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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Esplanade Corridor Safety and Accessibility Improvement Project (Capital Project #50355)

Lead Agency: City of Chico, Public Works - Engineering

Contact Name: Tracy Bettencourt

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Project Location: Esplanade and Oleander Avenue in Chico, Butte County

City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The City of Chico proposes to create a separated and paved Class I multi-use bicycle/pedestrian path along the Esplanade, connecting downtown; California State University, Chico; Chico Junior and Senior High Schools; a regional hospital; and neighborhoods adjacent to the existing Airport Class I multi-use path at 11th Avenue. The parallel street to the east of the Esplanade, Oleander Avenue, would also receive signage, sidewalk, signal, and stop control improvements between 10th Avenue and Memorial Way. A roundabout would be installed at the intersection of Oleander Avenue and Memorial Way adjacent to Chico Junior High School. Two traffic signals are proposed to be installed at the intersections of Oleander Avenue/1st Avenue and West Sacramento Avenue/Esplanade.
Existing traffic signals would be outfitted with pedestrian signal crossing equipment (now absent), updated detection equipment, an associated traffic signal timing plan to accommodate the added pedestrian phases, and pedestrian refuge islands where applicable. Appropriate ADA ramps and sidewalks would be added.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Disturbances of nesting bird and roosting bat species during construction could result in significant impacts. Mitigation would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels.
Mitigation D.1. When feasible, project-related construction activities will be initiated or occur during the non-nesting season. If project-related construction activities, including tree and vegetation removal, must occur during the avian nesting season conduct preconstruction survey and establish protective buffer around active nests.
Mitigation D.2. Avoid removal of potential bat roost habitat during the bat maternity season. If removal of potential roost habitat must be conducted during the maternity season, conduct preconstruction inspections for bats within 14 days of vegetation removal.
Mitigation D.3. The project area will be kept clear of debris, where possible. All food-related trash items will be enclosed in sealed containers and regularly removed from the project area.
CULTURAL RESOURCES: Unearthing a cultural or paleontological resource or burial site has the potential to cause damage that could be considered a significant impact. Mitigation would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels.
Mitigation E.1. Provide for the presence of a Mechoopda Indian Tribal Monitor during all earth moving and ground disturbing activities.
Mitigation E.2. Cease work within 10 feet of a cultural or paleontological find (100 feet for human remains) and contact City for next actions needed to evaluate the significance of the find.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Members of the public raised concerns over loss of trees, the street speed limit, the history of the Esplanade, and the overall need to provide for bicycle facilities and improved pedestrian crossings.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Regional Water Quality Control Board