

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

MEETING TITLE: **PARTNERING MEETING: LAST CHANCE GRADE ENGINEERED FEASIBILITY STUDY**

MEETING DATE: 8/12/15

TIME: 1000 - 1155

LOCATION: ORICK, CA

**Attendees**

Caltrans  
California State Parks  
MIG  
Yurok Tribe  
Elk Valley Rancheria  
National Park Service

Notes:

**I. INTRODUCTIONS:**

Introductions were made and a brief overview of the agenda was given.

**II. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. Caltrans summarized the content of the previous meeting including the standard meeting updates, discussion of the feasibility study completion and alternatives.

**III. UPDATES**

- A. Memorandum of Understanding
  1. Update on status; waiting for one remaining signature.
- B. Slide Movement Update
  1. Caltrans shared July data on slide movement. Movement has slowed, but is still faster than that prior to January.
  2. Near Real-Time Monitoring is being installed at upper Last Chance Grade under an emergency contract.
- C. Feasibility Study
  1. The final Engineered Feasibility Study has been uploaded to the website.
  2. Performance Discussion
    - a. Partners thought that the process went well and that the group worked well together, with a good level of trust, good communications and mutual understanding.
    - b. Improvements to the process: Partners would like to see more interaction with the resources staff and more individual interaction with specialists.
    - c. Caltrans would like to see more communications in future, possibly focused group meetings.
- D. Partner Updates
  1. Yurok Tribe:
    - a. Partners were updated about a change in Yurok Tribe staff.
  2. Parks:
    - a. Stakeholder Group meetings are going well. Process has focused on identifying and getting agreement on values.
  3. Elk Valley Rancheria:
    - a. Partners were updated regarding staff change at the Rancheria.
  4. Caltrans:
    - a. Project Development team is refining alternatives to minimize cut/fill quantities.
    - b. Partners were updated regarding the change in Caltrans Project Manager for Last Chance Grade.
- E. Huffman Stakeholder Group Updates
  1. The last meeting centered on discussing resources, getting an idea of stakeholders' values and input on their perceptions.
  2. They reviewed the alternatives again in small groups to determine if there was consensus. Stakeholders will be preparing a document that summarizes consensus gained to date.
  3. Caltrans will be providing the Stakeholders more information about tunnels in addition to two more presentations to the group by other Stakeholders.

#### IV. PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENTS (PID) TOPICS

- A. PID Process Overview, Needs and Expectations
  - 2. Caltrans explained the PID process.
  - 3. Caltrans is currently preparing a Project Study Report (PSR), which defines:
    - a. Purpose and need for project;
    - b. The transportation deficiency and approach to addressing it;
    - c. The objectives that will be met; and
    - d. Internal units will provide input from a variety of units including right-of-way (ROW), safety, etc., and be responsible for a list of deliverables.
  - 4. Critical path efforts that need to be done for each alternative include:
    - a. Advanced Planning Study, the document identifying the structures required for the project and how much they will cost;
    - b. ROW Data Sheet, the document that identifies ROW purchase costs including mitigation and permitting.
    - c. Risk Management Plan – created by the PDT and Caltrans. This is a living document that will be revised as necessary.
    - d. Planning Level Geotechnical Studies– looking at southern portal for tunnel; trees are an issue on the northern end. Will assist with determining structure needs.
    - e. Programming Sheet, the document that includes capital, ROW, support and mitigation costs (basically what it takes to deliver the project).
  - 5. Caltrans shared an outline for an example PSR. It has a very specific structure – much more structured than the Feasibility Study.
- B. Alternatives Discussion
  - 1. The partners discussed the possible need another 4F alternative for study purposes.

#### V. CLOSING COMMENTS AND FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. The topics for the next meeting will include:
  - 1. Further discussion of the possibility of an additional alternative;
  - 2. Partner specialist meeting; and
  - 3. Integration of environmental experts and resource agencies.

Meeting concluded at 12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting – October 21, 2015