



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

NAPA COUNTY MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Project Title: HSIP CYCLE 11 SILVERADO TRAIL INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS/HSIPL-5921(090)

Project Location: The project proposes to improve three intersections on Silverado Trail at Oak Knoll Avenue, Zinfandel Lane, and the Strawberry Patch located adjacent to 2149 Silverado Trail.

Project Sponsor: Napa County Public Works Department

Project Description: Napa County was awarded the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 11 grant to improve three critical intersections on Silverado Trail. The Proposed Project involves intersection safety improvements including the installation of flashing beacons, right-turn lanes, and left-turn lanes. The following intersections do not comply with current safety standards and need upgrades and/or installation of warning signage to improve overall visibility.

Silverado Trail at Oak Knoll Avenue: Improvements include the installation of flashing beacons on either end of the intersection on Silverado Trail, a new streetlight, widening the apron of the Oak Knoll Avenue intersection with Silverado Trail and installing a right-turn lane on eastbound Oak Knoll Avenue, restriping the median on Silverado Trail north of the intersection to extend the median closer to the intersection, and widening Silverado Trail on the southbound lane towards Oak Knoll Avenue to provide a right-turn lane.

Silverado Trail at Zinfandel Lane: Improvements include the installation of flashing beacons on either end of the intersection on Silverado Trail and a new streetlight.

Silverado Trail at the Strawberry Patch: Improvements include widening the northbound travel lane on Silverado Trail in front of the Napa Strawberry business located at 2149 Silverado Trail (Strawberry Patch) to provide room for a left-turn lane and acceleration lane.

DETERMINATION

In accordance with the Napa County procedures for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the County has completed an Initial Study to determine whether the proposed project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. On the basis of that study, the County makes the following determination:

Although the project, as proposed, could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because mitigation measures are included in the project which will reduce all identified potential impacts to less than significant levels, and, therefore, this **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND)** has been prepared.

CONDITIONS (MITIGATION MEASURES)

Biological Resources:

MM BIO-1.1: If vegetation removal and/or initial ground disturbance occur during the general nesting bird season (February 1 to August 31), pre-construction surveys for nesting birds will be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no nests will be disturbed during project implementation. These surveys shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the initiation of tree removal or ground disturbance. During this survey, a qualified biologist shall inspect all potential nesting habitats within 500 feet of impact areas for white-tailed kite, as accessible, and other raptor nests and within 100 feet of impact areas for nests of non-raptor species.

MM BIO-1.2: If active bird nests are found during the survey, an appropriate no-disturbance buffer will be established by the qualified biologist in consultation with CDFW. Buffer sizes may vary depending on bird species, location and setting of the nest, levels of ambient disturbance near the nest, and other factors. Once it is determined that the young have fledged (left the nest) or the nest otherwise becomes inactive (e.g., due to predation), the buffer may be lifted, and work may be initiated within the buffer.

MM BIO-2.1: To achieve consistency with General Plan Policy CON-24, replacement native oak trees shall be planted at a minimum 2:1 ratio, i.e., at least 12 trees planted to compensate for the six proposed for removal. The oaks shall be planted on the edge of the Valley Oak Woodland at the Strawberry Patch intersection, and in suitable location(s) at or in proximity to the Oak Knoll intersection. Given that space for planting may be limited at the Oak Knoll intersection, there shall be flexibility regarding planting location that allows for a greater (disproportionate) number of trees to be planted at the Strawberry Patch intersection. The replacement trees shall be of the same species as those removed. Container size shall be five-gallon, and caging, mulching, vertical support staking, and irrigation shall be deployed at the time of planting to increase the likelihood of survival. If after three years, 12 (or more) planted trees have survived, then the tree replacement effort will be considered a success; otherwise, additional oaks shall be installed to fulfill the minimum 2:1 requirement.

MM BIO-3.1: All construction activities shall be scheduled to occur during the dry season (April 1 through October 15). If rainfall is in the forecast, standard erosion control measures (e.g., straw wattles, bales) shall be deployed on the project area edge perpendicular to the stream. Construction personnel shall be informed of the location of the stream with both silt fencing and high visibility flagging or staking prior to construction. All materials and equipment shall be laid down as far from the stream as is feasible, and spill prevention materials will be on the ready and deployable for all construction equipment.

Cultural Resources:

MM CUL-1.1: Prior to the commencement of construction, the project sponsor shall secure the services of a qualified archaeologist. The qualified archaeologist shall prepare a workforce environmental awareness program (WEAP) to instruct construction workers of the obligation to protect and preserve valuable cultural resources. The WEAP shall be reviewed and approved by the County's Public Works Director, or the Director's designee, prior to any ground disturbance. This program shall be provided to all construction workers as a field training prior to the beginning of ground-disturbing activities, and shall include a discussion of applicable laws and penalties under the laws; samples or visual aids of resources that could be encountered in the project vicinity; instructions regarding the need to halt work in the vicinity of any potential archaeological and Native American resources encountered; and measures to notify their supervisor and the County.

MM CUL-1.2: A qualified archaeologist shall prepare a monitoring plan for the Oak Knoll and Strawberry Patch locations of the project. The monitoring plan shall be submitted to Napa County Public Works for review and approval prior to the start of any ground-disturbing activities associated with the project. Ground-disturbing activities (including, but not limited to, demolition / excavation, grading, tree removal, and utility trenching) shall be monitored by a qualified archaeologist and Native American tribal representative culturally and

geographically affiliated with the project vicinity. The qualified archaeologist and Native American tribal representative shall have authority to halt construction activities temporarily in the immediate vicinity of an unanticipated find until its significance can be assessed by the qualified archaeologist and Native American tribal representative.

After observing a representative sample of ground-disturbing activity with no cultural resources encountered, the archaeologist and Native American tribal representative may recommend that monitoring move to a part-time or intermittent schedule by mutual agreement with the County. A summary report of the monitoring results, including any protective measures implemented, shall be submitted to the County.

MM CUL-2.1: In the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, steps would be taken in compliance with the CCR Section 15064.5. All construction activities shall cease in the immediate area, and the County Coroner would be contacted, in accordance with 14 CCR Section 15064.5(e). If the coroner determines that the human remains are of Native American origin, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) shall be notified to determine the most likely descendant (MLD) for the area. The MLD would make recommendations for the arrangements for the human remains per PRC Section 5097.98.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials:

MM HAZ-1.1: Prior to any ground disturbance, a soil investigation shall be conducted to determine whether aerially-deposited lead (ADL) has affected soils that will be disturbed by the proposed project. The analytical results shall be compared against applicable hazardous waste criteria. Based on analytical results, the investigation will provide recommendations regarding management and disposal of affected soils including the reuse potential of ADL-affected soil on the project site.

MM HAZ-1.2: Testing for the presence of lead-based paint and asbestos-containing materials, on the existing roadway and roadway paint to be removed shall occur. If these substances are found to be present, applicable regulations pertaining to their removal and disposal shall be followed.

FINDING

Napa County hereby finds that the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment; however, there would not be a significant effect in this case because mitigation measures summarized above and described in the Initial Study are included in the project which will reduce all identified potential impacts to less than significant levels.

LEAD AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE



Sydney Barclay, Associate Engineer of Public Works

4/14/2026

Date

For additional information regarding the project, please contact Sydney Barclay, Associate Engineer, Napa County Public Works Department at (707) 253-4351.

Written comments may be sent to Sydney Barclay via email at sydney.barclay@countyofnapa.org or via regular mail to Sydney Barclay, Associate Engineer, Napa County Public Works Department, 1195 Third Street, Suite 101, Napa, California.