



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

TO: Office of Planning and Research San Joaquin County Clerk
1400 Tenth Street 44 N. San Joaquin Street, Suite 260
Sacramento, California 95814 Stockton, California 95202

FROM: San Joaquin County Public Works Department
1810 E. Hazelton Avenue
Stockton, California 95205
<https://www.sjgov.org/departments/pwk/>

PROJECT: HARNEY LANE BRIDGE NO. 29C-341 SCOUR MITIGATION ACROSS PADDY CREEK PROJECT, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

The San Joaquin County Department of Public Works (SJCDPW) has prepared an environmental evaluation document (Initial Study) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) based on the finding that there is no substantial evidence that the action as proposed will have a significant effect on the environment, with mitigation measures incorporated. The reasons to support this finding are documented in the Initial Study.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project site is located on Harney Lane, between State Route (SR) 88 and Jack Tone Road, approximately 5 miles east of the City of Lodi in unincorporated San Joaquin County, California. The 0.36-acre project site is located within a portion of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 7 East on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) *Waterloo, California* 7.5-minute quadrangle (38.1017162° North, 121.1682733° West).

BACKGROUND

The existing Harney Lane Bridge is an approximately 86-foot long, three-span, reinforced concrete slab structure. Due to channel degradation over time, bridge piers and the top of the west abutment footing have become exposed. The original scour protection consisted of placing cobbles of quarry rock around the piers; however, over time, the scour protection washed downstream. Between 2011 and 2013, in an effort to protect the piers and banks at the abutments, the San Joaquin County Maintenance Department placed non-engineered riprap on the channel bottom around the pier columns and on the banks under the bridge until proposed project improvements could be installed. The riprap material consists of broken concrete and quarry rock of varying size and shape. No material was placed in the center of the channel between the piers.

PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

To provide scour protection, the SJCDPW is proposing to install open cell articulated concrete block (ACB) around the piers and abutments. The ACB would be placed on geotechnical fabric, and the open cells would be filled with aggregate. While the maximum depth of excavation is anticipated to be 3 feet, the exact depth would



be determined during design of the improvements. The majority of work is planned to be confined to Harney Lane right-of-way (ROW); however, forming of the cut-off wall would require construction crews to work outside the Harney Lane ROW. All aggregate material to be used for scour protection would be sourced from a permitted quarry. No work is proposed on the bridge structure itself.

No utility relocations are expected. All existing utilities (electric and telephone/cable) within the project area are aerial. There is no indication of any underground utilities within the planned work area.

There are no trees within the planned work area surrounding the bridge, and no tree removal would be required to install scour protection. Vegetation removal may be necessary to install the ACB in the creek. The existing riprap would be removed, and any excavated material would be taken to an appropriately permitted location for disposal.

Construction staging would occur within the existing Harney Lane ROW. No permanent ROW is anticipated; however, a Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) would be required for contractor access and staging as well as for the work performed to form the cut-off wall.

Construction of the proposed project is anticipated to commence in Spring 2026 and would take three to four months to complete. Excavation is expected to generate approximately 60 cubic yards (CY) of debris and 710 CY of aggregate and soil to be exported to the North County Recycling Center and Sanitary Landfill approximately 3.75 miles east of the project site along Harney Lane. Additionally, approximately 60 CY of aggregate would be imported to fill the ACB. Work would occur when Paddy Creek is dry, and no diversion or dewatering is anticipated. A temporary construction entrance would be located on the northern side of Harney Lane, west of Paddy Creek. Project duration is expected to last only one season. Harney Lane is anticipated to remain open during construction.

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration may be reviewed at the following locations:

- San Joaquin County Department of Public Works,
1810 East Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, California 95205
(Copies are available for a fee at this location.)
- San Joaquin County Department of Public Works website: <http://www.sjgov.org/pubworks/>

This Notice of Intent is being sent to applicable local public agencies as well as organizations and individuals of local interest. **Written comments on this document may be submitted during the 30-day public review period, which begins April 19, 2024, and must be received by the San Joaquin County Public Works Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 19, 2024.** Contact Jeffery Verstl, Engineering Assistant III, at (209) 953-7600 or jverstl@sjgov.org for questions.