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INTRODUCTION

PLACER PARKWAY CORRIDOR PRESERVATION FINAL TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This is the Final Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement/Program Environmental Impact Report (hereinafter referred to as the Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR) for the Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation Project, in Placer and Sutter counties, California. Placer Parkway is proposed as a new east-west roadway linking State Route (SR) 70/99 in Sutter County east to SR 65 in Placer County.

The Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR consists of this document and two additional Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation Tier 1 Draft EIS/EIR documents that are listed later in this Introduction.

This document contains public comments received on the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR and the Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR, which consisted of letters, e-mails and other written comments received by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and by Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) on behalf of the South Placer Regional Transportation Authority (SPRTA), and oral comments received at the four public hearings identified in Section 2.8 below. All of these comments are included in Chapter 3 of this document, as are responses to those comments.

In addition to this document which provides comments and responses and other material, this Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR includes the following documents:

- Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement/Program Environmental Impact Report (Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR) dated June 29, 2007 (consisting of two volumes). The Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR was circulated for public comment from July 2, 2007 through September 25, 2007, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Public hearings to receive comments on the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR were held on August 6 and August 8, 2007, as described in more detail in Section 2.8.
- Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement/Program Environmental Impact Report (Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR, or PRD) dated January 30, 2009 (consisting of one volume). The Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR was circulated for public comment from January 30, 2009 through May 11, 2009, in compliance with NEPA and CEQA. Public hearings to receive comments on the Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR were held on February 23 and February 25, 2009, as described in more detail in Section 2.8.

This Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR (including the Draft and Partially Revised Draft EIS/EIR documents listed above, which are provided on a CD) is the Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR for purposes of NEPA. It will be noticed in the Federal Register on December 11, 2009 and will be made available for 30 days after that date, prior to FHWA making a decision in accordance with NEPA regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Section 1502.19). Following public comment, FHWA

may select the preferred corridor alignment alternative, or another alternative, and a Record of Decision that presents the basis for the decision may be published in the Federal Register.

This Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR (including the Draft and Partially Revised Draft EIS/EIR documents listed above) is also the Final Program EIR for purposes of CEQA. With respect to CEQA, the SPRTA Board of Directors may (1) certify this Final Program EIR as complete, make Findings and adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and may approve a preferred corridor alignment alternative based on this Final Program EIR pursuant to CEQA guidelines Section 15089 regarding selection of a project alternative, or (2) abandon the project, or (3) take some other action. If SPRTA approves a corridor alignment alternative based on the Final Program EIR, and as funding becomes available, SPRTA and its member jurisdictions (Placer County and the cities of Roseville, Rocklin, and Lincoln) could preserve right-of-way for all or part of the selected corridor. Sutter County has been part of the planning for the Placer Parkway project and the development of this Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR since 2003. The Sutter County Board of Supervisors will separately consider formal adoption of the preferred corridor alignment alternative within its jurisdiction, based on this Final Program EIR.

The SPRTA Board of Directors will consider certification of this Final Program EIR as complete and will consider approval of a preferred corridor alignment alternative at 10:45 a.m. on December 3, 2009 at Placer County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603.

This Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR for the Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation project is organized into seven chapters:

- Chapter 1 Introduction.** This chapter provides information on the contents of the Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR and provides information on the organization of the document.
- Chapter 2 Executive Summary.** This chapter summarizes the need and purpose for the project; describes the proposed project and alternatives; summarizes environmental effects; identifies the Preferred Alternative under NEPA (subject to FHWA determination) and the Environmentally Superior Alternative under CEQA; summarizes public participation, consultation and coordination; and includes a table summarizing impacts for all project alternatives analyzed. Where the table has been revised from those described in the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR and the Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR, additions are shown as underlined and deletions are shown as ~~strike through~~.
- Chapter 3 Comments and Responses.** This chapter includes all comments received by FHWA and PCTPA on the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR and the Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR, including comments received at public hearings. Responses are provided to these comments.

- Chapter 4 Revisions to the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR.** This chapter presents the text changes to the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR, including changes identified in the PRD and in various responses in Chapter 3, and corrections of minor typographical errors.
- Chapter 5 List of Preparers and Reviewers**
- Chapter 6 List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons to Whom Copies are Sent**
- Chapter 7 References**
- Appendices**
- Appendix A – Modified NEPA/404 Process**
 - Appendix B – Public Involvement Notices and Materials**
 - Appendix C – Purpose and Need Statement – Agency Concurrence Version**
 - Appendix D – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**
 - Appendix E – Final Tier 1 Section 4(f) Evaluation**

This Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR is available for review at the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency, 299 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA 95603. Copies can also be obtained electronically from the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency’s project website at www.pctpa.net. It is also available for review at the following locations:

Placer County Transportation Planning Agency 299 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA	Sutter County Planning Department 1130 Civic Center Blvd., Yuba City, CA
Placer County Planning Department 3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA	Sacramento County Planning Department 827 7th Street, Room 230, Sacramento, CA
Placer County Public Works Department 3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA	Roseville Public Library - Downtown 225 Taylor Street, Roseville CA
Placer County Library 350 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA	Roseville Public Library - Maidu 1530 Maidu Drive, Roseville CA
Placer County Library, Loomis 6050 Library Drive, Loomis, CA	Rocklin Library 5460 Fifth Street, Rocklin, CA
Sutter County Library, Main Branch 750 Forbes Avenue, Yuba City, CA	Lincoln Library 590 Fifth Street, Lincoln, CA
Sutter County Library, Pleasant Grove Branch 3093 Howsley Road, Pleasant Grove, CA	Sierra College Library 5000 Rocklin Road, Rocklin, CA
Sutter County Library, Browns Branch 1248 Pacific Avenue, Rio Oso, CA	Sacramento County Library, North Natomas 2500 New Market Drive, Sacramento, CA

Sacramento County Public Library
828 I Street, Sacramento, CA

California State University
2000 State University Drive–East, Sacramento, CA

Sacramento County Library,
North Highlands – Antelope
4235 Antelope Road, Antelope, CA

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