

JAN ARBUCKLE – Grass Valley City Council  
 ANDREW BURTON – Member-At-Large, Vice Chair  
 CAROLYN WALLACE DEE – Town of Truckee  
 ANN GUERRA – Member-At-Large, Chair  
 SUSAN HOEK – Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
 ED SCOFIELD – Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
 DUANE STRAWSER – Nevada City City Council



DANIEL LANDON, Executive Director  
 MICHAEL WOODMAN, Deputy Executive Director

Grass Valley • Nevada City

Nevada County • Truckee

## MINUTES OF NCTC MEETING January 16, 2019

A regular teleconference meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) was held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 in the Nevada County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, California. Notice of the meeting was posted 72 hours in advance. The meeting was scheduled for 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Andrew Burton, Carolyn Wallace Dee, Ann Guerra, Ed Scofield, Duane Strawser, Alternate Lisa Swarthout

Members Absent: Dan Miller

Staff Present: Daniel Landon, Executive Director; Dale Sayles, Administration Services Officer; Carol Lynn, Administrative Assistant

Standing Orders: Chair Guerra convened the Nevada County Transportation Commission meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jim Morris, 25-year Nevada City resident and Chair of a Nevada City in-town trail improvement group, addressed the Commission regarding the improvement of in-town trails such as Miners Trail and Little Deer Creek Trail. He said the group has been working with Caltrans, CHP, and Nevada City Police Department in an effort to improve the safety and accessibility for pedestrians on those trails. Miners Trail has an access underneath the highway where people have been staying under the bridge. He handed to the Commission two copies of a packet (attached) that included a letter from Nevada City's City Manager to Caltrans District 3 Director Amarjeet Benipal requesting participation in the improvements, a Report to City Council, and a list of Miners Trail Task Force Recommendations. He requested that the Commission consider a future agenda item to address potential efforts to assist Nevada City's work with Caltrans to make improvements, including slope paving and other deterrents to camping, to alleviate the frequent fence repair and waste removal expenses.

### CONSENT ITEMS

#### 1. Financial Reports

October 2018 and November 2018. *Approved.*

2. NCTC Minutes

November 14, 2018 NCTC Meeting Minutes. *Approved with one abstention by Commissioner Strawser.*

3. Social Security Majority Vote Election and Section 218 Agreement. Adopted Resolution 19-01 authorizing NCTC to file an application and to enter into an agreement with the State for Social Security coverage for employees.

Commissioner Scofield made a motion to approve the Consent Items. Commissioner Swarthout seconded the motion. Commissioner Strawser abstained. The motion passed with Aye votes from Commissioners Burton, Dee, Guerra, Scofield, and Alternate Swarthout (Commissioner Miller was absent).

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. Correspondence:

- A. Betty T. Yee, California State Controller, 2018-19 First Quarter State Transit Assistance Allocation, File 1370.0, 11/20/2018.
- B. SB 1 Gas Tax Funding Benefits Nevada County, KNCO Morning News Report with Geoff Flynn, File 370.2, 12/11/18.
- ⊖ California Transportation Commission - 2018 Annual Report to the California Legislature Summary, File 370, 12/14/18.

There were no questions or comments.

5. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Landon provided an Annual Report for 2018, giving an overview of the actions taken by the Commission over the last year. He said in 2018 the Commission distributed nearly \$3 million in transit funding to the community. For construction projects and pedestrian and bicycle projects, almost \$2 million of Regional Surface Transportation Program funds were distributed. The Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee program that funds regional improvements disbursed almost \$650,000. Mr. Landon said the total funding the Commission approved and disbursed in 2018 is \$5.4 million, which he thought had a significant effect for the size of our community. He also provided a brief overview of the planning projects completed in 2018 and those in progress. Chair Guerra thanked Mr. Landon for a very informative report.

6. Project Status Reports

## A. Caltrans Project Report

Caltrans District 3 Project Manager Jonathan Pray reviewed the January Caltrans Project Status Report.

- *SR 20 – Smartsville - Safety – Shoulder widening and curve improvements* – This safety project is just west of the county line in Yuba County. Construction has begun and is expected to be completed by November 2020.
- *SR 20 – Rumble Strips - Safety – Install shoulder or centerline rumble strips* – A large portion of this safety project is on Highway 20 between Nevada City and I-80 and is expected to go to construction Summer 2019.
- *SR 20 – Omega Curve Correction - Safety – Curve improvement, widen shoulders, add turnout* – These projects are east of Nevada City on Highway 20. White Cloud and Lowell Hill are areas with sharper curves that have a history of accidents. Safety improvements include correcting tight curves and widening the road. Omega Turnout will allow large trucks to pull over and vehicles to pass. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2021.
- *SR 20 – Special Ops – Operational improvements – widen for left-turn pockets and roadway turnouts* – This project will add left-turn pockets and turnouts at Conservation Road and Washington Road, and will start construction in 2021.
- *SR 20 – Gold Nugget - Repair pavement, drainage, sign panels, ADA facilities, and roadside planting and irrigation. Install new storm water improvement, Maintenance Vehicle Pullouts (MVPs), and shoulder widening* – Much of this project is along the Golden Center Freeway, improving asphalt, drainage, electrical, and shoulder widening. This project has been delayed until funding becomes available.
- *SR 49 – Electrical Upgrades - Safety - Install flashing beacons at Alta Sierra Drive intersection, upgrade lighting at Brewer Road intersection, and install radar speed feedback signs at various locations* – These safety projects, initiated from the Highway 49 safety meetings, are in progress. The bid they received was too high to award so they will make some adjustments, such as using solar power, and will request bids again. Construction is expected to begin Summer 2019.
- *SR 49 – Placer County Line to Route 20 – Culvert Rehabilitation (North and South)* – These preventative maintenance projects will help prevent washouts on the road. The North project will start construction Spring 2019.
- *SR 49 – Nev-49 Corridor Improvement Project - La Barr Meadows Road to McKnight Way – Widen SR 49 to a four-lane highway with a continuous median/left-turn lane and 8-foot shoulders* – Mr. Pray said they have made great progress on this STIP – RIP (NCTC) project to widen the highway to four lanes, and add frontage roads and intersection control. Mr. Pray met with Caltrans District 3 Director Amarjeet Benipal and Executive Director Landon to discuss funding strategies for this project. Their goal is to have two lanes in each direction with a median barrier and frontage roads.

- *SR 49 – Nev-49 Corridor Improvement Project - La Barr Meadows Road to McKnight Way – Widen shoulders, construct two-way left-turn lane, southbound right-turn lane, and northbound truck climbing lane, install transportation management system elements, rehab pavement, and rehab culverts* – This \$50 million SHOPP project is incremental toward the future widening project, and if funds become available, it may be combined with the widening project. Mr. Pray said they would need about \$70 million total for construction, right-of-way and engineering support costs for the combined projects. They are currently applying for an INFRA Grant that would bring about \$10 million if selected. He said the plan is to be ready for construction when the funds become available. Executive Director Landon said he appreciates the effort Caltrans is putting into packaging and assembling the technical data for the grant application, making a good case for the project. He said the upcoming STIP cycle will hopefully bring some funding to the table, and with a match from Caltrans, there is a good chance of funding the project. He said the INFRA Grant application will be submitted March 4, 2019.
- *SR 49 – Wolf Road/Combie Road – Safety - Construct acceleration lanes* – This project for the acceleration lanes at the Wolf/Combie intersection will hopefully reduce collisions by giving drivers time to get up to speed when merging onto Highway 49. This project is expected to start construction by Spring 2020.
- *SR 49 – Round Valley Road – Safety - Construct two-way left-turn lane* – This project for the two-way left-turn lanes for better access at Quail Creek Drive and Round Valley Road will hopefully serve to reduce collisions in those areas. This project is expected to start construction by Spring 2020.
- *SR 49 – Twin Turbo Roundabouts – Safety - Construct concrete median barrier with roundabouts* – This project in Placer County will construct two roundabouts on SR 49 from 0.2 miles south of Lorenson Road to 0.4 miles north of Lone Star Road with a median barrier in between to reduce cross median collisions and slow traffic down. Mr. Landon said in 2015 Caltrans held an Open House to get public input on design alternatives, and a median barrier was highly favorable to the community. Commissioner Scofield asked if roundabouts were being planned on other sections of Highway 49. Mr. Pray replied not currently, although roundabouts or signals are being considered for the section between La Barr Meadows Road and McKnight Way. Commissioner Scofield suggested that Caltrans solicit public comments and input before considering roundabouts in that section. Mr. Pray replied that Caltrans is planning to have a public Open House in about a month.
- *I-80 – Near Truckee from east of Kingvale Undercrossing to 0.2 mile west of Union Mills Bridge – Remove metal beam guard rail and replace with concrete barrier* – This project is expected to start construction by Spring 2019.
- *I-80 – Truckee at the Donner Pass Inspection Facility and at Floriston at the Floriston Sand and Salt Houses – Replace Sand House* - Construction is expected to be completed by December 2019.
- *In Glenn, Colusa and Nevada Counties at various locations. One location is at the Donner Safety Roadside Rest Area – In response to the Governor's order, this project proposes to install Zero*

*Emission Vehicle charging stations at select Safety Roadside Rest Areas* – This project will connect charging stations between cities so electric vehicles can more easily travel between them. Mr. Pray said these high speed charging stations are expected to charge a car in 30 minutes.

- *I-80 – Slope Stabilization – Roadway preservation at various locations – Stabilize cut slope, construct rockfall wire mesh drapery and rockfall barrier, reduce rockfall hazard, rockfall mitigation* – These preventative projects on I-80 near Truckee are expected to complete construction between 2020 and 2023.

Commission Dee asked if there was any discussion on resurfacing I-80 eastbound from Truckee to Floriston where the tarring is coming up and leaving patches, making for an uneven surface. Mr. Pray said he would follow up with the Maintenance division and report back. Commissioner Dee thanked Mr. Pray for his expanded and detailed report.

- *SR 174 – at Brunswick Road – Install intersection lighting* – This project at the Brunswick Y was delayed but is expected to complete construction in the Fall.
- *SR 174 - Safety Improvement from Maple Way to You Bet Road - Realign curves, widen shoulders, add a left-turn lane at Greenhorn Access Road, and improve the clear recovery zone* – Caltrans is continuing to collaborate with the Save Highway 174 group, with an upcoming meeting scheduled. They are still endeavoring to find a balance between safety and minimizing of impacts. Caltrans has received some feedback in the wake of the Camp Fire from people who are concerned about fire safety and want to see improvements made to the road. They have purchased about half of the parcels they need on the section, and are continuing negotiations with the rest of the property owners. Construction of the project is scheduled for Spring 2020.
- *SR 174 – Grass Valley from Park Street to Highway 20 – Upgrade ADA infrastructure including curb ramps, cross slopes, driveways, etc* – Caltrans is doing cultural studies and working with the City of Grass Valley to relinquish this section of highway (as well as Hansen and Tinloy Streets) to the city.
- *SR 174 – towards Colfax near Bear River – high friction surface treatment on curves* – This project is to prevent drivers from sliding off the road on tight curves. This strategy differs from the SR 174 Safety Improvement curve realignment project, which is in response to cases of vehicles leaving the roadway and striking a fixed object.
- *SR 49, 89, 174 – Remove dead trees that have been killed by the bark beetle* – Caltrans will be identifying and removing trees this summer that have been damaged from the inside out due to the bark beetle and should be cut down before they fall. Botanists are helping to identify the dead trees.

Commissioner Strawser asked Mr. Pray to ensure safe shoulders are installed on the Highway 20 Smartsville straightening project from Mooney Flat to the bridge. He said it was the only connectivity to the Yuba City/Marysville area for cyclists and other alternative transportation. He commented he did not want to see a similar situation as the Downieville corridor where the old shoulder was covered up by the new construction but no new shoulder was installed. He also asked that rumble strips be installed

properly on the Highway 174 project, like the example he highlighted in Santa Barbara where the rumble strip was kept on the white line so it would not encroach into the shoulder. He said this should be a state mandate, and traffic studies show when a rumble strip is too far from the white line, accidents become much more likely because by the time drivers hit the rumble strip they do not have time to safely correct. Mr. Pray replied the Highway 174 project will not include rumble strips, but he will keep an eye on other projects. Commissioner Strawser said it made a big difference in Santa Barbara when the project manager had strict oversight of the installation of the rumble strips to make sure they were done correctly. He said he had people available who could talk to the design team at Caltrans if they had questions about installing the rumble strips properly before the work was done. Executive Director Landon said former District 3 Project Manager Cameron Knudson is very familiar with the proper treatments of shoulders and rumble strips and could give history or support to the design team.

Commissioner Strawser referred to the friction treatment coating process and said the machine leaves behind miniature speed bumps in the material that has caused several cycling accidents, and it is hard to smooth down the raised ridges once they are there. Mr. Pray said it is challenging for those companies to find just the right application method and he will keep it in mind.

Chair Guerra referred to the Commission's funding of the preparation work for the Highway 49 La Barr Meadows Road to McKnight Way project, and said Executive Director Landon's vision and partnership with Caltrans has been very successful in the progress that has been made. Mr. Pray agreed that having a vision can go a long way and has helped progress on both sides.

## ACTION ITEMS

### 7. Appointments to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)

Executive Director Landon said of the four people applying to be on the SSTAC, two are reappointments and two are new appointments. The Council helps provide input regarding our transit services and identification of unmet needs within the county. Kelly Beede and Blake Hinman are requesting reappointment, and Troy Larson, Paratransit manager, and Sharon Romack with Sierra Senior Services, are requesting new appointments. Commissioner Dee offered to look for an individual to fill the position to represent the Hispanic community in Truckee.

Commissioner Burton made a motion to approve the appointments to the SSTAC. Commissioner Strawser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Aye votes from Commissioners Burton, Dee, Guerra, Scofield, Strawser, and Alternate Swarthout. (Commissioner Miller was absent).

### 8. Amendment 3 to the FY 2018/19 Overall Work Program (OWP)

Executive Director Landon said Amendment 3 is an adjustment to NCTC's budget, reducing some line items as necessary and adding an approved contract line item. Tables 2 through 6 of the OWP show the included changes. There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Swarthout made a motion to adopt Resolution 19-02 approving Amendment 3 to the FY 2018/19 Overall Work Program. Commissioner Strawser seconded the motion. The motion passed



9. Election of Officers

Commissioner Scofield nominated Chair Guerra to be Commission Chair for 2019. Alternate Swarthout seconded the nomination. Commissioner Scofield nominated Commissioner Burton to be Vice Chair. Commissioner Swarthout seconded the nomination. The nominations passed unanimously with Aye votes from Commissioners Burton, Dee, Guerra, Scofield, Strawser, and Alternate Swarthout. (Commissioner Miller was absent).

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no additional announcements.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the NCTC will be March 20, 2019 at the Nevada County Board of Supervisors Chambers, Eric Rood Administrative Center, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, CA, starting at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Chair Guerra called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Burton made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Strawser seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Carol Lynn, Administrative Assistant

Approved on:

March 20, 2019

By:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Guerra, Chair  
Nevada County Transportation Commission







# City of Nevada City

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January 12, 2018

Amarjeet S. Benipal  
Caltrans District Director, District 03  
703 B St.  
Marysville, CA 95901

Dear Mr. Benipal,


The City of Nevada City is requesting participation in a project to make improvements to areas within the State Right-of-way in Nevada City. Improvements to the Pedestrian Walkway under Deer Creek Bridge, known as Miner's Trail, have been on-going with the help of Caltrans Maintenance, Nevada City Public Works and Police Department, Nevada City Rotary, City Council Members, City Staff, and volunteers. This Pedestrian Walkway is shown in the 1967 As-Built Plans (attached) for the Deer Creek Bridge. Miner's Trail extends from Broad Street, between the Golden Center Freeway and Deer Creek, and runs under the bridge and ramp structures to Cabin Street.

Issues related to public safety, environmental health, recurring expenses by Caltrans for fence repair, graffiti removal, litter and hazardous waste cleanup, and erosion of the soil slopes, have been an on-going problem under the Deer Creek Bridge. The 5-foot wide horizontal bench along the bridge abutments required hazardous waste removal at a cost of \$14,000 in 2016. At this location William Kelly, a homeless man, died of exposure in February 2011.

On July 12, 2017 a Report To City Council (attached) was presented by the City Manager Mark Prestwich at the Nevada City Council Meeting which provided short-term and long-term recommendations for improvements. This was unanimously approved by the City Council at the meeting. These recommendations were put together by the Miner's Trail Task Force, which included input from City Police, CHP, Caltrans Maintenance, The Rotary, City Staff, adjacent property owners and trail volunteers. Many of the short-term solutions have been implemented, such as additional police patrols, graffiti and trash removal, which have improved conditions. We will need the help of Caltrans to assist in the long-term improvements include slope treatments, such as slope paving, fence improvements, and lighting.

We are requesting your assistance because local Caltrans Maintenance has done what they can at their level, and the remaining work will most likely require a minor capital project to complete. We would like to meet with Caltrans to discuss options with Caltrans representatives at your convenience. Please contact me or the City Engineer at 530-265-2496 to schedule a meeting.

Thank you for your help,

  
Catrina Olson, City Manager  
City Hall  
317 Broad Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Attachments: 7/12/2017 Report to City Council  
1967 Deer Creek Bridge As-Built Plan Sheet

cc: City Council Members, City Manager, City Engineer

City Hall • 317 Broad Street • Nevada City, California 95959 • (530) 265-2496

# REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

City of Nevada City  
317 Broad Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
[www.nevadacityca.gov](http://www.nevadacityca.gov)

July 12, 2017

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**TITLE: Miners Trail Task Force Recommendations**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Review recommendations and Pass a Motion approving short and long terms solutions to address fire risk, environmental health and public safety concerns along the Miners Trail.

**CONTACT:** Mark Prestwich, City Manager

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:** It was brought to the attention of the City Manager recently that volunteers, including representatives from the Nevada City Rotary Club, assisting with maintenance of the Miners Trail were experiencing recurring challenges on the trail. Concerns were raised about fire risk, environmental health (e.g. garbage, etc.) and public safety. Caltrans has experienced recurring expenses associated with fence repair, litter and related impacts.

With the assistance of volunteers, several meetings have been convened in the past two months to discuss challenges and potential solutions. Attendees have included representatives from City Police, Public Works, and Engineering staff, Caltrans, California Highway Patrol, Nevada City Rotary Club, and Jim Morris. These meetings have produced a list of short and long term strategies to mitigate the concerns raised (see attachment).

City Council review and approval of these strategies is recommended to address these concerns.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:** Not applicable.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The financial cost of the proposed short and long term solutions is minimal. Signage solutions can be absorbed within existing budgetary resources. Measure C is available to fund acquisition of equipment that assists the Police Department with efforts to mitigate vandalism and criminal activity. The proposed slope improvements would be largely funded by Caltrans.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- ✓ Miners Trail Task Force Recommendations

# Miners Trail Task Force Recommendations

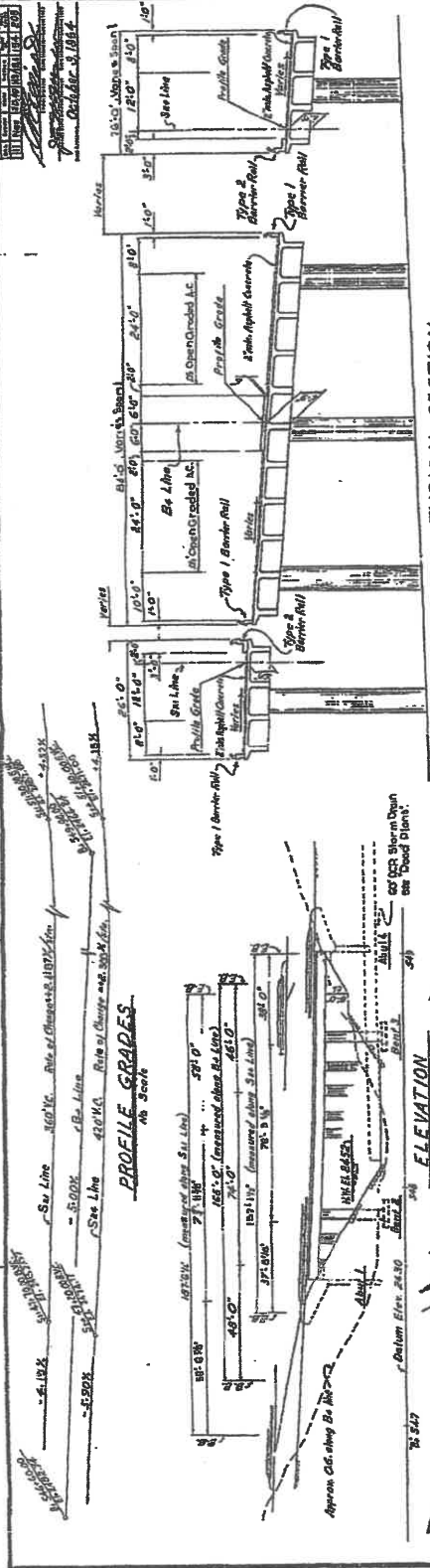
## Short-Term

1. Inventory the number of volunteer hours and Caltrans expenses (e.g. fence repair, debris removal, staff expenses) associated with cleanup efforts.
2. Purchase/install cameras/lighting/motion sensing equipment to deter vandalism and littering.
3. Continue every other day Public Works debris cleanup in partnership with volunteers.
4. Develop Engineer's cost-estimate for slope improvements to a) deter camping; b) reduce vandalism, and c) discuss with Caltrans.
5. Enhance frequency of day and evening Police patrols of Miners Trail.
6. Establish working protocols (who to call, who is responsible, etc.) for graffiti, debris, illegal activity, and fence vandalism.
7. Develop and install signage at strategic points to deter vandalism and loitering.
8. Establish Hotline to add to signage.
9. Develop a communications strategy to:
  - a. Build a positive relationship with our partners;
  - b. Provide awareness of environment impacts; and
  - c. Encourage use of trail.

## Long-Term

1. Develop lighting strategy for Miners Trail to improve public safety.
2. Secure funding and complete slope improvements (Caltrans)
3. Construct trail tie-in with Clark Street Parking Lot/Maybert Bridge to encourage more use of the trail

DATE: 10/15/44  
 DRAWN BY: [Signature]  
 CHECKED BY: [Signature]  
 PROJECT: DEER CREEK BRIDGE  
 DATE: October 3, 1944



**TYPICAL SECTION**  
 Scale: 1" = 10'

**INDEX TO PLANS**

SHEET NO.	TITLE
1	General Plan
2	Grid Grades
3	Foundation Plan
4	Abutment No. 1
5	Abutment No. 2
6	Single Column Bents
7	Three Column Bents
8	Splice Section
9	Top Girder Reinforcement
10	Bottom Girder Reinforcement
11	Standard Details No. 1
12	Log of Test Settings
13	Bridge Details
14	Barrier Reinforcement
15	Modified End Post

**APPROXIMATE QUANTITIES**

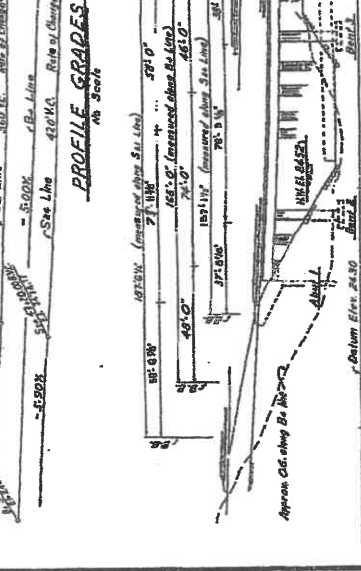
REINFORCING CONCRETE (TENSILE)	1,000 C.Y.
REINFORCING CONCRETE (COMPRESSIVE)	1,000 C.Y.
STEEL (TENSILE)	150 TONS
STEEL (COMPRESSIVE)	150 TONS
WOOD (TENSILE)	500 CU. YD.
WOOD (COMPRESSIVE)	500 CU. YD.

**AS BUILT PLANS**  
 Contract No. 23-22-3164  
 Date Completed 11-21-47  
 Document No. 302000-23

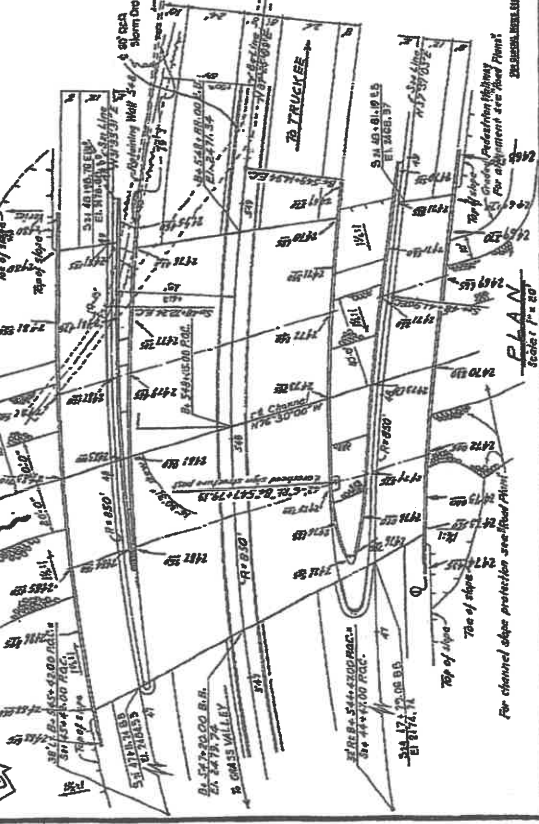
**AS BUILT**  
 CONTRACT NO. 23-22-3164  
 DATE 11-21-47

© Plan "Deer Creek", Bridge No. 4

**PROFILE GRADES**  
 No. 3000



**ELEVATION**  
 Scale: 1" = 20'



**PLAN**  
 Scale: 1" = 20'

For channel slope protection see flow plan

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

**DEER CREEK BRIDGE**  
 LOCATED ALONG 21ST WYTHEM FROM FIVE STREET BRIDGE IN KENNA CITY  
 IN NEVADA COUNTY

**GENERAL PLAN**

DESIGN SECTION 8

DATE: 10/15/44  
 DRAWN BY: [Signature]  
 CHECKED BY: [Signature]