



Monterey County Board of Supervisors

Board Order

168 West Alisal Street,
1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901
831.755.5066
www.co.monterey.ca.us

A motion was made by Supervisor John M. Phillips, seconded by Supervisor Mary L. Adams to:

Adopt Resolution: 21-143

- a. Supporting the Route Adoption for State Route 156 by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans); and
- b. Authorizing the Director of Public Works, Facilities, and Parks to forward an executed copy of the Resolution to Caltrans.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 18th day of May 2021, by roll call vote:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Phillips, Lopez, Askew and Adams
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
(Government Code 54953)

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 82 for the meeting May 18, 2021.

Dated: May 20, 2021
File ID: RES 21-089
Agenda Item No.: 38

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California


Julian Lorenzana, Deputy

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California*

Adopt Resolution No. 21-143

- a. Supporting the Route Adoption for State Route 156 by the)
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans);)
- b. Authorizing the Director of Public Works, Facilities, and Parks)
to forward an executed copy of the Resolution to Caltrans.....)

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) owns, operates, and maintains State highways and freeways; and

WHEREAS, Caltrans must submit Route Adoptions to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for CTC review and approval for new routes, new alignments, alignments, among other matters; and

WHEREAS, State Route (SR) 156 is in the California Freeway and Expressway System in its entirety. SR 156 is a major east to west route that begins at SR 1 near Castroville and extends eastward to SR 152 through the communities of Prunedale, San Juan Bautista and Hollister. This route and SR 152 serve as major links between the major north-south routes of SR 1, US 101, and Interstate Route 5 for trucks, commuters, and recreational travelers. This route also serves as a link for the Monterey Peninsula to the Bay Area and Central Valley; and

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1957, the California Highway Commission adopted SR 156, previously SR 22, as a freeway from SR 1 to 0.8-mile North of Castroville; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 1966, the California Highway Commission adopted SR 156 as a freeway from 0.1 mile west of State Route 183 (then adopted freeway alignment) to US 101; and

WHEREAS, a Freeway Agreement was executed on May 9, 1967, following the Route Adoption in June 1966. This executed Freeway Agreement covered the section of SR156 from SR 183 to 600 feet east of the intersection of Castroville Boulevard and SR 156; and

WHEREAS, subsequently on September 18, 1975, the California Highway Commission rescinded the portion of freeway adoption from 1957 and 1966 between 0.2 mile east of existing Route 183 and adopted Route 101 due to monetary and other constraints and the unconstructed adopted route was not likely to be constructed at the time. The following reasons were stated in the Route Inventory Report dated May 1, 1975: (1) Financial constraints make the feasibility of construction in the adopted corridor questionable. (2) The Regional Transportation Plan indicates widening of the existing highway will meet traffic needs. (3) The existing facility can be widened to four lanes within the existing right of way; and

WHEREAS, since the rescission in 1975, SR 156 and its surrounding communities has undergone many changes over the past decades. New studies were considered and two Project Study Reports (PSRs) were developed almost simultaneously. One was signed in October 1997 while the other was signed in January 1998. The January 1998 PSR evaluated widening Route 156 from 2-lane to a 4-lane expressway without addressing the interchange at US 101 and SR156. The PSR did not consider constructing an interchange at the Castroville Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the project remained inactive for years due to funding constraints until 2003. The scope of the project changed to include a reconstruction of the US 101/SR 156 interchange and construction of interchanges along the 156 Corridor (Castroville Boulevard and Cathedral Oak Road). A Supplemental Project Study Report – Project Development Support (PSR-PDS) document was completed in April 2006. This new document superseded the two PSRs from 1997 and 1998; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Transportation Agency of Monterey County (TAMC) and Caltrans started the project studies for the Project. A series of community meetings were held, and revisions were made throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2013, Department completed project studies and a Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment leading to a Finding of No Significant Impact (Environmental Document). The PSR was approved on January 31, 2013, recommending the construction of a new freeway to the south of the existing alignment. The alternative is preferred because the existing alignment can be used as a frontage road for local traffic. The Commission accepted the Environmental Document and approved the project for future consideration of funding on August 6, 2013 with Resolution E-13-65; and

WHEREAS, a revalidation under the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act was approved on October 8, 2020. A Supplemental PSR is projected to be approved in May 2021 to change the construction phasing of the project, to construct an interchange at Castroville Boulevard first, now referred to as segment 1.

WHEREAS, Segment 2 and 3 will complete the construction of the four-lane freeway from the new interchange to the junction of US 101 and SR 156 near the Prunedale community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors that said Board does hereby:

- a. Support the Route Adoption for State Route 156 by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans); and
- b. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities, and Parks to forward an executed copy of this Resolution to Caltrans.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 18th day of May 2021, by roll call vote:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Phillips, Lopez, Askew and Adams

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

(Government Code 54953)

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