

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, April 21, 2015, at 9:00 a.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: Sherwood Road at Rows Creek Bridge Replacement Project, County Bridge #10C0123.

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 5.6 miles northwest of Willits, CA. The bridge provides a link between Willits and the Brooktrails subdivision to the Sherwood Valley. The project study area is located within the *Burbeck, California* 7.5-minute U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle (Township 19 North, Range 14 West, Section 22) in the Upper Eel River hydrologic Unit. The surrounding land use is zoned Upland residential.

Description of project: The County proposes to replace the existing bridge (No. 10C-0123) on Sherwood Road over Rows Creek and construct the necessary roadway approach improvements. The bridge currently in place has been found to be structurally deficient due to substandard load carrying capacity and functionally obsolete. The purpose of this project is to improve public safety by providing safe and cost effective solutions for traffic to cross Rows Creek. The vertical profile grade will be similar to the existing to allow adequate freeboard above the 50 and 100-year flood events. The roadway would be realigned to remove the sharp reversing curve located on either end of the bridge and increase the roadway approach curve radius. Right-of-way acquisition will be needed for this alignment. Construction of the new bridge outside of the current alignment would allow continued use of the existing bridge during construction. 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, 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. All written comments **must be received prior to 5 P.M. March 6, 2015** 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