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Resolution No. 22-_____

County of Sonoma
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Date: August 30, 2022

Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California, Certifying the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Bohemian Highway Bridge Replacement Project (Supervisory District No. 5).

Resolved, that the Board of Supervisors ("the Board") of the County of Sonoma ("the County") hereby finds and determines as follows:

**Section 1.
Proposed Project**

1.0 The Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works ("TPW") proposes to replace the existing 1934 Bohemian Highway Bridge where it crosses the lower Russian River in the unincorporated community of Monte Rio. The existing bridge has reached the end of its service life and has been identified as being at seismic risk. Extensive discussions between Caltrans and the County, as well as consultation with the public have been undertaken to determine the best approach for resolving the seismic safety concerns and whether to replace or retrofit the existing bridge. After multiple studies, it was determined that replacement is the only prudent option. The proposed project is to construct a replacement bridge just to the west of the existing bridge and then remove the existing bridge, along with involving other associated work in and around the adjacent river bed and river banks. The proposed replacement bridge would be approximately 846 feet long and composed of 1) a south approach of a precast pre-stressed concrete voided slab girder structure with three spans (60 to 65 feet long each) supporting a concrete bridge deck, 2) a main bridge structure which would clear span the low-flow Russian River channel with a 390-foot long steel tied arch structure, and 3) a north approach of precast pre-stressed concrete voided slab girder structure with three spans ranging (80 to 85 feet long each), supporting a concrete bridge deck. The foregoing project components are collectively referred to hereinafter as the "Proposed Project."

1.1 The proposed new bridge would be designed to meet the current AASHTO design standards, and provide a multimodal route for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. The proposed alignment for the new bridge would connect to Main Street west of the existing bridge and east of Moscow Road, and terminate at Bohemian Highway at the south of "the triangle" intersection south of SR 116. The proposed roadway cross section would accommodate two 12-foot vehicular lanes (one lane in each direction), concrete barriers,

steel arch members, 8-foot shoulders/Class II bike lanes adjacent to the travel lanes, and 6-foot wide Class 1 multi-use sidewalks on both sides of the bridge. Signing and striping would be installed in accordance with the latest edition of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices(MUTCD) Standards.

1.2 The proposed new bridge would be above the 100-year flood level of 47.7 feet, with an ADA-compliant longitudinal grade to accommodate the pedestrians crossing the bridge, although portions of the bridge's approaches would not entirely clear the estimated 100-year flood water levels due to relatively low elevations of the approach roadways and design limitations on how high the approach roadways can be raised. The proposed new bridge would be a substantial improvement from the existing structure, since the existing structure is completely overtopped by flood water during 100-year flood events; in comparison, less than 100 feet of the proposed new bridge superstructure is estimated to be overtopped, and only at the bridge's approaches.

1.3 The southern approach roadway improvements would extend to the east and west along MainStreet and would conform to existing grade within approximately 150-feet of the replacement bridge, maintaining existing roadway accesses.

1.4 Reinforced concrete retaining walls on either side of the northern approach roadway would support the bridge approach embankment. The northern approach roadway improvements would extend along both sides of Bohemian Highway and connect to the existing road at the south end of "the triangle" intersection, just south of SR 116. The proposed project would not impact the existing Monte Rio Theater and Extravaganza on the east side of Bohemian Highway or the Monte Rio Recreation and Park District (MRRPD) Community Center/Monte Rio Fishing Access parking lot entrance. Approach work on the north approach roadway would conform to grade before reaching the south end of "the triangle" intersection and would not encroach into Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) on SR 116.

1.5 A remnant pier footing from the bridge that was in place prior to the existing bridge, located near the mouth of Dutch Bill Creek, will be removed to improve hydrology and fish habitat. The remnants of this pier footing are visible in the summer months during lower river flows. In addition, as part of the required consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), a restoration project within Dutch Bill Creek will be implemented by a local, experienced restoration practitioner in the amount of \$250,000. Funds for this restoration project will be provided on or before the start of construction. Approval of the proposed restoration project will be subject to review and approval by NMFS to ensure that the project results in long- term benefits to the listed salmonid species. Eligible restoration projects are categorized as follows: instream habitat improvements, instream barrier modification for fish passage improvement, streambank and riparian habitat restoration, upslope watershed restoration, removal of small dams(permanent, flashboard and other seasonal), creation of off-channel/side-channel habitat features and water conservation projects (developing alternative off-stream water supply, water storage tanks, and water measuring devices).

1.6 All utilities currently on the existing bridge would require relocation to the proposed new bridge. These utilities include electrical lines, telecommunication conduits, water, and gas lines. Improvements of existing utilities would be coordinated with utility owners to identify the rights and relocation needs. While relocation is not the legal responsibility of the County, to the extent that any relocation would not be allowed and covered by existing franchise and other utility rights, the County has committed to allowing the affected utilities to relocate into other existing and to-be-acquired County rights of way, including on and across the proposed new bridge structure, subject to standard terms and conditions for such utility installations. Existing overhead power pole and guy wires located on Bohemian Highway at the entrance to the MRRPD Community Center/Monte Rio Fishing Access parking lot would be relocated behind the proposed sidewalk. This relocation would include all overhead electrical and telecommunication lines joining at that power pole.

1.7 The Project would be subject to the requirements of the 2015 Phase I Municipal Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Permit issued by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board or subsequently issued MS4 permit. Existing storm drain inlets would be relocated in accordance with the new horizontal geometry and stormwater treatment elements would be included in compliance with regulatory requirements. This permit requires Low Impact Development (LID), which, for this Project, entails stormwater capture (to not increase runoff rates), and treatment of stormwater runoff from paved areas. The replacement bridge deck would drain via deck drains that outlet to the storm drain and/or storm water treatment system at the ends of the bridge. Post-construction Storm Water Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be implemented to achieve any required permanent water quality treatment and volume capture of the Project area.

1.8 A portion of the Monte Rio Fishing Access parking lot would be utilized for temporary construction staging. However, access to and use of Big Rocky Beach and its concession and boat rental areas, and the Monte Rio Fishing Access boat ramp would remain open during construction. In addition, the County will provide alternative parking on a 1:1 ratio for parking spots that become unavailable at the Monte Rio fishing Access parking lot due to construction activities, for the duration of construction activities.

1.9 Construction of the proposed new bridge would require ROW acquisitions and maintenance and construction easements from a number of parcels. On the north side of the river, ROW needs include a small (approximately 0.06 acre) ROW acquisition of the CDFW Monte Rio Fishing Access parking lot (Assessor's Parcel Number 094-100-035) for the replacement bridge northern roadway approach, and a partial ROW acquisition of the Sandy Beach (APN095-160-001) for the bridge structure. Following construction, the Monte Rio Fishing Access parking area would be improved as part of the Project such that post-construction, the parking area would have the same parking capacity that it does currently.

1.10 On the south side of the river, partial acquisition of the parcel (APN 095-160-006) located adjacent to Main Street, northeast of the proposed southern conform,

would be required. Said parcel contains riparian trees adjacent to Dutch Bill Creek and is also partially used as parking lot for vehicles of the automotive repair shop. Full acquisition of the adjacent parcel located along Main Street (APN 095-160- 005) (also used for automotive repair shop vehicle parking) would be required. Depending on final bridge geometry and final grading in this area, some parking beneath the replacement bridge structure may be retained. Additional partial ROW acquisitions would be required along the south side of the river, including along Dutch Bill Beach (APN 094-110-001) and three other parcels (APNs 095-160-002, 095-160-003, and 095-160-006).

1.11 Potential uses of the abandoned ROW associated with the existing 1934 bridge may include open space or recreational area. Currently the County is in discussions with MRRPD about revegetation for the abandoned ROW and the plan is to revegetate this area in coordination with input from MRRPD.

1.12 In addition to permanent acquisitions, temporary construction easements on the adjacent properties near the intersections of Main Street/Bohemian Highway and Bohemian Highway north and west of the Monte Rio Theater would be required during Project construction. Construction access to and along the river would be necessary to construct the abutments for the replacement bridge in the northerly and southerly riverbanks, as well as the bridge piers and bridge deck, as well as for the demolition of the existing bridge.

1.13 The Project site is located in an urban service area within Sonoma County. The existing land uses of the surrounding parcels include Rural Residential (RR), Rural Development (RRD), Limited Commercial (LC), Neighborhood Commercial (C1), Recreation and Visitor-Serving Commercial (K), and Public Facilities (PF). The Project Site is located in Supervisorial District No. 5.

Section 2 Procedural History

2.0 Prior to starting the CEQA process, early coordination and public involvement took place. Community engagement was conducted through in-person workshops at the MRRPD Community Center, web-based surveys and, during the pandemic, virtual Zoom meetings. These meetings allowed TPW to educate the community about the project history, existing bridge condition, available funding, feasibility of replacement versus retrofit, etc. Community input on bridge alignment, type, design features, aesthetics, etc. was obtained and incorporated into the new bridge design.

2.1 On December 1, 2020, the Sonoma County Landmarks Commission formally considered the Proposed Project, including the removal of the existing bridge, and recommended that the project proceed forward as designed. On August 18, 2021, the Sonoma County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee formally considered the Proposed Project and found it to be in conformance with the Sonoma County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

2.2 The County of Sonoma distributed a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the EIR for a 30-day agency and public review period commencing March 22, 2021 and closing April 21, 2021. In addition, the County held a virtual Scoping Meeting on April 14, 2021. The meeting, held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., provided information about the proposed project to members of public agencies, interested stakeholders and community members. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the virtual meeting was held through an online meeting platform and a call-in number. The County received letters from five agencies, two organizations, and eight individuals in response to the NOP during the public review period, as well as comments from ten people during the scoping meeting.

2.3 On December 14, 2021, the Board, in accordance with the provisions of Section 23A-23 to the Sonoma County Code, adopted Resolution No. 12-0448 taking jurisdiction over the EIR for the Proposed Project, to expedite the review of the EIR to ensure that the County did not lose the federal funding for the Proposed Project.

2.4 The Draft EIR was made available for public review for a 45-day comment period that began on April 4, 2022 and ended on May 18, 2022. The Notice of Availability of a Draft EIR was posted with the County Clerk, sent to the State Clearinghouse, forwarded to local and state agencies, published in The Press Democrat newspaper, mailed to property owners and emailed to interested parties.

2.5 The Board conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the Draft EIR on May 17, 2022 in order to receive oral and/or written testimony regarding the Draft EIR. At the conclusion of public testimony at the hearing, the Board closed the hearing, gave preliminary comments on the Draft EIR, and directed Permit Sonoma staff to prepare responses to all comments received.

2.6 The County received seven letters that included multiple individual comments on the Draft EIR. Written responses to all comments received on the Draft EIR were prepared and revisions to the Draft EIR were made, as appropriate, in response to those comments. The written responses are set forth in a Final EIR consisting of the Draft EIR, a Response to Comments Document dated June 2022, and an Errata Document dated August 2022 (collectively "the Final EIR"). The Errata Document dated August 2022 is attached to this Resolution as an exhibit.

2.7 The Board conducted a duly noticed hearing on the Final EIR on August 9, 2022 in order to receive any further oral and written testimony and evidence regarding the Final EIR and the Proposed Project. No new substantive issues or concerns that were not addressed in the Final EIR were raised and the Board closed the hearing and discussed the adequacy of the Final EIR and the merits of the Proposed Project. County Counsel and PRMD staff were directed to return to the Board on August 30, 2022, with all necessary documents to take final action on the Proposed Project.

2.8 The Board has had an opportunity to review this resolution and the attached exhibit and hereby finds that it accurately sets forth the intentions of the

Board regarding the Final EIR.

2.9 The Board's decisions herein are based upon the testimony and evidence presented to the County orally or in writing prior to the close of the multiple Board hearings on this matter, including on May 17, 2022, and on August 9, 2022 ("the record of these proceedings"). Any information submitted after the close of the Board hearings was deemed late and not considered by the Board.

Section 3 CEQA Compliance

3.0 The Draft EIR and the Final EIR were prepared, noticed, and made available for public and agency review in accordance with all procedural and substantive requirements of CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines, and applicable local ordinances.

3.1 The Final EIR represents a good faith effort to provide full and adequate disclosure of the environmental impacts of the Proposed Project.

3.2 The Final EIR constitutes an adequate, accurate, objective, and complete EIR for the purpose of approving the Proposed Project.

3.3 The County prepared responses to all comments received on the Draft EIR during the public comment period and these responses are included in the Final EIR. The Board finds that the changes made in response to the comments received from members of the public, the Monte Rio Recreation and Parks District, Sweetwater Springs Water District, and Pacific Gas & Electric, the County made minor changes that clarified, amplified, and/or made insignificant changes to the Draft EIR but did not add significant new information to any sections of the Draft EIR. Therefore, the Board finds that recirculation is not required for any chapters or portions of the Draft EIR or for the entire Draft EIR, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

3.4 During the public comment period the County also received comments from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife ("CDFW"). The Board finds that the changes to the Draft EIR made in response to CDFW's comments only clarified and amplified the mitigation measures proposed in Chapter 4.4 Biological Resources but did not add significant new information to this chapter of the Draft EIR. Therefore, the Board finds that recirculation is not required for this, or any other, chapter of the Draft EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

3.5 Tribal consultation took place in compliance with Assembly Bill 52 and concluded prior to this hearing. The Board finds that the changes to the Draft EIR made in response to comments received during the tribal consultation process only clarified and amplified the mitigation measures proposed in Chapters 4.5 Cultural Resources and 4.17 Tribal Cultural Resources but did not add significant new information to these chapters of the Draft EIR. Therefore, the Board finds that recirculation is not required for these, or any other, chapters of the Draft EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

3.6 The procedure the County followed in the preparation and review of the Final EIR fully complied with CEQA and all applicable provisions of state and local law. The comments received on the Draft EIR, both written and oral, raise no substantive deficiencies with the process or methodology followed by the County.

3.7 The Final EIR provides substantial evidence to support the analyses of each potential environmental impacts analyzed in Chapter 4 of the EIR and to support the conclusions about the Proposed Project's impacts that will be less than significant without mitigation, less than significant with mitigation, and significant even with mitigation.

3.8 Resolution No. 22- _____ adopts a Statement of Overriding Considerations in compliance with CEQA. The Final EIR provides substantial evidence to support the conclusion in the Resolution No. 22- _____ and the Statement of Overriding Considerations that specific economic, legal, social, technological, and other benefits of the Proposed Project, outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects of the Project.

3.9 The Final EIR provides substantial evidence to support the cumulative impacts analyses included in each potential environmental impact analyzed in Chapter 4 of the EIR and to support the conclusion that the Proposed Project will not result in any cumulative impacts.

3.10 The comments and arguments submitted to the Board, and the additional conditions of approval added by the Board, relate to issues and environmental impacts that have already been evaluated in the Final EIR, and there is no significant new information that requires recirculation of the Final EIR, or otherwise requires further evaluation under CEQA. The information submitted to the Board does not show that there is a new or substantially more severe significant environmental impact, or that a considerably different alternative or mitigation measure would lessen the significant environmental impacts of the Proposed Project.

Section 4 Evidence in the Record

4.0 The findings and determinations set forth in this resolution are based upon the record of these proceedings. References to specific statutes, ordinances, regulations, reports, or documents in a finding or determination are not intended to identify those sources as the exclusive bases for the finding or determination.

Now, Therefore, Be it Further Resolved, that, based on the foregoing findings and determinations and the record of these proceedings, the Board hereby declares and orders as follows:

1. The foregoing findings and determinations are true and correct, are supported by substantial evidence in the record, and are adopted as set forth herein.

2. The Board certifies that the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA, the Final EIR was presented to the Board and the Board reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR prior to approving the Proposed Project, and the Final EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board.

3. The Clerk of the Board is designated as the custodian of the documents and other materials that constitute the record of the proceedings upon which the Board's decisions herein are based. These documents may be found at the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 575 Administration Drive, Room 100A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

Supervisors:

Gore: Rabbitt: Hopkins: Gorin: Coursey:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.

Attachments include:

Exhibit A – Errata Document Dated August 2022