

Calaveras Council of Governments State Route 4, Angels Camp Bypass Project Update Report

Attachment 15a

Prepared by Scott Maas, Maas & Associates
Current Report Date: January 31, 2006

SUMMARY

On December 15, 2005, the Calaveras COG Executive Director with the Amador County Transportation Commission Executive Director made a presentation to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) on the status of the Tri-County STIP projects. The presentation primarily asked for Angels Camp Bypass construction funds to be delivered early so construction can begin as soon as possible after July 1, 2006.

On January 19, 2006 there was a project development team (PDT) meeting at Caltrans District 10. The meeting reviewed right of way acquisition and final design approval progress. After the PDT meeting, several team members participated in a review of the State Route (SR) 4/49 intersection adjacent to Frog Jump shopping center. There was concern the intersection has not been designed to adequately handle future traffic.

DISCUSSION

The presentation at the CTC December meeting went really well. Executive Director George Dondero gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Tri-County STIP projects. Three of the four tri-county STIP projects have been funded for construction. The SR 4 Arnold Passing Lane project has been built, the SR 49 Amador Bypass is scheduled to be completed in November 2006 and the SR 88 Cooks and Hams passing lanes project has been awarded and is scheduled for construction in 2006. Only the SR 4 Angels Camp Bypass is waiting for construction funding. The CTC supported funding this project as early as possible however there are over 400 other projects that are also waiting for construction funds. The CTC, CTC staff and Caltrans staff know this is a priority project needing construction funds as soon as possible.

Recently, City of Angels officials raised concerns about the level of service (LOS) at the 4/49 intersection adjacent to Frog Jump shopping center. When the Angels Camp Bypass is completed, Fehr and Peers transportation consultants estimated the intersection will reach LOS F within just a few years after opening, particularly with the north and south traffic on SR 49.

Immediately after the PDT meeting held on January 19th, Caltrans Project Manager and Project Engineer met with City of Angels Administrator, City Engineer, County Assistant Public Works Director and Calaveras COG staff to review design issues. According to Caltrans Project Engineer Mike Hutchinson, it was known the SR 4/49 intersection would have a poor LOS after it was built, particularly on SR 49, however the decision was made to focus on SR 4 improvements. The Bypass project was designed to improve traffic flow on SR 4 not SR 49. Improvements on SR 49 through the City of Angels should be addressed as another project. SR 49 improvements could affect adjacent property owners and design alternatives should have public review and input before improvements are decided upon.

At the January 19th PDT meeting, it was learned that the right of way acquisition and the plans, specifications and cost estimates (PS&E) are still on schedule to be completed by June 30th.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Current Project Schedule as of 7/1/05	Responsible Person	Date Scheduled	Date Completed
• PA&ED - Completed	L. Brangham	5/1/02	6/30/02
• PS&E 8/04	M. Hutchinson	6/1/06	
• ROW 11/04	M. Rodrigues	6/1/06	
• RTL 11/04	J. Pinne	7/1/06	
• <i>Start construction</i> 3/05, 4/07	J. Pinne	10/1/09	
• Complete construction 6/07, 3/09	J. Pinne	10/1/12	