

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**DISTRICT 3**

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

August 27, 2018

Mr. Dan Canfield
Planning Manager, OHMVR Division
California Department of Parks and Recreation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Dear Mr. Canfield,

The purpose of this letter is to inform the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) of the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) intent to make a Section 4(f) *de minimis* determination, and to request for State Park's concurrence that the activities, features, and attributes of the Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) would not be adversely affected by the Capital SouthEast Connector Segment D3/E1 Project.

The Capital SouthEast Connector Joint Powers Authority (JPA), in conjunction with Caltrans, is proposing the project to reconstruct White Rock Road on a new alignment as a four-lane expressway with a center earth median and an adjacent, Class 1 bike/pedestrian trail along the north side of the alignments between Prairie City Road and Carson Crossing Road in the City of Folsom in Sacramento and El Dorado counties.

Caltrans is the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), in cooperation with the JPA. The purpose of the project is to improve traffic operations and accommodate projected travel demand, improve mobility for all modes (including bicycles and pedestrians), and implement a transportation network that will help achieve the goals of regional and local plans for sustainable and managed growth patterns.

As part of the federal environmental process under NEPA, Caltrans prepared documentation in accordance to the Section 4(f) regulation. The enclosed Attachment A, demonstrates how the Section 4(f) criteria apply and explains how the criteria are met for a *de minimis* determination. This Section 4(f) *de minimis* was circulated for public review from July 25, 2018 to August 24, 2018. Caltrans did not receive any comments that pertained to Section 4(f) during the public review period.

The Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding (Attachment A) explains why Section 4(f) applies, when the provisions are triggered, the findings, and the meaning of these findings that have been made in accordance to this regulation.

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As part of the Section 4(f) processes, Caltrans coordinated with State Parks, as the official with jurisdiction, over the use of the Prairie City SVRA. Prior to circulation of the *de minimis*, the JPA met with State Parks in May 2015 to describe the proposed project and to review the potential impacts.

As discussed in the Section 4(f) finding (provided as Attachment A to this letter), the proposed project would result in the permanent acquisition of 0.53-acre of Prairie City SRVA of parklands in the northeast quadrant of parkland boundaries along the western portion of the project area near the intersection of White Rock Road and Prairie City Road within a restricted use area. Temporary construction impacts may occur as well. All temporarily impacted areas would be restored to pre-project conditions prior to construction close-out. No existing recreational facilities would be permanently affected by construction, and no recreation areas would be affected since the acquisition would occur in a restricted use buffer area.

The following measures will be implemented to ensure that temporary impacts to the park are minimized to the greatest extent possible:

- Right-of-way acquisition will be minimized to the extent practicable.

One of the last steps to satisfy the Section 4(f) requirements is to have the official with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) property concur that the activities, features, and attributes would not be adversely affected.

Please indicate your concurrence by signing in the signature block, provided below, and returning this letter to Laura Loeffler, Environmental Chief Branch.

Receipt of written concurrence from the States Parks will allow for Caltrans to approve the *de minimis* finding, in accordance with Section 4(f) requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please call me at (530) 741-4592.

Sincerely,



Laura Loeffler, Branch Chief
Caltrans, Division of Environmental, M-1 Branch


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Enclosures:

(1) Attachment A: Section 4(f) De Minimis Finding

c: Matthew Lampa, Capital SouthEast Connector Joint Powers Authority
Namat Hosseinion, Dokken Engineering

The California Department of Parks and Recreation, as the property owner of the Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area, concurs with the Caltrans determination that the Capital SouthEast Connector Segment D3/E1 Project will result in a Section 4(f) *de minimis* impact because none of the activities, features, or attributes will be adversely affected on Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area lands, as defined in 23 CFR 774.17, and as demonstrated in the findings document presented with this letter.

Signature:  Date: 9-14-18
Name: Daniel Canfield Title: Acting Deputy Director
California State Parks