

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
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Page: 1

Date: February 17, 2017

**IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATION****PERMIT NUMBER** 2-17-0018**APPLICANT(S)** Caltrans**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Installation of center-line rumble strips to prevent head-on collisions and 40 pullouts to improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety

PROJECT LOCATION:

Postmile (PM) 3.08 to 50.5, State Route 1, Marin County

HEARING DATE AND LOCATION:**DATE** Wednesday, March 8, 2017**TIME** 9:00 AM**ITEM NO:** W12a**PLACE** Ventura County Board of Supervisors Chambers
800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura CA 93009**PHONE** (415) 407-3211 (active during meeting only)**HEARING PROCEDURES:**

This item has been scheduled for a public hearing and vote. People wishing to testify on this matter may appear at the hearing or may present their concerns by letter to the Commission on or before the hearing date.

AVAILABILITY OF STAFF REPORT:

A copy of the staff report on this matter will be available no later than 10 days before the hearing on the Coastal Commission's website at <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/mtgcurr.html>. Alternatively, you may request a paper copy of the report from Shannon Fiala, Coastal Program Analyst III, at (415) 904-5266.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN MATERIALS:

If you wish to submit written materials for review by the Commission, please observe the following:

- Submit your written materials to the Commission staff no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the hearing (staff will then distribute your materials to the Commission). Note that materials received after this time will not be distributed to the Commission.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATION

- Mark the agenda number of your item, the application number, your name and your position in favor or opposition to the project on the upper right hand corner of the first page of your submission. If you do not know the agenda number, contact the Commission staff person listed on page 2.

- A current list of Commissioners' names and addresses is available on the Coastal Commission's website at <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/roster.html>. If you wish to submit materials directly to Commissioners, we request that you mail the materials so that the Commissioners receive the materials no later than Thursday of the week before the Commission meeting. You must provide Commission staff with a copy of any materials that you provide to Commissioners. Please mail the same materials to all Commissioners, alternates for Commissioners, and the four non-voting members on the Commission with a copy to the Commission staff person listed on page 2.

- You are requested to summarize the reasons for your position in no more than two or three pages, if possible.

Please note: While you are not prohibited from doing so, you are discouraged from submitting written materials to the Commission on the day of the hearing, unless they are visual aids, as it is more difficult for the Commission to carefully consider late materials. The Commission requests that if you submit written copies of comments to the Commission on the day of the hearing, that you provide 20 copies.

ALLOTTED TIME FOR TESTIMONY:

Oral testimony may be limited to 5 minutes or less for each speaker depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard.

ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES:

The above item may be moved to the Consent Calendar for this Area by the Executive Director when, prior to Commission consideration of the Consent Calendar, staff and the applicant are in agreement on the staff recommendation. If this item is moved to the Consent Calendar, the Commission will either approve it with the recommended actions in the staff report or remove the item from the Consent Calendar by a vote of three or more Commissioners. If the item is removed, the public hearing described above will still be held at the point in the meeting originally indicated on the agenda.

No one can predict how quickly the Commission will complete agenda items or how many will be postponed to a later date. The Commission begins each session at the time listed and considers each item in order, except in extraordinary circumstances. Staff at the appropriate Commission office can give you more information prior to the hearing date.

Questions regarding the report or the hearing should be directed to Shannon Fiala, Coastal Program Analyst III, at (415) 904-5266.

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**W12a**

Filed:	1/27/2017
Action Deadline:	7/27/2017
Staff:	S. Fiala - SF
Staff Report:	2/24/2017
Hearing Date:	3/8/2017

STAFF REPORT: REGULAR CALENDAR

Application Number: 2-17-0018

Applicant: Caltrans

Project Location: Various locations along Highway 1 through Marin County

Project Description: Install centerline rumble strip to prevent head-on collisions and widen highway shoulder to improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety at 40 locations along Highway 1 through Marin County.

Staff Recommendation: Approval with Conditions

SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Caltrans, the Applicant, proposes to install a centerline rumble strip for public safety purposes, to reduce the frequency and severity of roadway cross-centerline collisions along Highway 1, and to widen existing shoulders for improved bicyclist and pedestrian safety throughout Marin County. Caltrans accident data from 2008 to 2011 shows that 34% of the total accidents on Highway 1 in Marin County were likely cross-centerline collisions. Centerline rumble strips consist of shallow indentations in the roadway pavement that create a vibratory, or rumbling, effect when driving over them. The proposed rumble strips will be installed along approximately 30 miles of the total 50 miles of Highway 1 through Marin County, avoiding all public street intersections, commercial driveways, two-way left-turn lanes, high volume turning areas, and bridge decks.

In addition, the project will also include shoulder improvements for bicycle and pedestrian safety at 40 locations along Highway 1 throughout the County to result in 4-foot wide paved shoulders in these areas. The project will thus improve access for bicyclists and pedestrians, increase public safety, help minimize vehicle miles traveled, and avoid existing vegetation removal where

feasible. However, avoidance of all vegetation is not feasible north of Stinson Beach between Highway 1 post miles (PM) 12.50 and 12.70, a 0.2-mile length of road where shoulder widening will occur adjacent to existing coastal and riparian wetlands associated with Easkoot Creek, a tributary to Bolinas Lagoon. These areas also provide habitat for the federally listed threatened California red-legged frog. As a result, Caltrans has worked with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to minimize impacts, and USFWS has signed off on the project through a Biological Opinion. Caltrans has also proposed to mitigate for impacts both on and offsite, with offsite restoration occurring at a 4:1 level for wetland impacts and a 2:1 level for riparian impacts.

In addition to review by USFWS, Caltrans has also collaborated with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Marin County Department of Public Works, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC), and Commission staff on the project design, and all parties are generally in agreement on the project. However, MCBC has some remaining concerns, particularly regarding the roughly 8-mile section of Highway 1 between Bolinas Lagoon and Tomales Bay where rumble strips will be installed, but where shoulder widening is not proposed at this time. Although most of this area is not in the coastal zone and thus is not a part of this proposed project under the CDP, MCBC has suggested several solutions to address their concerns, including new signage and striping, and staff is recommending conditions to require the development of a signage plan applicable to the coastal zone section. Staff will continue to work with Caltrans and other interested parties, including MCBC, to identify additional improvements that could be applied to this area in the future.

Overall, this project will improve public safety for all forms of transportation along Highway 1 in Marin County, whether it be vehicular, on bicycles (and other forms of wheeled transportation) or on foot. The project has been designed consistent with the Marin County Highway 1 Repair Guidelines project, on which staff, Caltrans and others identified above collaborated for many years to address public view and habitat protection with projects like this. Appropriate special conditions have been recommended to protect coastal resources as much as feasible.

As conditioned, the project can be found consistent with the Coastal Act, and staff recommends **approval** of the CDP application as conditioned. The motion is found on page 4 below.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A – Substantive File Documents

Appendix B – Staff Contacts with Agencies and Groups

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 – Project Location

Exhibit 2 – Project Plans

Exhibit 3 – Project Area Photos

Exhibit 4 – Project Wetland Delineation

Exhibit 5 – United States Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion

Exhibit 6 – Correspondence

I. MOTION AND RESOLUTION

Staff recommends that the Commission, after public hearing, **approve** a coastal development permit for the proposed development. To implement this recommendation, staff recommends a YES vote on the following motion. Passage of this motion will result in approval of the CDP as conditioned and adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

***Motion:** I move that the Commission approve Coastal Development Permit Number 2-17-0018 pursuant to the staff recommendation, and I recommend a yes vote.*

***Resolution to Approve CDP:** The Commission hereby approves Coastal Development Permit Number 2-17-0018 and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the development as conditioned will be in conformity with Coastal Act policies. Approval of the permit complies with the California Environmental Quality Act because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the development on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible mitigation measures or alternatives that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts of the development on the environment.*

II. STANDARD CONDITIONS

This permit is granted subject to the following standard conditions:

- 1. Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment.** The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the Permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
- 2. Expiration.** If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date on which the Commission voted on the application. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.
- 3. Interpretation.** Any questions of intent or interpretation of any condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
- 4. Assignment.** The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.
- 5. Terms and Conditions Run with the Land.** These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the Permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

