

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 7, 2013

Reference No.: 2.2c. (15)
Action

From: ANDRE BOUTROS
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CACTUS AVENUE WIDENING
PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-13-34)**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Cactus Avenue Widening Project (project) in Riverside County and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission accept the MND and approve the project for future consideration of funding.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Moreno Valley (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. On February 9, 2010 the City adopted the final MND and found that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

The project is located in Riverside County on Cactus Avenue in the City of Moreno Valley east of Interstate-215 (I-215). The proposed project consists of various street improvements to add a third eastbound lane to the south side of Cactus Avenue from the I-215 off-ramp near Commerce Center Drive to Heacock Street for a total of approximately 1.8 miles.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to Biological Resources. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: avoidance and minimization efforts associated with avian species including pre-construction nesting surveys and limitations on tree removal during the nesting season, and compensatory mitigation for project impacts to California Department of Fish & Game jurisdictional drainage.

The project will be constructed in phases. Phase I of the project is programmed in the SLPP program of projects and will add a third eastbound lane to the south side of Cactus Avenue from I-215 near

Commerce Center Drive to Veterans Way. Phase I will also enhance the right turn lane into the main entrance of March Air Reserve Base at Elsworth Street and will upgrade and/or modify two traffic signals. On March 11, 2013 the City provided written confirmation that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the project programmed by the Commission.

Phase I of the project is estimated to cost \$1,120,000. The project is funded with SLPP (\$560,000) funds and Local (\$560,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2013/14.

Attachment

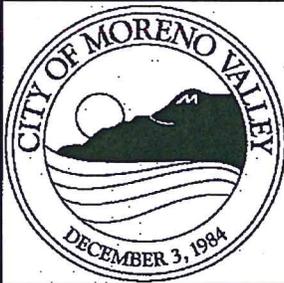
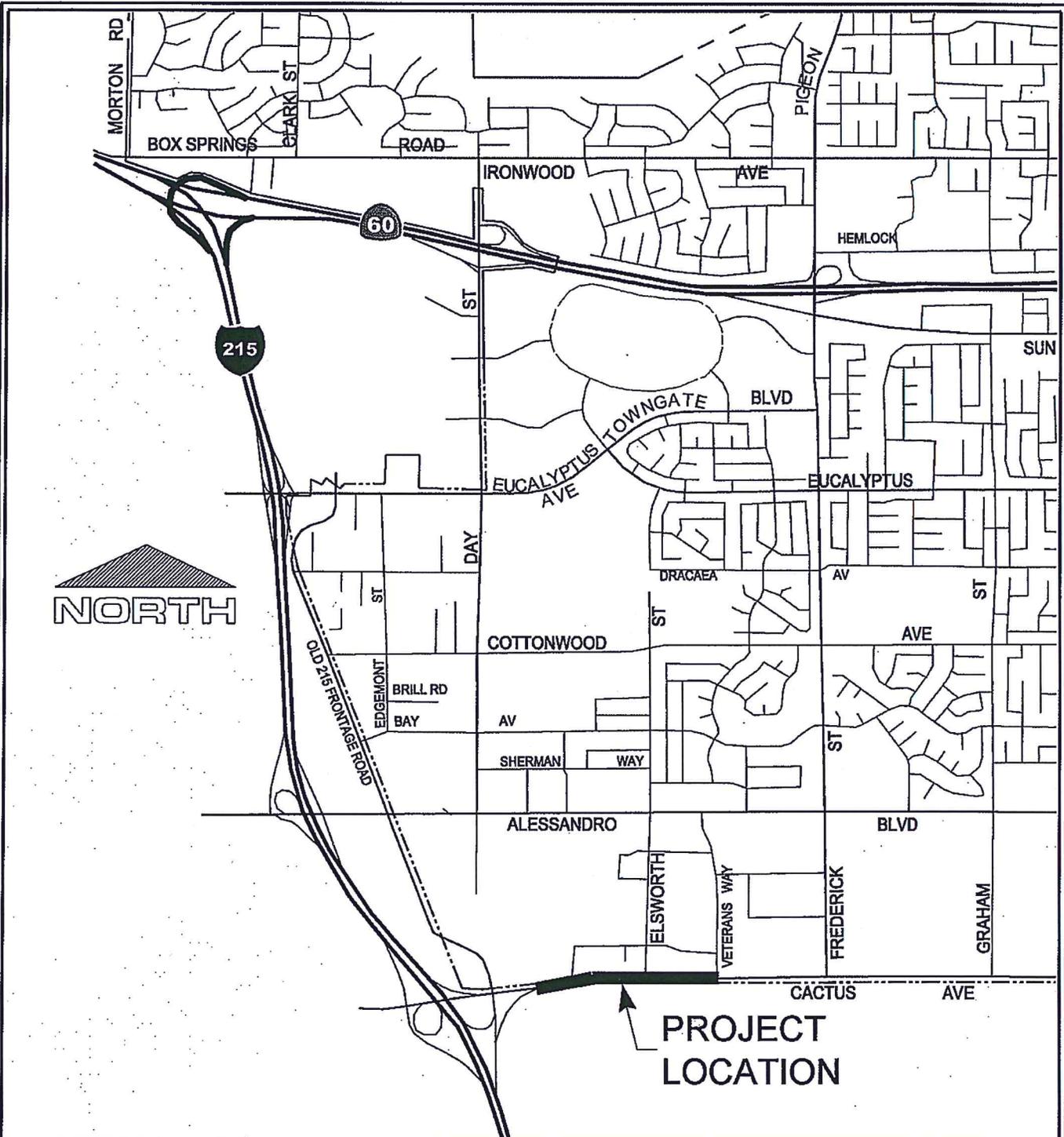
- Resolution E-13-34
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 08 – Riverside County Resolution E-13-34

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Moreno Valley (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
- Cactus Avenue Widening Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the City has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the proposed project consists of various street improvements to add a third eastbound lane to the south side of Cactus Avenue from the I-215 off-ramp near Commerce Center Drive to Heacock Street for a total of approximately 1.8 miles; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the City found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the City approved the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

Date: 14 Mar '83 - 4:39 pm
 File: W:\CapProj\CapProj\PROJECTS\Guy - 07-41678527 - Stage 1 Cactus EB 3rd Ln - I-215 - Veterans Way\Design Phase\Auto CAD\Rev_Location Map.dwg
 User: deppols



LOCATION MAP

Public Works Department
 Capital Projects Division

Scale: None

ATTACHMENT "A"

**CACTUS AVENUE FROM I-215 OFF-RAMP
 TO
 VETERANS WAY**