

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact

To: Humboldt County Clerk
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

From: City of Fortuna
621 11th Street
Fortuna, CA 95540
Attn: Liz Shorey
lshorey@ci.fortuna.ca.us
707-725-1408

PROJECT: Kenmar Road and U.S. 101 Interchange Project

LEAD AGENCY/CONTACT PERSON: City of Fortuna; Public Works Director: Brendan Byrd; 621 11th Street; P.O. Box 545, Fortuna, CA 95540; phone: (707) 725-1469; fax: (707) 725-7610; e-mail: bbyrd@ci.fortuna.ca.us

INITIAL STUDY and CHECKLIST PREPARED BY: Andrea Hilton, Environmental Planning Lead, GHD; and City of Fortuna

PROJECT LOCATION: At the existing U.S. 101 Highway interchange, approximately 1,000 feet east of the Eel River near the southwestern corner of the City of Fortuna.

PROJECT PROPONENT: City of Fortuna

PROJECT SUMMARY: The project would replace the existing intersections of U.S. 101 and Kenmar Road at the interchange with roundabouts, including modifications to the on- and off-ramps, relocation of the park and ride facility, Kenmar Road lane improvements, and realignment of Eel River Drive and Riverwalk Drive. The project may also include traffic signal and lane improvements on the western Kenmar leg of the Ross Hill Road intersection. The project will improve navigation and traffic on Kenmar Road and Eel River Drive, including the Kenmar Road and U.S. 101 interchange. The project is located approximately 1,000 feet east of the Eel River near the southwestern corner of the City of Fortuna, is approximately 16 acres in size, and is comprised of existing Caltrans, City of Fortuna, and Humboldt County right-of-way. Construction is expected to begin in 2025 or later, over two construction seasons.

COMMENT PERIOD: The review period is 30 days and commences on January 23, 2023 and ends on February 21, 2023. Written comments must be submitted to the city by February 21, 2023 and addressed to: Liz Shorey, Deputy Director of Community Development; 621 11th Street; P.O. Box 545, Fortuna, CA 95540.

The City Council of the City of Fortuna will hold a meeting in the Fortuna City Council Chambers on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., to consider adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE: The initial study and additional Information on the project is available for review at the Community Development Department at City Hall, 621 11th Street, on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and on the City's website at friendlyfortuna.com.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |

X Biological Resources

Mineral Resources

X Tribal Cultural Resources

Utilities/Service Systems

X Cultural Resources

X Noise

X Mandatory Findings of Significance

X Geology/Soils

Population/Housing

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- X I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potential significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Liz Shorey, Deputy Director of Community Development

1-20-2023

Date: