

From: v carmichael [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 12:19 PM
To: MTC Info
Subject: Comments - Draft 2015 TIP and Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis

To: MTC Public Information Office
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, Ca 94607

Subject: Comments - Draft 2015 TIP and Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Dear MTC, I submit the following comments for the Draft 2015 TIP and Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis.

I am opposed to the Calera Parkway Widening in County of San Mateo, City of Pacifica. The TIP ID for the Calera Parkway SR1 widening is SM-050001, RTP ID 98204. The Project description listed on the 2015 TIP Projects by County, page 11 of 59, states:

"In Pacifica: Route 1 between Fassler and West Port Dr. : Add an additional lane in each direction."

To those who live in the vicinity of the project and are informed on the specifics of the proposal, there is widespread opposition (1200 citizens have signed a petition opposing the project.) The reasons are manifold:

- The proposed Calera Parkway-Caltrans Preferred Alternative, expands the existing roadway from 64 feet, shoulder to shoulder, to a width of 148 feet. This creates a larger than necessary alteration to the landscape doubling the width of the existing roadway involved.
- It is questionable as to whether it will actually fulfill its objection at all - that is to relieve traffic congestion. It appears the time saved by adding another lane in both directions between between Fassler Ave. and West Port Dr. on Route 1 will be lost by bottlenecks created by the return from three lanes in each direction back to two at each end of the "Parkway."
- The aesthetics of a new widened roadway with its artificial landscaping channeled between large oppressive walls is questionable to say the least. This is especially the case since its design and footprint will eliminate the existing semi-rural open space feel and will interfere with existing view corridors.
- The California Coastal Commission has asked Caltrans to study alternatives that could meet the purpose and the need for the project but would not result in significant impacts on Coastal Resources.

- Erik Alm, Caltrans district branch chief, has recommended preparing a *more detailed* transportation plan because the proposed Pacifica General Plan, which includes the Calera Parkway widening, would generate more than 100 vehicles per hour during peak hours. Alm also recommended promoting mass transit use, car parks and shuttle services and developing bike routes.
- Unfortunately this proposal and its supporting EIR predates a changing focus at Caltrans as a government agency charged with State wide transportation policy definition and implementation in an era of cascading environmental stress. As such Caltrans recently underwent a *State Smart Transportation Initiative Review - SSTI* that modernizes Caltrans mission statement. It is very doubtful this proposal aligns with this new orientation.
- The following criteria also needs to be included in the design :
 - Reducing Total Miles driven -TMD,
 - Green House Gases - GHG
 - Single Occupancy Vehicles - SOV.

I would like to conclude by saying that that I believe that this project is being pushed forward despite significant public opposition. Therefore I request that funding for the Calera Parkway SR1 widening, TIP ID: SM-050001, RTP ID 98204. As listed in The Project Description, 2015 TIP Projects by County, page 11 of 59 be excluded until the City of Pacifica and/or Caltrans have conducted a comprehensive and Peer reviewed study of alternatives.

Sincerely,

Victor Carmichael

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