

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: RECORD OF MEETING**

**MEETING TITLE: LAST CHANCE GRADE PERMANENT RESTORATION PROJECT  
PARTNER MEETING**



**MEETING DATE: 04/25/2022      TIME: 12:30-2:00      LOCATION: VIRTUAL MEETING HOSTED ON ZOOM BY MIG, INC.**

<p><b>Meeting initiated by:</b> Caltrans District 1</p>	<p><b>Attendees</b> Victor Bjelajac Craig Compton Steve Croteau John Litzinger Jaime Matteoli Maria Mayer Steve Mietz Charlie Narwold Megan Rocha David Roemer Phillip Williams</p>	<p>District Superintendent, California State Parks Manager, Green Diamond Resource Company Senior Environmental Planner, Caltrans Group Director / Senior Project Manager, HNTB Corridor Manager, Caltrans Senior Project Associate, MIG, Inc. Superintendent, Redwood National Park, National Park Service Senior Engineering Geologist, Caltrans Executive Director, Resighini Rancheria Deputy Superintendent, National Park Service Council Member, North District, Yurok Tribe</p>
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<p><b>Facilitator</b></p>	<p>Joan Chaplick</p>	<p>Principal, MIG, Inc.</p>
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**Notes:**

I. INTRODUCTIONS AND AGENDA REVIEW  
A. Introductions were made and a brief overview of the agenda was given.

II. CALTRANS UPDATES

A. Field Studies and Refinement of Alternatives

1. Caltrans is currently doing field studies to refine the two build alternatives (F, Tunnel Bypass, and X, End-to-End Re-Engineering) in preparation for the EIR/EIS. This includes reviewing recently received geotechnical data and viewing critical locations to assess feasibility and potential impacts and revising designs to reduce those impacts. Sites reviewed included:
  - a. Alternative F Operation and Maintenance Center (OMC) Building and South Portal area
  - b. Alternative F North Portal and Bridge area
  - c. Alternative X dewatering and access shaft configurations
  - d. Current design and construction work related to ongoing emergency repair work along existing highway
2. Partners commented on the following elements of this process:
  - a. Partners asked questions regarding the revised design for the Alternative X dewatering system.
  - b. Partners noted the importance of ensuring that any minimization or mitigation choices made to reduce impacts will not in turn jeopardize other resources. Caltrans confirmed they are taking care to ensure that minimization or mitigation choices made will not trigger additional impacts.

B. Project Timelines

1. Caltrans reviewed the overall timeline for key steps in the environmental phase of the project and the schedule for the stakeholder mitigation discussion process and public outreach through 2025.
  - a. Partners asked to confirm that both build alternatives will be equally analyzed and studied for the environmental documents. Caltrans confirmed that both alternatives will be fully characterized, including risk assessments and impact assessments which will serve as a basis for a mitigation plan.

C. Project Updates

1. In response to stakeholder requests, Caltrans will be providing a quarterly update newsletter on activities in the field at Last Chance Grade. The first of these updates will be released later in the week.

D. Virtual Town Hall

1. Caltrans will fulfill its commitment to meet with the community annually with a Last Chance Grade Virtual Town Hall to be held July 12 (rescheduled from May 25), hosted by Senator Mike McGuire.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Stakeholders raised topics for further discussion as follows:

1. Design plans for the Alternative F North Portal and Bridge.
2. Elements of the Alternative F tunnel design, including tunnel length, safety measures, speed limits, and whether bike lanes can be included within the tunnel.
3. Potential impacts of Alternative X dewatering on ground water and vegetation.

B. Partners noted that the impacts of temporary road closures associated with either alternative must be assessed, analyzed and documented as part of the process.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE MEETINGS

A. The group discussed ongoing timing and frequency for the partner group meetings. Consensus was as follows: group should continue to meet twice annually at minimum.

1. The partner group should continue to meet no less than biannually.
2. Biannual meetings are sufficient for the time being. Once project is moving faster and more frequent information is available, meetings may be held quarterly.
3. The next meeting will take place in October or November 2022. At that time the group will assess whether the frequency needs to increase.

Meeting concluded at 2:00 p.m.

Next Meeting – To be determined

**ACTION ITEMS:**

<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Caltrans/MIG	Confirm date and format for next Partner Meeting	September/October 2022