Notice of Preparation

September 19, 2019

To:

State Agencies

From: Brian Millar

Interim Director of Development Services

City of Yuba City

1201 Civic Center Boulevard

Yuba City, CA 95993

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report; **Bridge Street Level of Service Policy General Plan Amendment**

The City of Yuba City will be the Lead Agency and will prepare a Supplement to the General Plan Environmental Impact Report for the project identified in the attached document. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials.

Due to time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. Please send your response to Brian Millar, Interim Director of Development Services, at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title: Bridge Street General Plan Amendment – Transportation Policy No. 5.2-I-12

Project Applicant: City of Yuba City

Thank you,

Brian Millar

Interim Director of Development Services

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Bmillar

Email: bmillar@yubacity.net

General Plan Amendment – Bridge Street Level of Service Project Description

The City of Yuba City is proposing a General Plan Amendment to amend Policy No. 5.2-I-12 of the Yuba City General Plan Transportation Element to add a segment of Bridge Street to the list of streets where exceptions to the City's minimum Level of Service (LOS) D are allowed (the "project"). The project would amend Policy 5.2-I-12 by indicating that a segment of Bridge Street, extending from the intersection of Bridge Street/Second Street west to the intersection of Bridge Street and North Palora Avenue, would be permitted to operate at LOS F. The location of the project is provided in Figures 1 and 2, attached.

General Plan Amendment:

The City of Yuba City's General Plan was adopted in 2004. The General Plan includes a Transportation Policy (No. 5.2-I-12), which requires the City to maintain a LOS of D or better for its roadway system:

"Develop and manage the roadway system to obtain LOS D or better for all major roadways and intersections in the City. This policy does not extend to residential streets (i.e., street with direct driveway access to homes) or bridges across the Feather River nor does the policy apply to state highways and their intersections, where Caltrans policies apply. Exceptions to LOS D policy may be allowed by the City Council in areas, such as downtown, where allowing a lower LOS would result in clear pubic benefits. Specific exceptions granted by the Council shall be added to the list of exceptions below:

- SR 20 (SR99 to Feather River Bridge) LOS F is acceptable;
- SR 20 (Feather River Bridge) LOS F is acceptable;
- Bridge Street (Twin Cities Bridge) LOS F is acceptable; and
- Lincoln Road (New Bridge across the Feather River) LOS F is acceptable."

The Policy includes certain exceptions to that minimum LOS and authorizes additional exceptions in those cases where the City Council may determine that "clear public benefits" would result from the use of a lower LOS. In order to facilitate future planned development, including commercial development along the noted segment of Bridge Street, the City Council is considering a potential General Plan Amendment to ultimately authorize an additional exception to the minimum LOS standard, adding the following language to the list of roadway LOS exceptions in General Plan policy No. 5.2-I-12:

Bridge Street (from approximately 300 feet east of SR 99 to Second Street) – LOS F is acceptable.

There are no other proposed amendments to the General Plan.

Environmental Analysis:

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was certified by the City Council at the time it adopted the General Plan in 2004. That document included all required environmental analyses, including a detailed analysis of traffic and circulation-related impacts of the General Plan.

The City anticipates that the project would require preparation of a Supplement to the 2004 General Plan EIR, consistent with California Environmental Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15163. A Supplement to the EIR may be utilized when only minor additions or changes would be necessary to make the previous EIR adequately apply to the changed situation. In this instance, the project would result solely in amendment to the City's LOS policy for a portion of one segment along Bridge Street. The Supplement to the General Plan EIR will include analysis of traffic and circulation impacts which may result from the project, and the City will address the policy issue of identification of clear public benefit should a LOS F be adopted for the project.

Next Steps:

Consistent with the requirements of CEQA, the City seeks input as to the study parameters for the Supplement to the General Plan EIR for the Bridge Street Level of Service policy amendment project. With this input, the City will prepare the Supplement to the EIR, which will be made available to the public and agencies before being considered by the Planning Commission and City Council at future, noticed public hearings as part of the General Plan Amendment project.

Please provide written comments by October 21, 2019 to:

Brian Millar
Development Services Department
City of Yuba City
1201 Civic Center Boulevard
Yuba City, CA 95993

Email comments may be submitted to bmillar@yubacity.net.

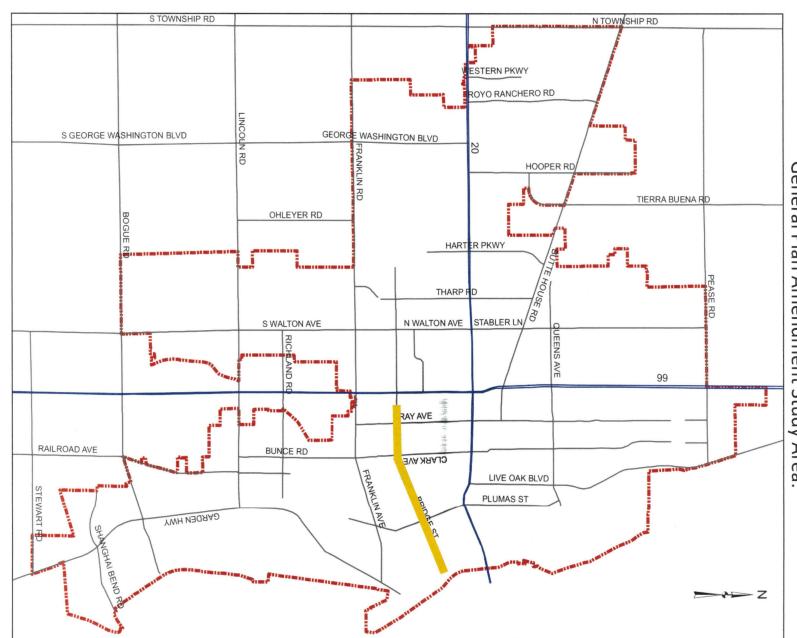


Figure 1 – Bridge Street Level of Service General Plan Amendment Study Area:

Figure 2 – Bridge Street Level of Service Study Area

