

### 2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

West Stockton Boulevard is a north/south roadway adjacent to the west side of State Route (SR) 99. The existing bridge, bridge number 24C-0087, was constructed in 1956 and has been identified as “functionally obsolete” by the City of Elk Grove, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), due to its narrow width.

The existing West Stockton Boulevard Bridge (W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge) was constructed in 1956 by the State of California Division of Highways (now California Dept. of Transportation, or Caltrans) and was one of four bridges at the Laguna Creek crossing (East Stockton Boulevard Bridge, two SR 99 mainline bridges, and W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge). In the 1990s, Caltrans replaced the two mainline SR 99 bridges with a single bridge 288 feet long and 141 feet wide. In 1999, the County of Sacramento (County) replaced the East Stockton Boulevard Bridge (E. Stockton Blvd. Bridge) with a bridge 254 feet, six inches long and 54 feet, nine inches wide. As a design consideration, both the Highway 99 and East Stockton Boulevard replacement bridges provided for sufficient length to accommodate the planned Lower Laguna Creek Drainage Master Plan, approved by the County of Sacramento in 1996, which called for the installation of a bypass channel to convey stormwater flows under the bridges on this segment of Laguna Creek. The County, to date, has not completed the bypass channel under the bridges, and the bypass channel now begins at a weir located west of the W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge.

After the incorporation of the City of Elk Grove (City) in 2000, the W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge came under the jurisdiction of the City. During the development of the City’s Capital Improvements Plan, the City of Elk Grove identified the W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge as a functionally obsolete bridge and planned for its replacement in 2006.

### 2.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge lies in the City of Elk Grove in Sacramento County. The bridge is located on West Stockton Boulevard where it crossed Laguna Creek, directly adjacent (west) of SR 99, between Sheldon Road and Laguna Boulevard. A figure of the project area is shown as **Figure 2-1**.

### 2.3 PROJECT PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the West Stockton Boulevard Bridge Replacement Project is to improve traffic safety and operations across Laguna Creek. The project is needed because the existing W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge, having been constructed in 1956, is now functionally obsolete due to its narrow width. Additionally, features of the reconstructed bridge would provide for safer pedestrian corridors and meet additional goals set forth in the Elk Grove Bikeway and Pedestrian Master Plan.

### 2.4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Elk Grove proposes to replace and widen the West Stockton Boulevard/Laguna Creek Bridge (W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge), located in the City of Elk Grove in Sacramento County. The existing bridge, bridge number 24C-0087, was constructed in 1956. The W. Stockton Blvd. Bridge is located directly adjacent (west) of SR 99, between Sheldon Road and Laguna Boulevard. A figure of the project location is shown as **Figure 2-2**.

The new bridge would be 254.5 feet long and 60 feet wide to accommodate two through traffic lanes (one in each direction) with provisions for turn pockets, Class II bike lanes, a raised sidewalk on the west side of the bridge, and bridge railings. The bridge type would be cast-in-place reinforced concrete slab on driven pile extensions, the same as the adjacent SR 99 and E. Stockton Blvd. bridges.

The road approaches would be widened to provide tapers to conform to the wider bridge. The project would not increase the number of through traffic lanes above the existing two through traffic lanes (one in each direction).

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The existing approach roadway, utilities, curbs, landscaping, street lighting, drainage systems, and traffic striping would be modified as necessary to accommodate the widened and lengthened bridge.

The number of bridge spans would match the E. Stockton Blvd. Bridge to minimize the potential for trapping debris in Laguna Creek. It is anticipated that support piles would be driven concrete piles.

The bridge structure would consist of a pile-supported slab bridge that is 60 feet wide and 254.5 feet long. 55 octagonal piles of 15 inches in width would be used to support the bridge. A portion of the existing West Stockton Boulevard roadway and soil immediately adjacent to it would be excavated to provide for the increased length and width of the bridge.

The project would require:

- Excavation of existing bridge abutments on the north side of the bridge and bridge support piles in Laguna Creek;
- Excavation of areas currently underneath and immediately adjacent to West Stockton Boulevard roadway to accommodate a longer and wider bridge;
- Bridge replacement (the bridge type would be cast-in-place reinforced concrete slab on driven pile extension);
- Modification of existing approach roadway, utilities, curbs, landscaping, street lighting, drainage systems, and traffic striping to accommodate the longer and wider bridge.

## **2.5 PROJECT CONSTRUCTION**

Project construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2006.

## **2.6 REQUIRED PROJECT APPROVALS/ACTIONS**

In order for the project to be implemented, a series of actions and approvals would be required from agencies. Anticipated project approvals/actions would include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Elk Grove City Council - Adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and other actions associated with project approval.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Issuance of a 404 Permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Issuance of an Addendum to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s January 24, 2005 *Programmatic Biological Opinion on the Effects of Small Highway Projects on the Threatened Giant Garter Snake in Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties, California*.
- California Department of Fish and Game – Issuance of a 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement.
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board – 401 Water Quality Certification.

## **2.7 OTHER PROJECT ASSUMPTIONS**

The Initial Study assumes compliance with all applicable state, federal, and local codes and regulations including, but not limited to, City of Elk Grove Improvement Standards, the Guidance Manual of On-site Storm Water Quality Control Measures, the State Health and Safety Code, and the State Public Resources Code.

**INSERT FIGURE 2-1 PAGE I**

## **2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

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**INSERT FIGURE 2-1 PAGE 2**

**INSERT FIGURE 2-2 PAGE 1**

## **2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

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**INSERT FIGURE 2-2 PAGE 2**

**2.8 TECHNICAL STUDIES**

Three technical studies have been conducted as part of this IS/MND. These include:

- A Cultural Resource Analysis, completed by the City of Elk Grove;
- A Natural Environment Study, completed by Marcus H. Bole and Associates; and
- A Construction Air Quality Impact Analysis, completed by the City of Elk Grove.

These technical studies are available for review weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the City of Elk Grove City Hall, 8400 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758.