

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

504 B



FROM: TLMA - Transportation Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
November 7, 2005

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for Environmental Assessment No. 39973 and approval of Rice and Leon Road Bridges, Menifee Valley/Winchester Area, Third Supervisorial District.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for Environmental Assessment No. 39973 and approve the proposed Rice Road and Leon Road Bridges .

BACKGROUND: The Riverside County Transportation Department proposes to construct bridges where Rice Road and Leon Road cross Salt Creek between Domenigoni Parkway (formerly Patton Avenue) and Olive Avenue near the community of Winchester.

The analysis and findings contained in the attached Initial Study for Environmental Assessment No. 39973 support the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project. The availability of Environmental Assessment No. 39973 for public review was advertised in the Riverside Press Enterprise and the Hemet News. A Notice of Intent to issue a Mitigated Negative Declaration and a copy of Environmental Assessment No 39973 was mailed to responsible and trustee agencies and to individuals interested in the project. The public review period extended through September 29, 2005. The Riverside County Transportation Department received a letter from the State Clearinghouse indicating that no State Agencies submitted comments during the public review period, and acknowledging that the Riverside County Transportation Department has complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Comments received in response to the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration are addressed in Appendix A of the Final IS/MND.

Potentially significant impacts for which mitigation measures were incorporated include: biological, hazards and hazardous materials, cultural and noise (continued on next page).


George A. Johnson
Director of Transportation

REVIEWED BY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

DATE 11/8/05 

Departmental Concurrence

Dept't Recomm.: Consent Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: 3

Agenda Number:

3.22

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

RE: Adoption of Mitigated Negative Declaration for Environmental Assessment No. 39973 and approval of the Rice Road and Leon Bridges

Page 2 of 2

The final step in the environmental process is to obtain the permits for construction of the project through the Army Corps of Engineers, the California Department of Fish and Game and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Completion of these permits is expected early in 2006. Construction of the Rice and Leon Road Bridge will begin in late summer of 2006, pending the approval of the formation of a Community Facilities District (CFD) that will fund the project. The CFD involves various developers that are building in the area.