RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes  No X)
Adopt resolution directing Chairman to sign letter to State Departmental Transportation Advisory Committee (DTAC) requesting official State Scenic Highway Designation for Highway 140 from the northern boundary of the Mariposa TPA to the western boundary of the El Portal TPA.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS: On March 6, 1990, the Board adopted Resolution No. 90-116, a resolution of intent to initiate the designation process for official State designation of Highway 140 as a Scenic Highway. In accordance with State requirements to prepare a Scenic Highway Protection Program, the Board adopted Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 91-1 on April 2, 1991 establishing a Scenic Highway Overlay District along Highway 140 from Mariposa to El Portal.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
1. Adopt resolution as proposed; official request will be sent to State, and DTAC will consider Mariposa County's Scenic Highway at their 8/23/91 meeting.
2. Continue matter for further discussion.
3. Take no action. Negative action will result in Scenic Highway proposal not being considered by DTAC and no official State designation will occur.

COSTS: (X) Not Applicable
A. Budgeted/Current FY $_______
B. Total anticipated costs $_______
C. Required Add'l funding $_______
D. Source:_______

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:
1. Letter to DTAC

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.: 91-363
Ord. No.:_______
Vote - Ayes: 3  Noes: 0  Absent: 0  Abstained: 0
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

A.O. Initials: ________

Action Form Revised 12/89
August 6, 1991

Author Lloyd, Chair
Departmental Transportation Advisory Committee
California Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, California 94274-0001

RE: REQUEST FOR STATE SCENIC HIGHWAY DESIGNATION

Dear Mr. Lloyd,

The County of Mariposa respectfully requests that your Committee recommend to the Director of the Department of Transportation that State Highway 140 from the northern boundary of the Mariposa Town Planning Area to the western boundary of the El Portal Town Planning Area be officially designated "State Scenic Highway". The County of Mariposa wishes to protect, preserve and acknowledge the scenic qualities of this 30 mile portion of the highway, and has adopted protection measures pursuant to Section 261 of the Streets and Highways Code.

Mariposa County is located in Central California on the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas, at elevations ranging from 300 feet to over 12,000 feet. Approximately one-half of the County's 1,455 square mile area is publically owned land, and includes Yosemite National Park and Yosemite Valley, Sierra and Stanislaus National Forests, and BLM lands. Mariposa County's interest in seeking an official State Scenic Highway designation is based upon the County's economic dependence on the tourism industry. The County currently receives more income from tourism (specifically its bed tax on hotel and motel units) than it does from property taxes, and the County is taking an active stance toward protecting its tourist attracting resources, including visual resources. Highway 140 is one of
only three routes into Yosemite National Park from the west, and neither of the other entrances are officially designated scenic highways. The County is confident that an official designation of Highway 140 will attract more visitors to use this route.

We hope the enclosed materials are sufficient to enable your Committee to make its recommendation. A copy of the adopted ordinance has been submitted to the Department of Transportation and may be obtained from Laura Johnson. Should you need additional information, or have any questions, please contact Planning Director Tony Lashbrook, Mariposa County Planning Department, (209) 966-5151.

We appreciate your consideration and support in furthering the protection and enjoyment of our Scenic Highway.

Sincerely,

George P. Radanovich
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

enclosures