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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
ENGINEERING DIVISION

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**CITY OF CHICO  
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

September 30, 2019

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City of Chico Community Development Director intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project described below. The project will be approved administratively unless referred to the City Council for action.

**State Route 99 (SR-99) Corridor Bikeway Facility Phase 5 - 20<sup>th</sup> Street Overcrossing (Capital Project # 50347)** – In September 2009, an Initial Study was prepared and a Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) adopted for the entire approximately 7-mile long SR-99 Corridor Bikeway Project (Bikeway 99). In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a Notice of Determination was filed with the Butte County Clerk Recorder's Office on October 15, 2009 (SCH # 2009092041). Subsequently, the previously identified at-grade bicycle/pedestrian crossing at 20<sup>th</sup> Street/SR-99 Interchange was redesigned to an overcrossing structure as a result of the findings of the *20<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian/Bicycle Overcrossing Feasibility Study/Project Study Report Equivalent for SR-99 Corridor Bikeway Facility Phase 5 (Study)*. The Study found that an overcrossing would provide enhanced bicycle/pedestrian safety benefits at the congested interchange as well as a more defined and direct route. Due to the change in design from an at-grade bicycle/pedestrian crossing to an overcrossing structure at the 20<sup>th</sup> Street/SR-99 Interchange location, a focused Bikeway 99 Phase 5 Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared to consider, evaluate, and mitigate, where appropriate, any potential impacts not previously considered in the original project's adopted MND.

Phase 5 of the Bikeway 99 project consists of the construction of a Class I multi-use trail that will tie into the existing Class I facility located immediately north of the site and the forthcoming Class I segment immediately to the south (to be constructed summer 2020), thus closing the final gap in the continuous approximately 7-mile long alternative transportation and recreational route from Eaton Road to Skyway. The 0.6 mile long bikeway segment will run parallel to SR-99 on and off ramps at East 20<sup>th</sup> Street and will consist of an approximately 8 to 10-foot-wide paved path with approximately 2-foot wide shoulders. The project will contain an overcrossing structure paralleling SR-99, between the northbound East 20<sup>th</sup> Street on and off ramps. The overcrossing would provide a link to both sides of East 20<sup>th</sup> Street and Business Lane, offering access to adjacent restaurants and businesses. A set of stairs will allow access on the north side of East 20<sup>th</sup> Street and a ramp will provide access to the south side of East 20<sup>th</sup> Street. The overcrossing bridge will have architectural features that will provide the City of Chico with a unique, context sensitive structure. The project will require vegetation and tree removal, utility relocations, sign relocations, right-of-way acquisition, temporary construction easements and the removal of parking spaces associated with commercial businesses adjacent to the project. Questions regarding the environmental review for this project should be directed to Tracy R. Bettencourt, MPA – AICP – Regulatory and Grants Manager, Public Works – Engineering Department, who can be reached at (530) 879-6903 or via email at [tracy.bettencourt@chicoca.gov](mailto:tracy.bettencourt@chicoca.gov).

An Initial Study for environmental review has been prepared for the project. Based upon the information within the Initial Study, the Public Works – Engineering Department is recommending that a Mitigated Negative Declaration be adopted for the project pursuant to CEQA. A Mitigated Negative Declaration is a determination that a project will not have a significant impact on the environment after the incorporation of specific mitigation measures. A 30-day public review period is being conducted on the Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) commencing on **Monday, September 30, 2019 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 30, 2019**. During this time period, the IS/MND shall

be available for public review at the City of Chico Public Works – Engineering Department, 411 Main Street, Second Floor, Chico, California, 95928, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The document and all documents referenced therein may also be available for public review at the Project's website at [http://www.chico.ca.us/capital\\_project\\_services/StateRoute99CorridorBikewayProject.asp](http://www.chico.ca.us/capital_project_services/StateRoute99CorridorBikewayProject.asp) or [bikeway99.com](http://www.chico.ca.us/bikeway99.com). Comments relating to environmental concerns and the proposed IS/MND must be filed in writing to the City of Chico Public Works - Engineering Department, P.O. Box 3420, Chico, CA 95927 during the designated time period. Further information, including maps and files, may be reviewed at the City of Chico Public Works – Engineering Department.

E/R PUBLISH: **Monday, September 30, 2019**