MENDOCINO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NOTICE OF BOARD HEARING AND AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at 1:30 P.M., in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California, will conduct a public hearing on the following project and the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration at the time listed or as soon thereafter as the item may be heard.

Project title: East Hill Road at Davis Creek Bridge Replacement Project, County Bridge #10C0113.

Lead agency: Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MDOT), 340 Lake Mendocino Dr., Ukiah, CA 95482

Contact person, phone number and e-mail: Jackson Ford, Environmental Compliance Specialist, (707) 463-4622, fordj@co.mendocino.ca.us

Project location: The project site is approximately 2 miles southeast of the City of Willits, within Little Lake Valley. The project study area is located within the *Willits, California* 7.5-minute U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle (Township 18 North, Range 13 West, Section 21) in the Upper Eel River hydrologic Unit. The surrounding land use is rural residential, directly adjacent to the creek is a wooded slope on the west and a cultivated hey field on the east.

Description of project: MCDOT will replace the existing 130 foot long through Pratt truss bridge with a 18 foot wide deck (clear width) that Caltrans classifies as Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete, with a 182 foot long, 40 foot wide, 2-lane, single-span, cast-in-place, pre-stressed concrete box-girder bridge supported on seat type abutments and spread footings with standard Caltrans concrete barrier Type 80 railings. The vertical profile grade will be similar to the existing to allow adequate freeboard above the 50 and 100-year flood events. The new bridge will be constructed approximately 70 feet down stream of the existing bridge. The roadway approaches would be widened and realigned to conform to the new bridge. East Hill Road would be realigned to improve the sharp horizontal curve located west of the bridge by increasing the curve radius. Right-of-way acquisition will be needed for this alignment. The existing bridge would remain in operation during construction and would be removed and disposed of offsite after the new bridge has been completed. Construction will be completed within one season.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The Mendocino County Department of Transportation has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the above project (there will not be a significant effect in this case because proposed mitigation measures will reduce potentially significant effects to a less than significant level). A copy of the Initial Study with mitigation measures in support of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Bridge Replacement Project is available for public review at the Willits Library (390 E Commercial St), the County Department of Transportation in Ukiah (340 Lake Mendocino Drive), and the MDOT website http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot under the environmental documents tab.

Your comments regarding the above project and/or the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration are invited. Written comments should be submitted to the Mendocino County Department of Transportation, 340 Lake Mendocino Drive, Ukiah, California 95482. All written comments **must be received prior to 4:30 P.M. December 19, 2013** to be included with the Staff Report to the Board. Oral, email and/or additional written comments may be presented to the Board of Supervisors during the public hearing.

If you challenge the above matter in Court, you may be limited to raising only those issues which you or someone else raised in the written correspondence delivered to the Department of Transportation, at or prior to the date indicated above. All persons are invited to appear and present testimony in this matter.

Additional information regarding the above noted item may be obtained by calling the Mendocino County Department of Transportation, at 463-4363, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Should you desire notification of the Board of Supervisors decision you may do so by requesting notification in writing and providing a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Mendocino County Department of Transportation, 340 Lake Mendocino Drive, Ukiah, California 95482.

HOWARD N. DASHIELL Director, Department of Transportation