

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
INITIAL STUDY OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

PROJECT NUMBER: WO # 1025  
CP# 15-48

PROJECT NAME: Blackhawk Road Bikeway Project

PREPARED BY: Alex Nattkemper

DATE: January 6, 2016

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- ☒ Categorical Exemption [Class 1(c)]  
☐ Environmental Impact Report Required
- ☐ Negative Declaration  
☐ Conditional Negative Declaration

The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The recommendation is based on the following: The project consists of minor alteration of existing public facilities, involving negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing, pursuant to section 15301(c) of the CEQA guidelines. The project will not result in the removal of any scenic resource.

What changes to the project would mitigate the identified impacts: N/A

USGS Quad Sheet: Diablo	Base Map Sheet #: S-17, S-18, T-18, U-18	Parcel #: N/A
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GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1. **Location:** The project is located in southern Contra Costa County in the unincorporated community of Blackhawk [Figures 1-15].
2. **Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to improve bicyclist safety by providing bicycle lanes and related improvements over 3.6 miles of Blackhawk Road, providing an additional mode of transportation for commuting or recreation. There are no existing bicycle facilities along Blackhawk Road between Mt. Diablo Scenic Boulevard and Camino Tassajara. Blackhawk Road is the main access point for students who attend The Athenian School. This project would provide bicycle access for students and local residents to ride their bikes on Blackhawk Road for transportation or recreational purposes. In addition, the project would provide bicycle access for residents making trips to the shopping mall near Camino Tassajara and Blackhawk Road. There are also bus stops along the project limits, which mean this project will provide multi-modal connections for residents as well. The project consists of striping Class II bicycle lanes on Blackhawk Road from San Andreas Drive to Camino Tassajara within the existing roadway. Current lane widths, which are at or greater than the standard width of 12 feet, will need to be narrowed from Blackhawk Drive to Camino Tassajara to accommodate the new Class II bicycle lanes. Existing striping will be removed and new striping will be installed between Blackhawk Drive and Camino Tassajara. This project will also place sharrow markings for Class III bike routes from San Andreas Drive to Mt. Diablo Scenic Boulevard and from Blackhawk Plaza Circle to Camino Tassajara, due to lack of existing roadway width for Class II bicycle lanes. Sign posts will be added along the entire length of the project area to designate the type of bike lane available. The project may include either a road surface treatment prior to restriping traffic lanes or existing striping will be removed and new striping will be installed. There will be no changes to existing drainage or utilities and no rights-of-way or easements will be needed as the project will stay entirely within the existing pavement. Appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to protect storm drain inlets. One lane will be open for traffic during construction activities. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times.
3. **Does it appear that any feature of the project will generate significant public concern?**  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ maybe (Nature of concern):
4. **Will the project require approval or permits by other than a County agency?**  
☐ Yes ☒ No
5. **Is the project within the Sphere of Influence of any city?** No