Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH # _____

Project Title: Boronda Road Congestion Relief Project; Capital Improvement Project (CIP) No. 9510

Lead Agency: City of Salinas

Contact Name: Josie Lantaca, Assistant Engineer

Email: Josie Lantaca diosefe@ci.salinas.ca.us Phone Number: 831- 758-7241

Project Location: Salinas (*City*) Monterey (*County*)

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The City of Salinas proposes to widen East Boronda Road from two lanes to four lanes from east of Dartmouth Way to east of Independence Boulevard. Roundabouts with associated landscaping would be incorporated at the four major intersections of McKinnon Street, El Dorado Drive, Natividad Road, and Independence Boulevard.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The MND identified the following potentially significant impacts which are all reduced to a less than significant level with the mitigation measures identified under each significant impact:

AQ-1. To reduce dust emissions from grading and construction activities, the following language shall be included on all grading and construction plans, and implemented during grading and construction:

Dust control measures shall be employed to reduce visible dust leaving the project site. The following measures or equally effective substitute measures shall be used:

a. Water areas of active disturbed soils at least twice daily or as necessary to prevent visible dust leaving the site, using raw or recycled water when feasible.

b. Apply chemical soil stabilizers or dust suppressants on disturbed soils that will not be actively graded for a period of four or more consecutive days

c. Apply non-toxic binders and/or hydro seed disturbed soils on which grading is completed, but on which more than four days will pass prior to paving, foundation construction, or placement of other permanent cover.

d. Cover or otherwise stabilize stockpiles which will not be actively used for a period of four or more consecutive days, or water at least twice daily as necessary to prevent visible dust leaving the site, using raw or recycled water when feasible.

e. Maintain at least 2'0" of freeboard and cover all trucks hauling dirt, sand, or loose materials.

f. Install wheel washers at all construction site exit points, and sweep streets if visible soil material is carried onto paved surfaces.

g. Stop grading and earth moving if winds exceed 15 miles per hour.

These measures shall be incorporated into project plans, subject to review and approval by the City Public Works Department, prior to issuance of grading permits.

AQ-2. Prior to commencement of construction activities, the contractor shall appoint a construction foreman to act as site monitor to ensure that the dust control measures are implemented. Evidence of implementation shall be submitted to the Salinas Public Works Department within three days of commencement of grading, and monthly thereafter as long as grading occurs. The foreman shall post a publicly visible sign written in English and Spanish with the telephone number and person to contact regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The phone number of the air district shall also be visible to ensure compliance with Rule 402 (Nuisance).

AQ-3. The contactor shall prepare a Construction Staging Management Plan. The plan will include the following restrictions:

a. Heavy-duty diesel vehicles shall have 2010 or newer model year engines, in compliance with the California Air Resources Board's Truck and Bus Regulation, and will be staged as far away from the adjacent residential neighborhoods and schools as possible; and

b. Construction equipment and heavy-duty diesel trucks idling shall be avoided, where feasible, and if idling is necessary, it will not exceed five minutes.

Contractors shall submit evidence demonstrating compliance with this measure to the City of Salinas Public Works Department for review and approval.

AQ-4. All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and shall be checked by a certified visible emissions evaluator. All non-road diesel construction equipment shall, at a minimum, meet Tier 3 emission standards listed in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Part 89, Subpart B, §89.112. Further, where feasible, construction equipment shall include the use of alternative fuels such as compressed natural gas, propane, electricity or biodiesel. This information shall be included on all grading and construction plans.

Proof of implementation shall be provided to the City Public Works Department during construction.

BIO-1. Construction activities that include any tree removal, pruning, grading, grubbing, or demolition shall be conducted outside of the bird nesting season (January 15 through September 15) to the greatest extent feasible. If this type of construction occurs during the bird nesting season, then a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting birds to ensure that no nests would be disturbed during project construction.

If project-related work is scheduled during the nesting season (February 15 to August 30 for small bird species such as passerines; January 15 to September 15 for owls; and February 15 to September 15 for other raptors), a qualified biologist shall conduct nesting bird surveys. Two surveys for active nests of such birds

shall occur within 14 days prior to start of construction, with the second survey conducted within 48 hours prior to start of construction. Appropriate minimum survey radius surrounding each work area is typically 250 feet for passerines, 500 feet for smaller raptors, and 1,000 feet for larger raptors. Surveys shall be conducted at the appropriate times of day to observe nesting activities.

If the qualified biologist documents active nests within the project site or in nearby surrounding areas, an appropriate buffer between each nest and active construction shall be established. The buffer shall be clearly marked and maintained until the young have fledged and are foraging independently. Prior to construction, the qualified biologist shall conduct baseline monitoring of each nest to characterize "normal" bird behavior and establish a buffer distance, which allows the birds to exhibit normal behavior. The qualified biologist shall monitor the nesting birds daily during construction activities and increase the buffer if birds show signs of unusual or distressed behavior (e.g. defensive flights and vocalizations, standing up from a brooding position, and/or flying away from the nest). If buffer establishment is not possible, the qualified biologist or construction foreman shall have the authority to cease all construction work in the area until the young have fledged and the nest is no longer active.

BIO-2. If proposed construction activities may result in habitat loss or "take" (harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, or capture) of steelhead within Gabilan Creek, the City of Salinas will obtain federal Incidental Take Permits, and comply with all stipulated conditions to protect special-status steelhead including, but not limited to, those identified below:

a. To avoid conflicts with fish, instream construction activities will be planned for periods between June 1 and October 31, or periods when the work area is dry.

b. A NOAA Fisheries-approved biologist will provide construction worker awareness training prior to the start of construction.

c. A NOAA Fisheries-approved biologist will monitor installation of any stream diversions, initial dewatering activities and sediment control devices to identify and rectify any conditions that may adversely affect steelhead or their habitat.

d. A NOAA Fisheries-approved biologist will identify steelhead relocation sites with adequate water quality, cover and living space.

e. Within 10 days of the initiation of any work within surface water, a qualified fisheries biologist will complete a survey for steelhead.

f. If pumping is required to dewater the construction work area and juvenile steelhead are present, pump intakes will be fitted with a wire mesh screen with a 5 mm mesh or smaller.

g. Any steelhead found in the work area will be recaptured and relocated by a NOAA Fisheries-approved biologist to suitable relocation sites.

h. If instream construction must be conducted when surface water is present, stream diversion will be implemented such that diverted surface flow is returned to Gabilan Creek immediately downstream of the project site.

i. The diversion berm and pipeline will be in place prior to beginning diversion of surface flow.

j. Non-erosive materials (e.g., sandbags, sheet pile, rubber/plastic tubes) will be used to construct the diversion berm.

k. An energy dissipater and sediment trap (straw bales, or equivalent) will be used at the diversion pipeline outlet.

l. Excavated material will be stored away from the low-flow channel to prevent incidental discharge.

m. Any streambed access points will be stabilized using a pad of coarse aggregate underlain by filter cloth, crane mats or equivalent materials to reduce erosion and tracking of sediment.

n. Disturbed areas of the stream channel will be re-compacted to pre-construction conditions prior to restoring flow to the active channel.

o. Silty or turbid water produced from dewatering or other activities will not be discharged into Gabilan Creek until filtered or allowed to settle prior to discharge.

p. Use of heavy equipment in flowing water will be prohibited.

q. The bed and banks of Gabilan Creek will be restored immediately following the completion of instream construction work.

r. Riparian habitat removed by the project will be restored and/or enhanced to improve fish habitat.

BIO-3. A qualified biologist, as defined in measure BIO-5 below, shall conduct pre-construction surveys for western pond turtle (WPT) within 14 days as well as within 24 hours prior to the start of ground-disturbance activities. Surveys shall be conducted where suitable aquatic and upland nesting habitat exists for WPT on the project site, as well as within 100 feet of these areas. If no WPT or their nests are observed during the pre-construction surveys, then no further mitigation is required. If construction activities are halted or delayed for 30 days or longer, additional pre-construction surveys for WPT shall be conducted in this same manner by the qualified biologist.

In the event that WPT and/or their nests are observed during pre-construction surveys, coordination with CDFW regarding appropriate mitigation to reduce impacts to these species will be required prior to issuance of a grading permit. Prior to the commencement of work in potential habitat areas, a Salvage and Relocation Plan will be submitted and approved by the CDFW. The qualified biologist shall also remain present on-site to monitor construction activities within any areas identified as suitable habitat for WPT. A 300-foot no-work buffer zone surrounding any WPT nests within the project site boundary shall be established and marked with temporary flagging. Construction activities will not be allowed to take place within this buffered area until the hatchlings have emerged from the nest and vacated the area of their own volition or if the nest is determined to be inactive by the qualified biologist.

During any construction activities taking place within areas identified as suitable habitat by the pre-construction surveys, a qualified biological monitor who has been approved by the CDFW to handle WPT shall be present on-site. In the event that WPT are observed at any time in the construction areas during project activities, construction shall halt in the vicinity of the WPT individual and the qualified biological monitor shall be notified. Construction activities shall not re-commence in this area until the WPT individual has left on its own accord or the approved biologist relocates the turtle. If Phase 3 construction activities for this project are carried out in such a way that construction equipment will be positioned in-stream at Gabilan Creek, the equipment shall be inspected daily in order to ensure that no WPT individuals are caught in the work area. If any WPT individuals are found in the equipment, they will be relocated by the qualified biologist to a suitable habitat area downstream of the project site. Observations of WPT will be reported to CDFW as outlined in the Salvage and Relocation Plan.

BIO-4. To protect California red-legged frog (CRLF) and California tiger salamander (CTS) potentially present within the project area, the project proponent shall obtain Incidental Take Permits from the USFWS and CDFW for potential project impacts to CRLF and CTS. All avoidance, minimization, and compensatory mitigation measures required by these permits shall be implemented. Unless otherwise specified by the permit(s), the project proponent shall also implement mitigation measures BIO-5 through BIO-8 below in order to minimize the potential for "take" of CRLF and CTS.

BIO-5. At least 15 days prior to ground disturbance, the City of Salinas Public Works Department will submit the name(s) and credentials of biologists who will conduct activities specified in the measures BIO-3, BIO-4, and BIO-6 through BIO-8 ("qualified biologist"). No project activities will begin until the City of Salinas Public Works Department has received written approval from the USFWS and CDFW that the biologist is qualified to conduct the work. The qualified biologist will supervise and/or implement all protection measures. Construction contracts shall expressly include language requiring compliance with the protection measures.

BIO-6. Before construction activities begin, the qualified biologist will conduct a worker environmental awareness training session for all construction personnel. At a minimum, the training will include a description of California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and western pond turtle and their habitats, general measures that are being implemented to protect these species as they relate to the project, and the boundaries within which the project occurs. Informational handouts with photographs clearly illustrating the species' appearances will be used in the training session.

The training session will include information about steps to take if a special-status species is encountered, including contact information for the biological monitoring staff and measures to protect species during construction. Additionally, the biological monitor will be available to answer any questions about the protected species. All new construction personnel will undergo this mandatory worker environmental awareness training when they start work on the project site. Training will occur prior to the start of construction and periodically as needed if new construction personnel begin work at the project work site. Each worker shall sign a statement that they received training and the statement will be posted or easily available for viewing at the project work site.

BIO-7. During construction the qualified biologist will be present during all initial ground disturbance activities. Only the qualified biologist will be allowed to handle California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and western pond turtle. The qualified biologist will have the authority to halt construction work at any time to prevent harm to California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, or western pond turtle when any protection measures have been violated. Work will re-commence only when authorized by the qualified biologist. If work is stopped due to potential harm to California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, or western pond turtle, the qualified biologist will contact the USFWS and/or CDFW by telephone or email on the same day to communicate the event and coordinate appropriate action.

The qualified biologist will train biological monitors designated by the construction contractor. Before the start of work each day, the monitors will check for animals under any equipment such as vehicles and stored pipes within active construction zones that are fenced. The monitors will also check all excavated steep-walled holes or trenches greater than one foot deep for trapped animals. If a California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and western pond turtle is observed within an active construction zone, the qualified biologist will be notified immediately and all work within 100 feet of the individual will be halted and all equipment turned off until the biologist has captured and removed the individual from the work area. California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and western pond turtle will be relocated to a USFWS/CDFW-approved off-site location.

BIO-8. If the project will result in impacts to California tiger salamander and/or California red-legged frog, compensation for the permanent loss of aquatic and/or upland habitat may be required. Subject to final incidental take permit conditions, the City of Salinas Public Works Department will preserve or purchase in-kind habitat that is known to provide aquatic and upland habitat for California tiger salamander and/or California red-legged frog. Mitigation ratios vary depending on the type of habitat affected, typically at a 1:1 to 2:1 ratio of acres of habitat preserved to habitat lost (USFWS 2020). Compensatory mitigation may be

accomplished through one of the following options:

- Establishing a conservation easement on or off site in a suitable Monterey County location and providing a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity. Lands placed in a conservation easement must be documented to support California tiger salamander and/or California red-legged frog;
- Depositing funds into an USFWS- and CDFW-approved in-lieu fee program; or
- Purchasing credits in a USFWS- and CDFW-approved conservation bank that includes the project site in its service area.

BIO-9. To avoid/minimize potential impacts to burrowing owls occurring within the project site, the City of Salinas Public Works Department will retain a qualified biologist to conduct a two-visit (i.e. morning and evening) presence/absence survey at areas of suitable habitat on and adjacent to the project site no less than 14 days prior to the start of construction. Surveys will be conducted according to methods described in the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (28). If these pre-construction "take avoidance" surveys performed during the breeding season (February through August) or the non-breeding season (September through January) locate occupied burrows in or near construction areas, consultation with the CDFW would be required to interpret survey results and develop a plan for project-specific avoidance, minimization, and compensation.

Where there is insufficient habitat on, adjacent to, or near project sites where burrowing owls will be impacted, acquisition of off-site mitigation lands with occupied burrowing owl habitat may be required in consultation with CDFW. Compensation may take the form of:

a. Acquiring and dedicating lands into conservation easements;
b. Purchasing mitigation credits at compensation ratios that have been approved by the CDFW; or
c. Preserving area contiguous or near the acreage lost.

BIO-10. Approximately 14 days prior to tree removal or structure disturbance activities, the City of Salinas Public Works Department will retain a qualified biologist to conduct a habitat assessment for bats and potential roosting sites in trees to be removed, in trees within 50 feet of the development footprint, and within and surrounding any structures that may be disturbed by the project. These surveys will include a visual inspection of potential roosting features (bats need not be present) and a search for presence of guano within the project site, construction access routes, and 50 feet around these areas. Cavities, crevices, exfoliating bark, and bark fissures that could provide suitable potential nest or roost habitat for bats shall be surveyed. Assumptions can be made on what species is present due to observed visual characteristics along with habitat use, or the bats can be identified to the species level with the use of a bat echolocation detector such as an "Anabat" unit. Potential roosting features found during the survey shall be flagged or marked.

If no roosting sites or bats are found, a letter report confirming absence will be submitted to the City of Salinas and no further mitigation is required.

If bats or roosting sites are found, a letter report and supplemental documents will be provided to the City of Salinas prior to grading permit issuance and the following monitoring, exclusion, and habitat replacement measures will be implemented:

a. If bats are found roosting outside of the nursery season (May 1 through October 1), they will be evicted as described under (b) below. If bats are found roosting during the nursery season, they will be monitored to determine if the roost site is a maternal roost. This could occur by either visual inspection of the roost bat pups, if possible, or by monitoring the roost after the adults leave for the night to listen for bat pups. If the roost is determined to not be a maternal roost, then the bats will be

evicted as described under (b) below. Because bat pups cannot leave the roost until they are mature enough, eviction of a maternal roost cannot occur during the nursery season. Therefore, if a maternal roost is present, a 50-foot buffer zone (or different size if determined in consultation with the CDFW) will be established around the roosting site within which no construction activities including tree removal or structure disturbance will occur until after the nursery season.

b. If a non-breeding bat hibernaculum is found in a tree or snag scheduled for removal or on any structures scheduled to be disturbed by project activities, the individuals will be safely evicted, under the direction of a qualified bat biologist. If pre-construction surveys determine that there are bats present in any trees to be removed, exclusion structures (e.g. one-way doors or similar methods) shall be installed by a qualified biologist. The exclusion structures shall not be placed until the time of year in which young are able to fly, outside of the nursery season. Information on placement of exclusion structures shall be provided to the CDFW prior to construction.

If needed, other methods could include: carefully opening the roosting area in a tree or snag by hand to expose the cavity and opening doors/windows on structures, or creating openings in walls to allow light into the structures. Removal of any trees or snags and disturbance of any structures will be conducted no earlier than the following day (i.e., at least one night will be provided between initial roost eviction disturbance and tree removal/structure disturbance). This action will allow bats to leave during dark hours, which increases their chance of finding new roosts with a minimum of potential predation.

BIO-11. A qualified biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for woodrat nests within the area proposed for disturbance along Gabilan Creek, including a 30-foot buffer around project impact areas. All woodrat nests will be flagged for avoidance of direct construction impacts and a 10-foot equipment exclusion buffer will be established around dens that will not be removed and are in proximity to the construction area.

If avoidance of active woodrat nests is not feasible, woodrat nests will be dismantled by the qualified biologist no more than three days prior to construction. Woodrats will be evicted from their nests prior to the removal of the nests and onset of any clearing or ground disturbing activities to avoid direct injury or mortality of the woodrats.

The nests will be dismantled and the nesting material and/or food caches moved to a new location outside of the project impact area. Prior to nest deconstruction, each active nest will be disturbed by the qualified biologist such that all woodrats leave the nest and seek refuge out of the project impact area. Nests are to be slowly dismantled by hand in order to allow the occupants to disperse. Should young prior to the age of weaning be found in the nest, the nest will be reconstructed in place and left undisturbed for three weeks or a period of time deemed adequate by the qualified biologist for the young to wean.

All vegetation and duff materials will be removed from three feet around the nest prior to dismantling so that the occupants do not attempt to rebuild within the project impact area. Nesting materials will be placed nearby in a location similar to the original location (e.g. the base of a nearby hardwood tree or shrub, near a downed log, or in the open), if such a location is readily available. The spacing between active relocated nests will not be less than 100 feet, unless the qualified biologist has determined that the habitat can support higher densities of nests, or if the original nests were closer than 100 feet to one another.

BIO-12. To determine whether the various on-site ditches are jurisdictional, the City of Salinas will retain a qualified biologist/wetland regulatory specialist to initiate discussions with the USACE, RWQCB, and CDFW for this purpose.

If impacts to a federal jurisdictional feature may occur, a Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit may be needed. If the proposed activity would not otherwise qualify for a Nationwide Permit, the City of Salinas Public Works Department will proceed with obtaining an Individual Permit from the USACE.

For either permit, a wetland delineation report will first be submitted to the USACE for a jurisdictional determination.

If impacts to a wetland not subject to federal jurisdiction but subject to state jurisdiction may occur, fill authorization will be sought from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. For any wetland impacted, the City of Salinas Public Works Department will take steps necessary to comply with City General Plan Policy COS-18, including the minimum ratios set forth therein for impacts to wetlands and other waters. Mitigation will be sufficient to ensure no net loss of wetland area, function, or value, either through wetland creation, restoration, or the purchase of wetland credits through an approved wetland mitigation bank.

A Water Quality Certification (Section 401 of the Clean Water Act) from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and/or Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife will also be obtained if determined necessary through the wetland assessment and subsequent regulatory agency consultation.

CR-1. Due to the possibility that previously unknown buried significant historical or unique archeological resources could be uncovered during construction activities, the following language will be included in all construction documents and on any permits issued for the project site: "If historical resources or unique archaeological resources are unexpectedly discovered during construction, work shall be halted immediately within 50 meters (160 feet) of the find, and the Public Works Department and Planning Department notified, until it can be evaluated by a qualified professional archaeologist. If the find is determined to be significant, an appropriate resource recovery shall be formulated, with the concurrence of the City of Salinas, and implemented."

CR-2. Due to the possibility that previously unknown Native American human remains could be discovered during future construction activities, the following language will be included in all construction documents and on any permits issued for the proposed project, including, but not limited to, grading permits:

"If human remains are found during construction there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the coroner is contacted to determine that no investigation of the cause of death is required. If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours. The Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descendant from the deceased Native American. The most likely descendant may then make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and associated grave goods as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The landowner or his authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further disturbance if: a) the Native American Heritage Commission is unable to identify a most likely descendant or the most likely descendant failed to make a recommendation within 48 hours after being notified by the commission; b) the descendant identified fails to make a recommendation; or c) the landowner or his authorized representative rejects the recommendation of the descendant, and the mediation by the Native American Heritage Commission fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner."

GEO-1. Due to the possibility that previously unknown buried unique paleontological resources could be uncovered during construction activities, the following language will be included in all construction documents and on any permits issued for the project site: "If unique paleontological resources are

unexpectedly discovered during construction, work shall be halted immediately within 50 meters (160 feet) of the find, and the Public Works Department and Planning Department notified, until it can be evaluated by a qualified professional paleontologist. If the find is determined to be significant, an appropriate resource recovery shall be formulated, with the concurrence of the City of Salinas, and implemented."

N-1. The Public Works Department will include the following measures in construction documents and will monitor their implementation during construction:

a. All construction equipment shall be properly maintained and equipped with intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and recommended by the vehicle manufacturer;

b. Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines shall be strictly prohibited;

c. Wheeled earth moving equipment shall be used rather than track equipment;

d. A detailed construction plan shall be prepared and submitted with the grading and improvement plans identifying the schedule for major noise-generating construction activities. The construction plan shall identify a procedure for coordination with adjacent residential land uses so that construction activities can be scheduled to minimize noise disturbance;

e. A noise disturbance coordinator shall be designated to handle complaints and the site shall be posted with a phone number and email address so that the nearby residents have a contact person in case of a noise problem;

f. Vehicle routes must be kept clean and smooth both on site and off site to minimize noise and vibration from vehicles rolling over rough surfaces;

g. Stationary equipment, such as compressor and generators shall be housed in acoustical enclosures and placed as far from sensitive receptors as feasible;

h. Utilize "quiet" air compressors and other stationary noise sources where technology exists; and

i. Control noise from construction workers' radios to a point where they are not audible at existing residences bordering the project site.

TCR-1. In the event that cultural materials are encountered during grading/construction, all work shall cease until the find has been evaluated and mitigation measures put in place for the disposition and protection of any find pursuant to Section 21083.2 of the California Public Resources Code.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None known to the lead agency, the City of Salinas.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Marine Fisheries Service