

Notice of Preparation

Notice of Preparation

To: _____

(Address)

From: City of Napa
1600 First Street
Napa, CA 94559 (Address)

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

The City of Napa will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials. A copy of the Initial Study (is is not) attached.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to Tam Duong, Associate Civil Engineer at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title: Five-Way Intersection Improvements Project

Project Applicant, if any: City of Napa

Date July 29, 2024

Signature Tam Duong

Title Associate Civil Engineer/Project Manager

Telephone (707) 257-9520 Ext. 7613

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.



July 26, 2024

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
Five-Way Intersection Improvements Project**

SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Introduction

The City of Napa is the Lead Agency for preparation of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project and is issuing this Notice of Preparation pursuant to Section 15082 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. The Project is located at the intersection of four roads serving local and regional traffic: SR 121 and local roadways Third Street, Coombsville Road, and East Avenue. The SR 121 intersection at Third Street/Coombsville Road/East Avenue is located in southeast Napa at post mile 7.35. Napa is an incorporated city in Napa County, California. Surrounding land uses in the vicinity of the Project intersection include commercial businesses, single-family residences, and a public event facility (Napa Valley Expo).

Purpose and Need

Purpose

The purpose of the Project is to improve the operations of the intersection that will result in reduced driver delay, reduced congestion, and, therefore, an overall improvement to intersection operations. Additionally, the purpose of the Project is to improve the safety and accessibility for all users of the intersection. The secondary objectives of this Project are to improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities at the intersection as well as meet ADA requirements.

Need

The Project intersection needs geometric improvements to improve the operations, efficiency, and capacity of the intersection. In addition, safety improvements are needed to reduce the higher-than-average collision rate at this intersection. Based on data from the Caltrans Traffic Accident Surveillance and Analysis System (TASAS) for the 3-year period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023, there were six reported collisions in the project area. This results in a rate of 0.64 collisions per million vehicle miles in the project area, higher than the statewide average rate of 0.61 for similar facilities.

Traffic studies conducted by the City of Napa have shown that the intersection has operated at a Level of Service (LOS) D since at least the year 2000. Although the intersection is already operating at an unacceptable LOS, operations will continue to deteriorate due to the continued growth of the area and continued increase in vehicular demand on this intersection, as documented in the Napa-Solano Travel Demand Model.

Project Description

The Project proposes to improve the intersection by constructing two, modern, single-lane roundabouts with curb, gutter, ramps, sidewalk, streetlights, and storm drain improvements. The proposed Project would ease traffic congestion by introducing a traffic-calming circulation pattern, improving community connectivity in the Project area, and improving pedestrian and bicycle safety within and adjacent to the intersection. Local circulation and access would largely remain unchanged. The Project intersection geometrics and pedestrian crossings are consistent with the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 672 entitled "Roundabouts: An Information Guide, 2nd Edition" (Guide).

A double roundabout with four legs on the northerly roundabout and three legs on the southerly roundabout would accommodate the Design Year traffic volumes. Retaining walls will be required to minimize adjacent property impacts along Coombsville Road and East Avenue. Along Coombsville Road, a retaining wall minimizes grading impacts that would otherwise require removal of multiple mature trees. Along East Avenue, the retaining wall minimizes encroachment onto the parcel at the northeast corner of the intersection with SR 121 to maintain economic viability of the commercial parcel. Due to the steep entry grades coming into/out of East Avenue and Coombsville Road, the new roundabout intersections will largely be in fill in order to flatten the roadway grade on the entry/exits. Minor regrading on approaches where the project conforms to existing roadways will be required, but would be a maximum excavation of three feet.

Potential Environmental Impacts

The EIR will identify significant environmental impacts anticipated to result from the proposed project. Mitigation measures will be identified for significant impacts, as warranted. The EIR will discuss the following environmental resource areas as related to the proposed project:

Aesthetics

The EIR will describe the existing visual character of the project site and surrounding area, and the projected changes resulting from development of the proposed roundabouts.

Agricultural and Forestry Resources

The project site is currently a roadway intersection. The project site does not currently support any agricultural or forestry operations.

Air Quality

The EIR will describe the regional air quality conditions in the San Francisco Bay Area and evaluate the air quality impacts from the project, in conformance with the criteria identified by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

Biological Resources

The project site and surrounding area is largely developed. The Napa River is isolated from the project limits by the Oxbow School on Third Street. One roadside drainage within the project runs along the southern end of Silverado Trail and feeds into a culvert. The EIR will evaluate potential impacts to special-status plant and wildlife species and habitats on the site.

Cultural Resources

The EIR will evaluate the project's potential to impact cultural resources, including historic resources and archaeological resources.

Energy

The EIR will examine the potential for the project to result in excessive or inefficient use of energy and discuss the energy conservation measures included in the project.

Geology and Soils

The EIR will describe the existing geologic and soil conditions at the project site. The EIR will evaluate impacts to persons and structures that may result from existing geologic conditions, including seismic and seismic-related hazards.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The EIR will discuss the project's consistency and conformance with applicable plans, policies, and/or regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and assess whether the project's greenhouse gas emissions would have a significant impact on the environment.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

The EIR will evaluate the potential for hazardous materials contamination on and/or near the project site which could be affected by site demolition, grading, or excavation. The EIR will discuss the potential for hazardous materials contamination to impact construction workers or off-site uses.

Hydrology and Water Quality

The EIR will describe the existing hydrologic and drainage conditions at the project site and any changes in site drainage and hydrologic conditions resulting from the proposed project. The EIR will also describe the project's impact on stormwater runoff quantity and quality during and post-project construction.

Land Use

The EIR will describe the existing land uses on and adjacent to the project site and discuss the project's conformance with relevant land use plans, policies, and regulations, including the City's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

Mineral Resources

The EIR will describe whether the project would result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource or locally-important mineral resource recovery site.

Noise and Vibration

The EIR will describe the existing noise conditions in the project area and will address noise and vibration impacts from the proposed project (including noise from project traffic and project demolition/construction).

Population and Housing

The project proposes to make intersection improvements. The EIR will discuss the potential for the project (if any) to induce substantial growth in the area or displace substantial numbers of houses or residents.

Public Services

The EIR will describe the available public services (e.g., fire and police protection, schools, and parks) in the project area and the potential for the project to impact public facilities.

Recreation

The EIR will describe the available recreational facilities in the project vicinity and the potential for the project to impact those facilities.

Transportation

The EIR will describe the existing transportation network serving the project area and will evaluate the project's impact on vehicle miles traveled as well as the transportation network (e.g., impacts on transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities).

Tribal Cultural Resources

The EIR will evaluate the potential of the project to impact tribal cultural resources.

Utilities and Service Systems

The EIR will describe the existing sanitary sewer, storm drain, water, and solid waste services for the project area. The EIR will discuss the impacts of any utility improvements proposed by the project.

Wildfire

The EIR will describe whether the project site is subject to wildfire hazards and any impacts associated with the risk of wildfire.

Alternatives

The EIR will examine alternatives to the proposed project, including a No Project alternative and one or more alternative projects depending on the impacts identified. Alternatives discussed will be chosen based on their ability to reduce or avoid identified significant impacts of the proposed project, while still achieving most of the identified project objectives.

Significant Unavoidable Impacts

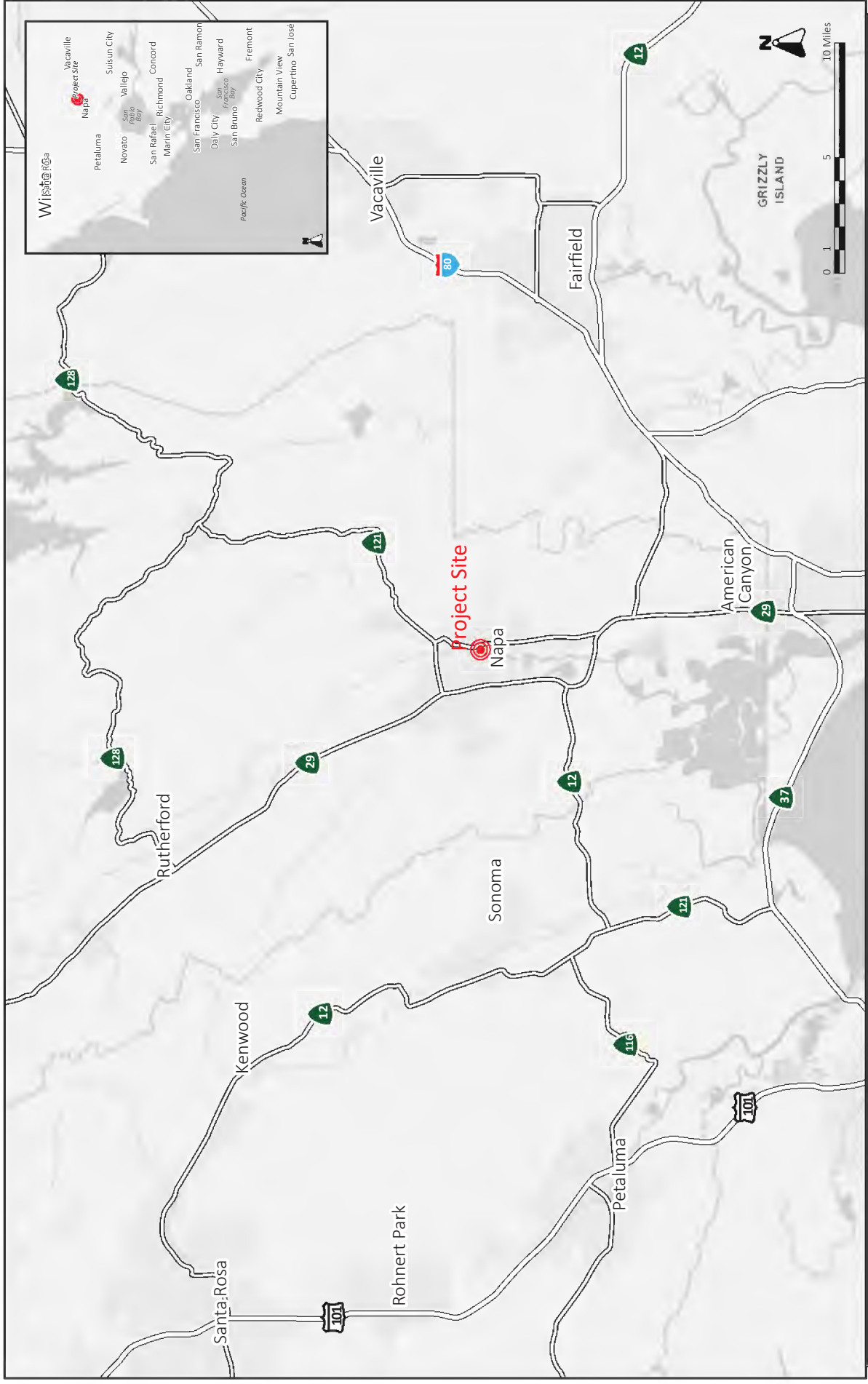
The EIR will identify those significant impacts, if any, that cannot be avoided if the project is implemented as proposed.

Cumulative Impacts

The EIR will include a Cumulative Impacts analysis addressing the impacts of the project when considered with past, present, and probable future projects in the area.

Other Required Sections

In conformance with the CEQA Guidelines, the EIR will also include the following sections: 1) growth-inducing impacts, 2) significant irreversible environmental changes, 3) references and organizations/persons consulted, and 4) EIR authors.



REGIONAL MAP

FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

VICINITY MAP



AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH AND SURROUNDING LAND USES

FIGURE 3