all relevant information regarding the potential environmental effects of the project and confirms the determination that an EIR is not required for the project.