

MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RESOLUTION NO. 2018-_____

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING
THE SIR FRANCIS DRAKE BOULEVARD REHABILITATION
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

SECTION I: FINDINGS

- I. WHEREAS, in 2013 the County of Marin (County) received a road rehabilitation funding allocation from the Transportation Authority of Marin under its Measure A Expenditure Plan, Strategy 3.1, which provided funding for the rehabilitation of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard between Highway 101 and the Ross Town Limits. The planning phase of the project enabled the County to engage the community on additional improvements to the roadway that could be undertaken at the same time as the rehabilitation work (henceforth the Rehabilitation Project). Through community input and preliminary design work, the scope of project components evolved to address concerns related to traffic congestion, pedestrian and bicyclist safety, and community character through additional roadway and intersection geometric modifications and modern traffic control technologies; and
- II. WHEREAS, Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) identified pipeline replacement projects in the corridor planned to be undertaken within the timeframe of the Rehabilitation Project. Inclusion of the MMWD pipeline projects in the Rehabilitation Project increases the complexity of the Rehabilitation Project but also achieves cost and construction impact efficiencies instead of constructing each project separately; and
- III. WHEREAS, the County contracted with a project consulting team to provide various services related to public outreach, development, and design of the proposed project, including preparation of environmental review documents for the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Rehabilitation Project; and
- IV. WHEREAS, the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Rehabilitation represents a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA Public Resources Code Sections 21000-21177); and
- V. WHEREAS, in conformance with CEQA regulations, the County determined that an EIR would be prepared for the proposed project. Per CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (d), an Initial Study was not prepared. The County selected an environmental consultant to prepare the project EIR. A Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Project EIR was circulated on December 13, 2016 to public agencies and all interested parties for a 30-day review and comment period on the scope of the EIR, ending January 17, 2017; and
- VI. WHEREAS, A public scoping session was held on January 10, 2017 to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the environmental issues and concerns for evaluation in the EIR during the scoping comment period; and
- VII. WHEREAS, the Draft EIR with a combined Notice of Completion (NOC) and notice of public hearing on the Draft EIR were distributed on October 11, 2017, to members of the Board of Supervisors, State Clearinghouse, state and local agencies and special districts, and other interested groups and individuals. The Notice of Completion and notice of public hearing was published in a newspaper of general circulation to begin a 45-day public review and comment period on the adequacy of the Draft EIR; and

- VIII. WHEREAS, on November 7, 2017, the Marin County Board of Supervisors conducted a public hearing to receive testimony on the adequacy of the Draft EIR. Oral and written comments were presented at the hearing. The primary issues raised regarded concerns over loss of on-street parking, traffic impacts from proposed intersection modifications and lane reconfigurations, and construction related noise and air quality impacts. Following the close of the public hearing, the Board directed that a Final EIR Response to Comments be prepared after the close of the comment period on the Draft EIR; and
- IX. WHEREAS, on December 6, 2017, the public review and comment period on the Draft EIR was closed, and written comments were received on the Draft EIR until 4:00 p.m. on that date; and
- X. WHEREAS, on March 26, 2018, the Final EIR, Response to Comments and a notice of distribution of the Final EIR for review and notice of a public meeting of the Board of Supervisors to consider certification of the Final EIR were distributed to members of the Board of Supervisors, State Clearinghouse, state and local agencies and special districts, EIR commentors, and other interested groups and individuals. Notice of distribution of the Final EIR for review and notice of the public meeting of the Commission to consider recommendation for certification of the Final EIR was published in a newspaper of general circulation to begin a 15-day public review and comment period on the Final EIR, which concluded on April 9, 2018; and

SECTION II: ACTION

- XI. WHEREAS, on April 9, 2018, the review and comment period on the Final EIR Response to Comments was closed, and written comments were received on the Final EIR until 4:00 p.m. on that date. Similar to the Draft EIR, these comments primarily raised concerns over loss of on-street parking, traffic impacts from proposed intersection modifications and lane reconfigurations, and construction related noise and air quality impacts. The responses to comments on the Final EIR have been adopted as an Amendment to the Final EIR to complete the Final EIR as adequate for certification. Since the comments and responses result in only minor clarifications and insignificant changes to the Final EIR, they do not trigger CEQA requirements for recirculation of the document for additional public review and do not prevent certification of the EIR as adequate and complete. On Thursday, May 3, 2018, copies of the Final EIR Response to Comments Amendment and a notice of the Board of Supervisors meeting to consider certification of the Final EIR were distributed to members of the Board of Supervisors, agencies, EIR commentors and other interested parties. The Amendment to the Final EIR will be considered as part of the certified Final EIR in making an informed decision on the project; and
- XII. WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered in light of public comments and testimony the information in the Final EIR, EIR administrative record, and staff reports for adequacy, completeness and compliance with CEQA, State CEQA Guidelines, and County Environmental Review Procedures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marin County Board of Supervisors hereby finds:

1. The recitals above are true and accurate and reflect the independent judgment of the Board of Supervisors.

2. Notice of the Board of Supervisors hearings on the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Rehabilitation Project environmental review documents was given as required by law and the actions were conducted in accordance with CEQA, and the State CEQA Guidelines.
3. All individuals, groups and agencies desiring to comment were given adequate opportunity to submit oral and written comments on the environmental review documents. These opportunities for comment meet or exceed the requirements of CEQA and the County Environmental Review procedures.
4. All comments submitted during the public review and comment period on the DEIR, the public hearings on the adequacy of the DEIR conducted by the Board of Supervisors and the public review and comment period and hearing on the Final EIR were responded to adequately.
5. The Board of Supervisors was presented with all of the information described in the recitals and has considered this information in adopting this resolution.
6. The Final EIR and Amendment to the Final EIR (a) has been completed in compliance with the intent and requirements of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, and the County EIR process, (b) reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the County of Marin, and (c) has been presented to and reviewed and considered by the Board of Supervisors in its deliberations regarding approval of the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Rehabilitation Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin, State of California, on the eighth day of May, 2018, by the following vote to-wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DAMON CONNOLLY, PRESIDENT
MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Attest:

Matthew H. Hymel
Clerk of the Board