

**EL DORADO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

Meeting of  
September 26, 2006

**AGENDA TITLE: Cameron Park Drive/Palmer Road Operational and Safety Intersection Improvements Project Mitigated Negative Declaration**

**DEPARTMENT:** Transportation

**DEPT SIGNOFF:**

**CAO USE ONLY:**

**CONTACT:** Janet Postlewait

**DATE:** 9-7-06

**PHONE:** 621-5993

**DEPARTMENT SUMMARY AND REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:**

The El Dorado County Department of Transportation recommends the Board of Supervisors: take the following actions related to the Cameron Park Drive/Palmer Road Intersection Improvements Project: (1) Adopt the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Mitigated Negative Declaration; (2) Approve the project as described in the CEQA document. These actions are based on the following findings: A. The CEQA document on file with the Clerk of the Board was prepared in accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., and the CEQA Guidelines. B. There is no substantial evidence that the project, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment. C. The Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cameron Park Drive/Palmer Road Intersection Improvements Project reflects the lead agency's independent judgment and analysis.

**CAO RECOMMENDATIONS:** Recommend approval Laurie A. Gell 9/19/06

Financial impact? ( ) Yes (x) No

Funding Source: ( ) Gen Fund ( ) Other  
Other:

**BUDGET SUMMARY:**

Total Est. Cost \$0.00

**Funding**

Budgeted \$0.00

New Funding \$0.00

Savings \$0.00

Other \$0.00

Total Funding \$0.00

**Change in Net County Cost**

**CAO Office Use Only:**

4/5's Vote Required ( ) Yes ( ) No

Change in Policy ( ) Yes ( ) No

New Personnel ( ) Yes ( ) No

**CONCURRENCES:**

Risk Management \_\_\_\_\_

County Counsel \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Explain**

**BOARD ACTIONS:**

Vote: Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_ Or

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstentions:

Absent:

Rev. 04/05

**I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered into the minutes of the Board of Supervisors**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attest: Cindy Keck, Board of Supervisors Clerk**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_



**MAINTENANCE DIVISION:**  
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Fax: (530) 642-9238

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September 11, 2006

Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, California 95667

**Title: Cameron Park Drive/Palmer Road Operational and Safety Intersection Improvements Project  
Mitigated Negative Declaration**

**Meeting Date: September 26, 2006**

**District/Supervisor: Rusty Dupray, District 1  
Vacant, District 4**

Dear Members of the Board:

**Recommendations:**

The Department of Transportation (DOT) recommends that the Board take the following actions related to the Cameron Park Drive/Palmer Road Intersection Improvements Project:

- (1) Adopt the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Mitigated Negative Declaration;
- (2) Approve the project as described in the CEQA document;

These actions are based on the following findings:

- A. The CEQA document on file with the Clerk of the Board was prepared in accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., and the CEQA Guidelines.
- B. There is no substantial evidence that the project, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment.
- C. The Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cameron Park Drive/Palmer Road Intersection Improvements Project reflects the lead agency's independent judgment and analysis.

**Reasons for Recommendations:**

The proposed project is located north of U.S. Highway 50, and extends from the U.S. Highway 50/Cameron Park Drive Interchange, along Cameron Park Drive approximately 970 feet north of Palmer Drive. (See Exhibits A and B)

Cameron Park Drive is an existing arterial that provides a key connection to U.S. Highway 50 from the Cameron Park area. Currently, Cameron Park Drive within the project area is a four-lane north-south arterial roadway from Palmer Drive to Coach Lane. The Cameron Park Drive Interchange with U.S. Highway 50 is a type L-1/L-9 combination compact diamond and partial cloverleaf and the surrounding area is developed with retail and commercial facilities in all four quadrants.

A traffic study was conducted by Fehr & Peers Transportation consultants on December 21, 2005 where it was found that an operational conflict currently exists at the intersection of Cameron Park Drive and Palmer, where the PM peak-hour traffic operates at Level of Service (LOS) "F". This undesirable LOS was attributed to a lane drop in the northbound direction on Cameron Park Drive, as well as long queues extending from the nearby Country Club Drive intersection in the southbound direction.

The project objective is to provide an interim roadway improvement and operational improvement intended to relieve current peak-hour traffic congestion in the project area. The project is also intended to improve the operational safety of Cameron Park Drive and identified intersections. The proposed interim improvement was planned and designed so that future planned roadway improvements may build upon these interim improvements to minimize future improvement expenses.

#### Project Description:

The total limits of project construction work, (including saw cuts, conform, etc) extend from the U.S. 50 Cameron Park Drive Interchange north along Cameron Park Drive to approximately 970 feet north of Palmer Drive. The project is described as interim operational and safety improvements consisting of the following:

Widen northbound Cameron Park Drive to 400 feet north of Palmer to provide 2 northbound receiving lanes with transition; Widen southbound Cameron Park Drive north of Palmer to provide two full through lanes with transition; Widen existing right turn lane at the northbound approach at Palmer by restriping as shared through/right lane; Widen southbound Cameron Park Drive between Country Club and U.S. 50 westbound on-ramp to provide a right turn only lane onto the on-ramp in addition to the two through lanes; Reconfigure adjacent KFC drive-through to route vehicles onto the shopping center entrance and eliminate existing KFC drive-through access at Cameron Park Drive/Palmer intersection. See MND Document for a more detailed description of the project. Some limited right of way acquisition may be required.

#### Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

One impact was identified to be significant under Biological Resources – Impact 3.4.1., which can be summarized as follows:

Construction activities that require the disturbance of trees and vegetation could cause impact to nesting raptors and migratory birds. Removal of habitat at the site would be considered significant if sensitive bird species were taken or deterred from traditional nesting locations.

A mitigation measure was added to insure that trees removed are done so prior to the nesting season. If this is not done, a preconstruction nest survey shall be performed by a qualified biologist. If nests are found, a buffer shall be established around the active nest to ensure they are allowed to complete their nesting cycle.

#### Construction schedule:

Construction is proposed to commence in spring 2007 and would require approximately three months to complete. Nighttime construction will occur in accordance with General Plan Policy

6.5.1.11. One lane of traffic each way will be open at all times. Two lanes will be open during commute hours. No detours will be necessary. Access to adjacent commercial properties will remain open at all times during business hours.

**Project Notice:**

A public workshop was held by DOT staff on May 25, 2006 at the Cameron Park Fire Station.

The Notice of Intent to adopt a Negative Declaration and availability of the document was advertised for a 30-day public review period March 6, 2006 in the Mountain Democrat newspaper, at the County Clerk's office. The CEQA Initial Study identified potential significant impacts to biological resources that are mitigated to less than significant.

**Comments Received:**

No comments were received.

**Fiscal Impact:**

This project is 100% funded by the 2004 General Plan Traffic Impact Mitigation Fee Program.

**Action to be Taken Following Approval:**

The Department of Transportation will:

- (1) File a Notice of Determination with the office of the County Recorder/Clerk.
- (2) Proceed with the development of the project through preparation of the plans, specifications and estimates, and Right-of-Way acquisition process.
- (3) Target construction for spring 2007.

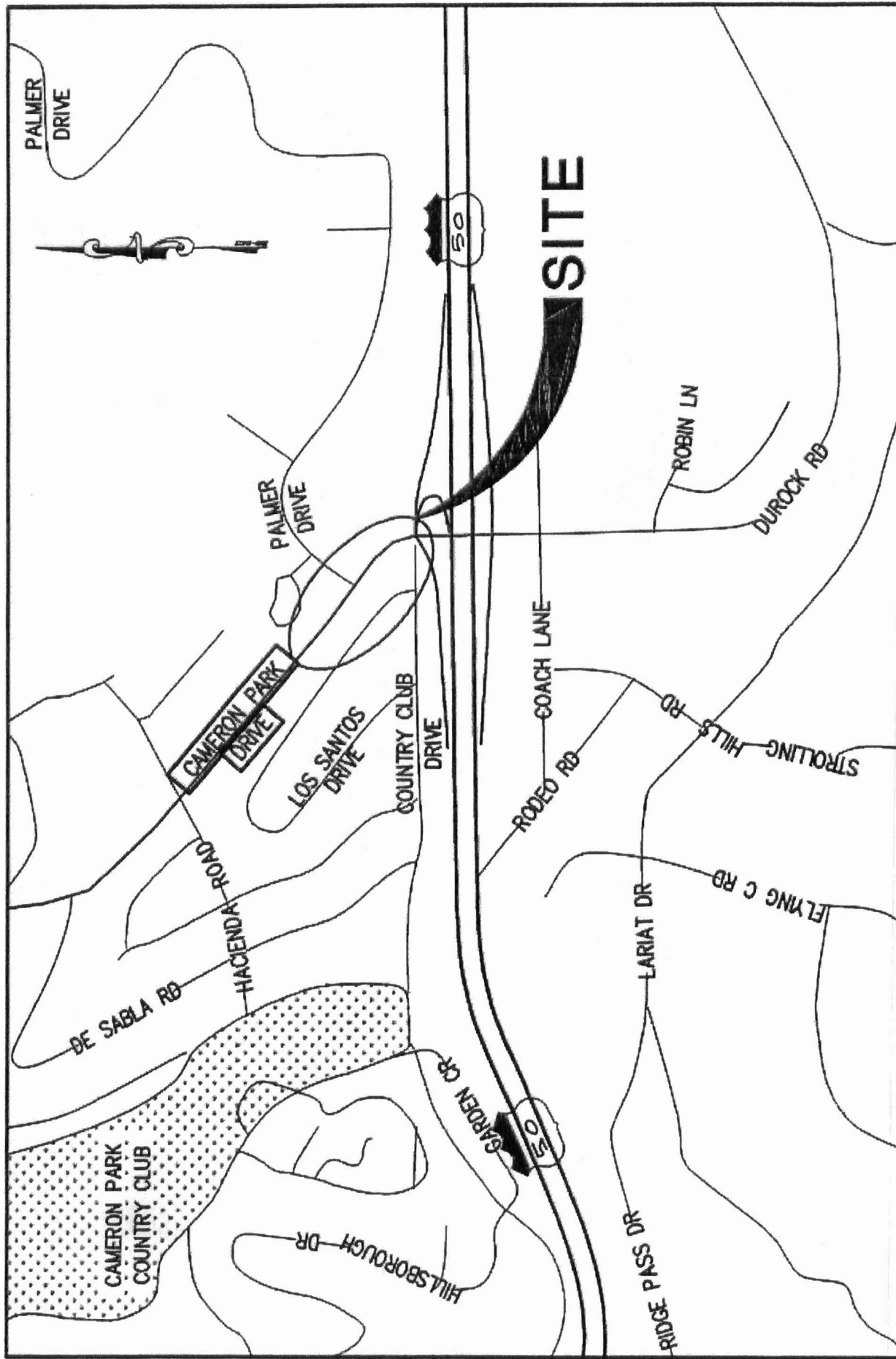
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard W. Shepard', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Richard W. Shepard, P. E.  
Director of Transportation

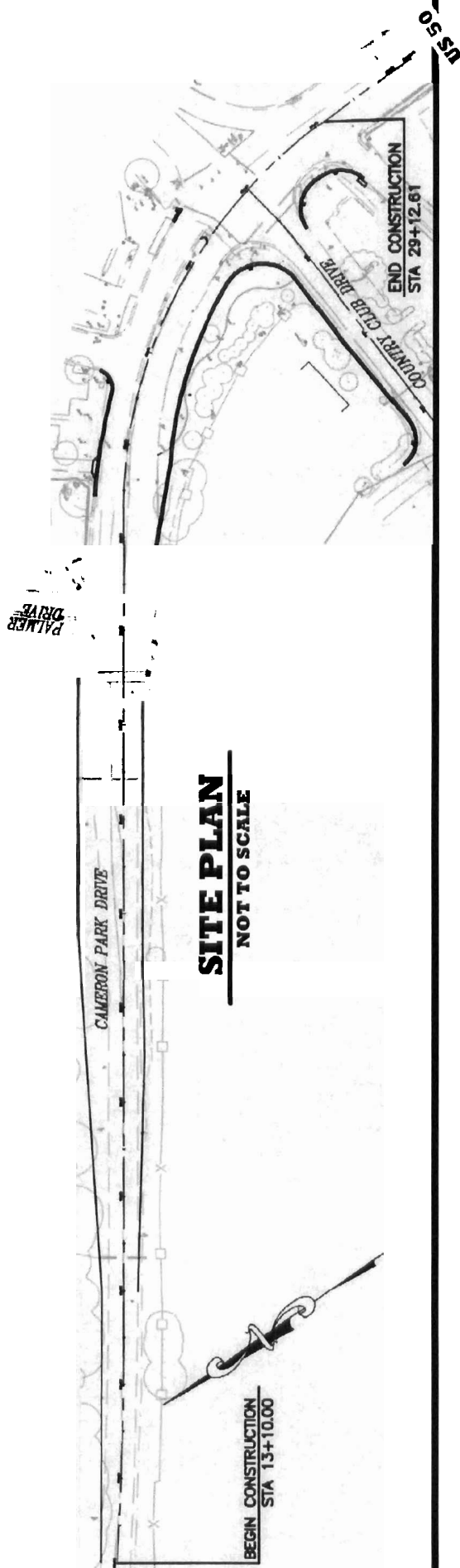
RWS:jlj:

Attachment A: Project Vicinity  
Attachment B: Illustrative Layout



LOCATION MAP  
NOT TO SCALE

# EXHIBIT A



# EXHIBIT B