RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Request Caltrans to prepare a precise plan for Highway 49 North between Highway 140 and Mariposa Creek. The plan would be adopted as an amendment to the Mariposa Town Specific Plan. The purpose of the precise plan is to protect the area needed for right-of-way in order to construct the continuous left turn lane project.

A precise plan consists of a map showing necessary right-of-way, similar to ATTACHMENT 1, and a narrative section explaining the project. When Caltrans provides the County with the precise plan, staff would include additional language within the plan to permit a developer to construct improvements that would decrease the amount of right-of-way required by Caltrans, in exchange for construction of improvements such as retaining walls, to be engineered and constructed at developer expense. In lieu of these improvements, developers would be required to dedicate property necessary to the project to the County. When Caltrans has completed their environmental review and is prepared to build the project, the County would dedicate this property to the State.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board previously adopted the continuous left-turn lane on Highway 49 North as the County's number one State Highway project. This project was placed in the State Transportation Improvement Program, but will not be constructed until at least the summer of 1997. The project is also included in the Mariposa Town Specific Plan.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

If the right-of-way is not protected, the cost of the project may increase past the amount budgeted by the State for its construction, due to conflicting improvements within the needed right-of-way. This cost would have to be borne, in some form, by the taxpayer. There would also be a waste of effort by the developer, in that his improvements would need to be removed in order to construct the project.

Environmental review of this project, which is conducted by Caltrans, requires adherence to both CEQA and NEPA requirements, and may take as long as one to one and a half years to complete. In addition, funding for the project is not budgeted by the State until at least the 1996, and probably the 1997 construction season. If for some reason the continuous turn lane project is not constructed, the County could opt to return the right-of-way to the land owner, or develop another project.

COSTS: (x) Not Applicable

B. Total anticipated costs

C. Required Add'l funding $_____ 1. Map showing approximate
   Source: ________________________ location of precise plan

SOURCE: ( ) 4/5ths Vote Required

A. Internal Transfers $__

B. Unanticipated revenues $__

C. Reserve for contingency $______

D. Description: _______________________

Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved
CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 92-99
Ord. No.:
Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: 
Abs.: Absent: Abstained:
( ) Approved ( ) Denied
( ) Minute Order Attached

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: 

ATTEST: MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Mariposa, State of CA
By: 

Deputy

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

☑ Recommended
☐ Not Recommended
☐ For Policy Determination
☐ Submitted with Comment
☐ Returned for Further Action

Comment: 

A.O. Initials: 

Action Form Revised 12/89
February 25, 1992

Gordon Marts  
District Director  
Caltrans District 10  
P.O. Box 2048  
Stockton, CA 95201

Dear Mr. Marts:

Please consider this a request for Caltrans to prepare a precise plan for Highway 49 North, between Highway 140 and Mariposa Creek. This would be adopted by the County as an amendment to the Mariposa Town Specific Plan, to protect the right-of-way for later construction of a continuous left turn lane.

As we understand from Mike Hutchinson of your staff, the Project Report for this project is now being developed. Portions of the Report could be extracted to create a precise plan. We also understand that the project will probably not be constructed by Caltrans until 1997.

We would propose to add an alternative to the plan, subject to approval by your engineers, to allow developers to engineer and build retaining walls or other structures that would accomplish the same purpose as acquisition of the entire right of way by the State. This engineering and construction would be at the developer’s expense.

The Mariposa County Planning Department is preparing an amendment to the Mariposa Town Specific Plan that will require the normal review period and hearings. This draft amendment should be ready by the end of March, 1992. If your staff could complete a draft precise plan by this time, we could include it in the amendment.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Sally S. Punte, Chair  
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

cc: Don MacVicar