



**HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**Regional Transportation Planning Agency**  
**Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority**  
**Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies**  
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**AGENDA ITEM 7a**  
TAC Meeting  
October 5, 2017

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DATE: September 27, 2017  
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
FROM: Oona Smith, Senior Planner  
SUBJECT: **Regional Transportation Plan 2017 Update - Draft Addendum to the EIR**

### **STAFF REPORT**

#### **Contents:**

- Staff's Recommended Action
- Staff Summary
- Draft Addendum to the EIR

#### **Staff's Recommended Action:**

1. Introduce the item as an action item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss item and consider making the motion:  
"I move that the TAC recommend the draft Addendum to the EIR be forwarded to the HCAOG Board to consider before adoption of the RTP 2017 update."

#### **Staff Summary:**

The CEQA Guidelines offer several options for environmental documentation once an EIR has been prepared for project or program. Where only minor changes occur to the project (or program), an agency may prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR. The RTP 2017 update represents only minor changes and additions from the 2014 RTP and therefore meets the guidelines for the preparing an addendum instead of a subsequent or supplemental EIR.

I have prepared the Addendum based on the following:

Because the minor changes in the proposed RTP 2017 update:

- 1) have not changed the nature or scale of the Regional Transportation Plan; and

2) are not proposed under environmental conditions or circumstances substantially changed from those analyzed and addressed in the FEIR, no additional analysis or discussion is required for the following environmental topics (listed with their respective CEQA (Appendix G) Checklist numerals):

- I. Aesthetics
- II. Agricultural Resources
- V. Cultural Resources
- VI. Geology and Soils
- VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- IX. Hydrology and Water Quality
- X. Land Use and Planning
- XI. Mineral Resources
- XII. Noise
- XIII. Population and Housing
- XIV. Public Services
- XV. Recreation
- XVII. Utilities and Service Systems

Likewise, there is no substantial evidence of substantial changes to (III) air quality, (IV) biological resources, (VII) greenhouse gas emission and climate change, or (XVI) transportation/traffic, but the Addendum does discuss these topics in order to include pertinent updates that have occurred in the past four years in order to reflect current developments.

An addendum to a certified EIR is not required to be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the Final EIR (CEQA Section 15164(c)). In compliance with CEQA, the HCAOG Board shall consider the addendum with the final EIR prior to making a decision on approving the RTP 2017 update.