COUNTY OF EL DORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR THE DIAMOND SPRINGS PARKWAY PROJECT DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT SCH #2007122033

DATE: June 18, 2010

TO: Interested Agencies and Individuals

FROM: El Dorado County Department of Transportation

The El Dorado County Department of Transportation (DOT) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed Diamond Springs Parkway Project. The Draft EIR is available for review and comment by interested persons and public agency representatives. Comments pertaining to the impact analysis, criteria and thresholds, mitigation measures and alternatives presented in the Draft EIR will be considered by the County during preparation of the Final EIR. The Final EIR will include copies of comments and the County's responses to comments pertaining to the environmental review and Draft EIR.

This Draft EIR is available for public and agency review for a 49-day period beginning June 23, 2010, and ending August 11, 2010 at the following locations:

DOT Placerville Office

2850 Fairlane Court Placerville, CA 95667 Phone: (530) 621-5900 El Dorado County Library

345 Fair Lane Placerville, California 95667

DOT Internet website

http://www.edcgov.us/DOT/ceqa.html

Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on August 11, 2010 to El Dorado County DOT, Attn: Janet Postlewait, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667 or via email to janet.postlewait@edcgov.us. Comments submitted via email must either be included in the body text of the message or as an attachment in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® PDF format. Comments will be included in the Final EIR and will become a part of the publicly accessible administrative record.

Following receipt of public comments on the Draft EIR, the County will prepare a Final EIR that includes all responses to comments and any necessary revisions to the text of the Draft EIR. The County must certify the Final EIR prior to Project approval.

Individuals and organization/agency representatives are invited to provide oral comments on the Draft EIR at two public meetings on July 28, 2010 at 2:30 to 4:00 p.m., and at 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The meetings will be held at the Diamond Springs Firefighters Memorial Hall, 501 Main Street, Diamond Springs, CA. Persons with disabilities that may require special accommodations at the scoping meeting should contact Janet Postlewait at the above address or by phone at: (530) 621-5900.

PROJECT LOCATION: The project is located in central El Dorado County, north of the unincorporated

community of Diamond Springs, between Missouri Flat Road and State Route 49 (Diamond Road).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

(Please refer to Draft EIR document for a more detailed project description and maps)

The project includes the construction of the Diamond Springs Parkway (Parkway); a 4-lane, divided roadway connecting Missouri Flat Road to SR 49 (Diamond Road), north of the community of Diamond Springs in El Dorado County. The proposed Parkway would extend from Missouri Flat Road near its intersection with the Sacramento-Placerville Transportation Corridor, north of China Garden Road, and would connect to SR-49 (Diamond Road) to the east. Construction of the Parkway would also require minor improvements and/or realignment of China Garden Road, Throwita Way, Truck Street, Bradley Street, and Old Depot Road. A new Truck Street/Bradley Drive Connector would be constructed west of Diamond Road (SR-49) to enhance circulation within the project area. A connection from the El Dorado Multi Use Trail (EDMUT) to the signalized intersection of Diamond Springs Parkway and Missouri Flat Road and a 40-space parking lot for trail users would also be constructed.

SR-49 (Diamond Road) would be improved to a major 4-lane highway by widening the roadway to the west between Lime Kiln Road and Pleasant Valley Road (SR-49). A new frontage road would be constructed along the existing SR-49 roadway. The SR-49 improvements would require minor improvements and/or realignment of Black Rice Road, Happy Lane, and Lime Kiln Road.

Concurrently, El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) would construct the Highway 49 Intertie Improvements Project. A new 12-inch waterline would replace the existing 6-inch and 8-inch waterlines from the intersection of SR-49 and Finch Road, south to the existing 12-inch waterline within SR-49 near Pleasant Valley Road. EID would also construct a new 18-inch waterline within the Parkway that would extend from the Parkway/SR-49 intersection and ultimately connect to the existing 18-inch line within Missouri Flat Road.

Existing overhead utilities along Missouri Flat Road, near China Garden Road, and along SR-49, between Bradley Drive and Pleasant Valley Road, would either be relocated or placed underground.

The project would be constructed in phases. Pending funding, Phase 1 is anticipated to begin in 2011 and be completed by the end of 2012.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Environmental issues addressed in the Draft EIR include: aesthetics, light and glare, air quality, biological resources, cultural and historical resources, geology and soils; hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, public services, traffic and transportation, and utilities and service systems.

EIR PROCESS AND PUBLIC INPUT: The Draft EIR describes the proposed Project and alternatives (including a *No Project* alternative as required by CEQA), discloses the potential environmental impacts of the project and defines mitigation measures to minimize or avoid significant impacts. The County will consider all comments received during the 49-day Draft EIR circulation period and will prepare a Final EIR which identifies any necessary changes to the Draft EIR and provides responses to all comments on the Draft EIR. The County Board of Supervisors will consider certification of the Final EIR prior to Project approval.