2.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Lead Agency: Butte County Department of Public Works

7 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965

Responsible Agency: Butte County Department of Public Works

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Project Location: The Durham-Pentz Road/Butte Campus Drive Intersection in Butte County, CA

Section 28, T21 North, R03 East (M)

Project Sponsor(s): County of Butte and Butte-Glenn Community College District

Adjacent Zoning:

Northwest Quadrant: PQ – Public, Quasi-Public Northeast Quadrant: PQ – Public, Quasi-Public

Southeast Quadrant: A5 – Agriculture, 5-acre minimum Southwest Quadrant: A5 – Agriculture, 5-acre minimum

Adjacent General Plan Designations:

Northwest Quadrant: P - Public

Northeast Quadrant: GOL - Grazing/Open Land

Southeast Quadrant: GOL - Grazing/Open, AR - Ag/Residential

Southwest Quadrant: AR - Agriculture/Residential

Description of Project:

The proposed project would make a series of roadway and intersection improvements at the intersection of Durham-Pentz Road, Butte Campus Drive and Villa Vista Drive. The improvements are intended to improve flow and safety conditions currently experienced at the project site. The proposed project would result in the installation of an eight phase, traffic actuated signal system. Additionally, the project would bring the intersection up to current design and safety standards, including compliance with the current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Proposed improvements would include new curb, gutter, sidewalk, tie-in pavement, advance warning signs, pavement markings and drainage facilities.

Right-of-way and Easement Acquisition

Additional right-of-way would be acquired for drainage and minor widening of the intersection infrastructure on the returns and across Villa Vista Drive, which is a private road. Temporary construction easements would be required on Villa Vista Drive and Butte Campus Drive to install pavement conforms. Permanent maintenance easements would be required for the proposed signal loops and associated equipment.

Utility Relocations

Utilities in the project area are both above and below ground. Utility relocation is expected to include existing overhead power poles and telephone lines. The relocation of underground utilities may be necessary to accommodate the proposed curb, gutter, sidewalk, and drainage improvements as well as the installation of traffic signal and beacon conduits.

Storm Drainage Facilities

Improvements are likely to include the extension of a culvert pipe that conveys storm water under Butte Campus Drive to an existing drainage ditch in the northeast quadrant of the project site. The culvert pipe and drainage ditch are likely jurisdictional waters of the US. Any installation or modification of stormwater facilities would be subject to review and approval by appropriate state and federal agencies.

Roadway Improvements

The project proposes improvements to the roadways extending in all four directions from the intersection at the center of the project site. The segment of Durham-Pentz Road to the west of the project intersection would receive an asphalt overlay and re-striping consistent with Caltrans design standards. A flashing beacon would be installed west of the project site, on the shoulder of the east-bound lane of Durham-Pentz Road, alerting drivers to the presence of signals at the Butte Campus Drive Intersection. The segment of Durham-Pentz Road extending eastward from the intersection would also receive an asphalt overlay, re-striping and a flashing beacon. Improvements along the Butte Campus Drive alignment would include a realignment of existing drainage ditches, extension of an existing drainage pipe, asphalt overlay and re-striping. Improvements to the Villa Vista Drive alignment would include asphalt overlay and re-striping. All improvements would be installed according to County and Caltrans design standards.

Improvements proposed for the northern portion of the intersection include an extended left turn pocket and ADA-compliant concrete curbs and ramps. To achieve these goals, the Butte Campus Drive alignment would be widened through the placement of an asphalt overlay on a portion of the existing aggregate base shoulder. An existing 15-inch arch pipe under Butte Campus Drive would be extended and drainage ditches on either side of Butte Campus Drive would be realigned. The southern portion of the intersection, where Vista Villa Drive approaches Durham-Pentz Road, would also be widened via asphalt overlay to accommodate a left turn pocket.

The improvements proposed for the Durham-Pentz approaches would allow separate, signalized turning facilities for traffic entering Butte Campus Drive from Durham-Pentz Road (from both directions). Additionally, the proposed improvements include a designated left turn for westbound traffic turning onto Vista Villa Drive from Durham-Pentz Road.

From the center of the Durham-Pentz Road/Butte Campus Drive Intersection, the area of potential impacts (API) extends northward approximately 450 feet along Butte Campus Drive and southward along Villa Vista Drive approximately 125 feet. Similarly, the API extends to the west and east from center of the intersection along the alignment of Durham-Pentz Road (approximately 125 feet in each direction). The result is an API that resembles an inverted lower case "t" and totals approximately 2.39 acres in area. With Butte Campus Drive and Villa Vista Drive creating the vertical axis and Durham-Pentz Road as the horizontal axis, proposed project activities can be organized into quadrants:

Northwest Quadrant

The northwest quadrant of the project site is dominated by APN 041-130-046, a parcel owned by Butte College. Project activities in this quadrant would be carried out within the existing Durham-Pentz Road right of way or along Butte Campus Drive. The area of potential impacts (API) extends 30-35 feet

westward from the Butte Campus Drive center line and northward approximately 50 feet from the center line of Durham-Pentz Road.

Northeast Quadrant

This quadrant is also dominated by Butte College land (APN 041-130-044). The API extends eastward approximately 35-40 feet from the centerline of Butte Campus Drive and northward approximately 50 feet from the centerline of Durham-Pentz Road.

Southeast Quadrant

The majority of this quadrant is bordered by APN 041-680-006, with a portion of the proposed activities within the Durham-Pentz Road right of way occurring adjacent to APN 041-130-055. The API extends approximately 40 feet southward from the Durham-Pentz centerline and 66 feet eastward from the Villa Vista Drive centerline.

Southwest Quadrant

This quadrant is comprised of the Durham-Pentz Road right of way and APN 041-680-005. The API extends approximately 40 feet southward from the Durham-Pentz Road centerline and 66 feet westward from the Villa Vista Drive centerline.

All work would be performed in compliance with applicable Butte County and Caltrans design standards and specifications.

2.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

According to Butte Community College statistics, the school has an enrollment of over 14,000 students. The pressure of increased vehicles in the project area has degraded the safety and traffic flow conditions at the intersection during peak-hour conditions.

2.3 PERMITS AND APPROVALS NEEDED

- Army Corps of Engineers: Nationwide Permit
 - §404 of the Clean Water Act
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board: Water Quality Certification
 - §401 of the Clean Water Act
 - §13000 of the California Water Code (Water Quality Control Act)
- California Department of Fish and Game: Streambed Alteration Agreement
 - §1600 of the CA Fish and Game Code.
 - Approval for CEQA clearance if habitat is identified based on agency review and comment during the 30-day public review.
- Butte County Board of Supervisors: Project approval
- Butte County Department of Public Works: Pollution Control Plan, BMP and BAMM approval

