

**Department of
Conservation and
Development**

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**Contra
Costa
County**



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July 15, 2020

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND INTENT
TO ADOPT A PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

County File No. 19-36

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and the "Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970" as amended to date, this is to advise you that the Department of Conservation and Development of Contra Costa County has prepared an Initial Study for the following project:

PROJECT NAME: Byron Highway Bridge Replacement

LEAD AGENCY: Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development
Contact: Telma Moreira, Principal Planner (925) 674-7783

APPLICANT: Contra Costa County Public Works Department: Avé Brown (925) 313-2311

LOCATION: Byron Highway over the California Aqueduct, approximately 3.6 miles southeast of Byron, CA

ZONING: Heavy Agriculture (A-3-X), General Agriculture (A-2), General Agriculture – Railroad Corridor (A-2-X), and Agriculture Preserve (A-4)

DESCRIPTION: The Project will replace the existing bridge with a multi-span concrete bridge approximately 360 feet long, and a clear width of approximately 40 feet. The Project would also make approximately 1,350 total feet of roadway improvements on both sides of the new structure (approx. 2,700 feet of new roadway total). The proposed road and bridge would realign Byron Highway slightly to the south. In its final configuration, the replacement bridge would accommodate two lanes of vehicular traffic (one in each direction) with no increase in capacity. The proposed bridge would have eight-foot wide shoulders on both sides of the road. The eight-foot shoulders would meet American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) minimums and would be consistent with the countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan that would accommodate a Class 2 facility with buffer striping at the Project site. The work also includes modified connections for four access roads near the ends of the bridge and modification of the Bruns Road intersection. The project will require relocation of communication lines

(overhead and underground) and overhead electric distribution facilities and a relocation/extension of a siphon/culvert owned by Byron Bethany Irrigation District near Bruns Road. Underground utilities are attached to cross the existing bridge and would need to be relocated onto the new bridge including an 8-inch Chevron Oil line and 12-inch Natural Gas line. The proposed bridge would accommodate these utilities as well as capacity for future underground lines as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The Initial Study for the proposed project identified potentially significant impacts in the environmental area of Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Wildfire. Environmental analysis determined that measures were available to mitigate potential adverse impacts to insignificant levels. As a result, a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) has been prepared pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(c), 21064.5, and Article 6 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

Pursuant to the requirements of CEQA (CEQA Guidelines Section 15071) the MND describes the proposed project; identifies, analyzes, and evaluates the potential significant environmental impacts, which may result from the proposed project; and identifies measures to mitigate adverse environmental impacts. Mitigations identified in this document designed for the proposed project will ensure that the project will not cause a significant impact on the environment.

A copy of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) may be reviewed at the Contra Costa County Public Works Department, 255 Glacier Drive, Martinez. However due to changing circumstances related to Covid-19, hours may be affected. Please check the Public Works website for updated hours <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/227/Public-Works>. The MND can also be viewed online at the following link: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/4841/Public-Input>. Documents referenced in the MND can be provided upon request by contacting the project analyst (contact information provided below).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: The period for accepting comments on the adequacy of the environmental document is from July 21, 2020 to August 19, 2020. Any comments should be in writing and submitted to the following address and/or e-mail address:

Avé Brown, Principal Analyst
Contra Costa County Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
ave.brown@pw.cccounty.us
Desk Phone: (925) 313-2311
Cell Phone (925) 723-1708

The environmental document is expected to go before the County Board of Supervisors on September 15, 2020. To confirm the Board date, please contact Avé Brown at (925) 313-2311.

Attachments: Figure 1: Regional Location Map
Figure 2: Project Site Overview Map



Legend

★ Project Location



County Boundary

0 2.5 5 10 Miles



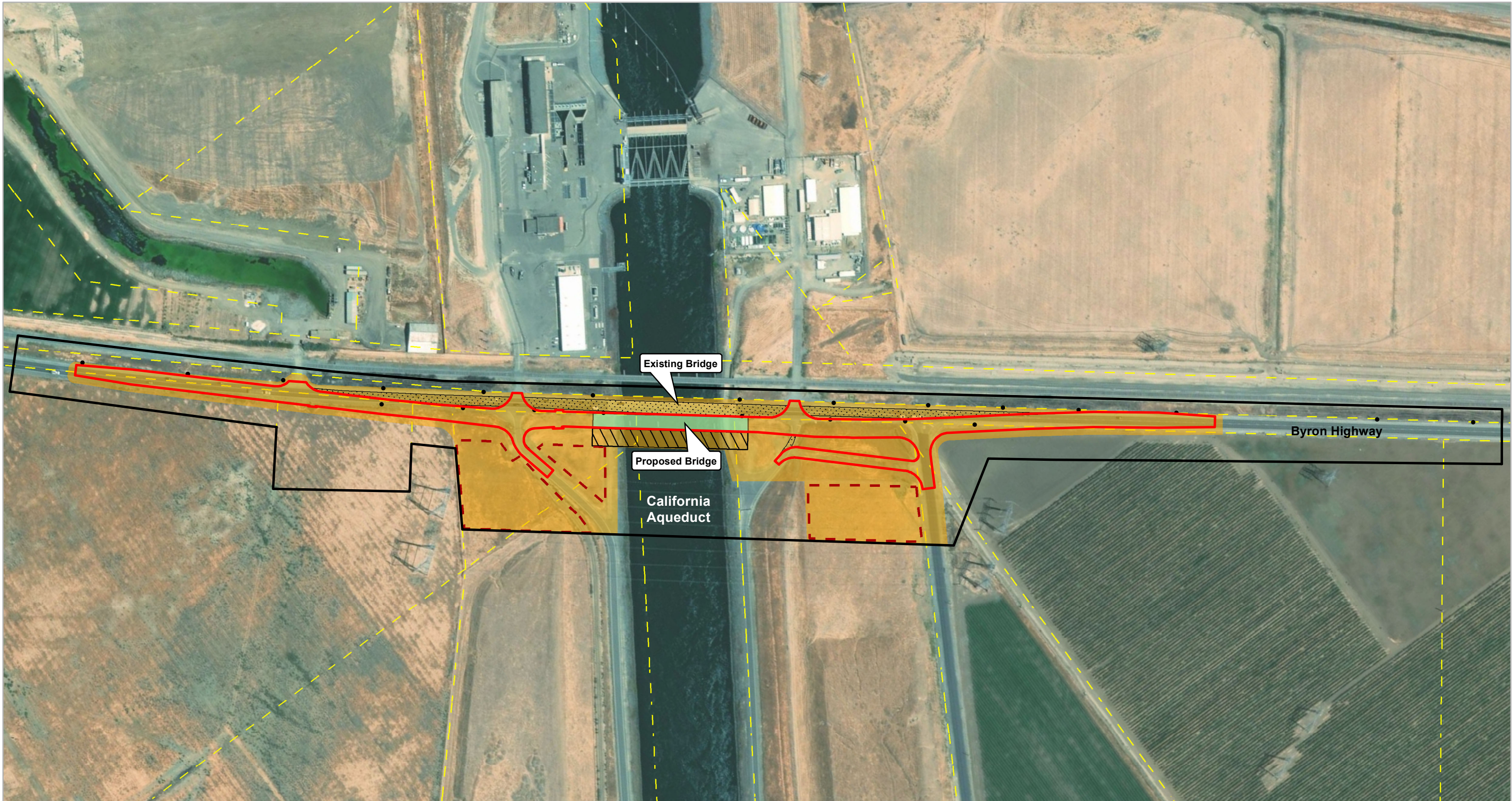
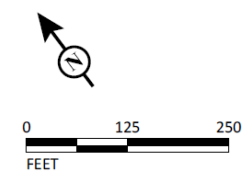


FIGURE 2

LSA



LEGEND

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Biological Study Area (23.17 ac) | New Roadway/Pavement | Potential Utility Pole to be Relocated |
| Proposed Bridge | Pavement to be Removal | |
| Parcel Line | Potential Temporary Construction Trestle | |
| Project Impact Area | Potential Staging Area | |

*Byron Highway Bridge (29C-0121)
Replacement Project
Federal Project No.: BRLS-5928(104)
Contra Costa County, CA*

Project Site Overview Map