

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED LORENZ ROAD OVER MIDDLE WEAVER CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

**Trinity County Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 2490/31301 State Highway 3
Weaverville, CA 96093**

Introduction

This Notice of Intent serves as public notice that the Trinity County Department of Transportation (County) has prepared an Initial Study and proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Lorenz Road Over Middle Weaver Creek Bridge Replacement Project (project). A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared because no substantial evidence exists that the proposed project may have a significant environmental effect that cannot be fully mitigated to a less-than-significant level. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration does not signify approval or disapproval of this project by the County's decision-making body. The County will consider the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process to determine whether the proposed project would have a heretofore unidentified significant impact on the environment.

Project Location

Lorenz Road at the Middle Weaver Creek bridge (No. 05C-0036) is located just west of State Route (SR) 299 and provides access across Middle Weaver Creek to Lee Fong Park managed by the Weaverville/Douglas City Parks and Recreation District. Additionally, the project is located in the Weaverville Historic Downtown (a historic district listed in the National Register of Historic Places [NR#71000209]) and adjacent to the Joss House State Historic Park and the Jackson Memorial Museum/Trinity County Historical Park. The project study area encompasses 1.79 acres, extending approximately 850 feet along Lorenz Road over Middle Weaver Creek as shown on the Weaverville, California U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Township 33 North, Range 9 West, Section 7/Township 33 North, Range 10 West, Section 12, Humboldt Base and Meridian: latitude 40.731038° North by longitude -122.940309° West.

The alignment for the proposed new bridge and roadway approaches would follow the existing alignment, but with minor encroachments requiring the take of additional right-of-way (ROW) on both sides of the southern bridge approach. The majority of the project study area corresponds to an existing Trinity County ROW easement through portions of adjacent parcels. Assessor Parcel Numbers included in the project area are 001-130-18, 001-130-19, 002-021-01, 002-021-03, 002-021-25, and 002-050-10.

Project Description

The Trinity County Department of Transportation (County) proposes to improve public safety and increase hydraulic capacity by replacing the existing bridge (No. 05C-0036) on Lorenz Road over Middle Weaver Creek (project) and construct the necessary roadway approach improvements. The project would be federally funded through the Federal Highway Bridge Program, which is administered by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration. Caltrans is responsible for federal oversight of the project, which would be locally administered by the County. The Middle Weaver Creek bridge is County owned and maintained.

The proposed new bridge would be a single-span concrete slab-type bridge, slightly wider and longer than the current bridge and aligned in the existing alignment. The new approach roadways on both sides of the new bridge would be slightly wider than the existing. The north abutment would have wingwalls extending to existing

retaining structures, including a gabion wall at the northeast corner and a culvert wingwall—this culvert conveys Ten Cent Gulch under State Route (SR) 299—at the southeast corner. The replacement bridge design would be context sensitive due to it being located in a designated historic district and because of its adjacency to state and local historic parks. The new bridge would have architectural features that would complement the visual and historic character of the surrounding historical area. Aesthetic features and designs will be determined by the County and included in the final bridge design. Possible options might include form liner relief textures, concrete surfaces stains, and decorative railing treatments.

Construction would require one season to complete. It is anticipated that construction would occur between May 1, 2023 and October 31, 2023 pending completion of the CEQA and NEPA environmental review processes, funding availability, and receipt of any required resource agency permits and approvals.

Review Period

As mandated by Public Resources Code § 21091, the minimum public review period for this Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is 30 days. The document has been sent to the State Clearinghouse. This document is open to public review and comment from Tuesday, November 15, 2022 through Thursday, December 15, 2022. **Comments must be received by 5 p.m. on the last day of the comment period, Thursday, December 15, 2022.** Any comments on the document may be presented in writing to:

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Phone: (530) 623-1365
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Document Availability

Copies of the Public Draft Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting technical studies are available for review at the following locations:

Trinity County Department of Transportation
31301 State Highway 3
Weaverville, CA 96003