



April 4, 2022

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
of a Draft Environmental Impact Report  
and Notice of Virtual Public Hearing**

**Project Title:** Bohemian Highway Bridge over Russian River Replacement Project  
**Project Proponent:** Sonoma County  
**Project Location:** Community of Monte Rio  
**Hearing Date:** May 17, 2022  
**Hearing Body:** Sonoma County Board of Supervisors  
**Hearing Location:** Online. Visit <https://sonoma-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> for details.  
**DEIR Review Period:** April 4, 2022 through May 18, 2022

The Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department (Permit Sonoma) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Bohemian Highway Bridge over the Russian River, in the community of Monte Rio, CA. The County is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the project. The intent of this Notice of Availability (NOA) is to notify interested parties that the Draft EIR is available for public review and comment.

**Project Location:** The project is located within the Community of Monte Rio, Sonoma County, California.

**Project Description:** The County proposes to remove the existing bridge on the Bohemian Highway over the Russian River and construct a new bridge on an alternate alignment (Figure 2). The replacement bridge structure would be approximately 846 feet long and composed of the following:

- The south approach would be a continuous cast-in-place concrete post-tensioned slab structure with three spans ranging from 60 to 65 feet long.
- The main span over the Russian River would be a 390-foot long steel tied arch structure. The peak of the arch would be approximately 65 feet high above the deck.
- The north approach would be a continuous cast-in-place concrete post-tensioned box girder structure with three spans ranging from 80 to 85 feet long.

The proposed bridge would be designed to meet the current AASHTO bridge design standards and the seismic design would be in accordance with the Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria and Seismic Design for Steel Bridges. The bridge would vary in width, from approximately 52 feet at the approaches to approximately 60 feet at the main span. The bridge would be supported on concrete piers with deep,



large diameter cast-in-drilled-hole piles, embedded up to approximately 120 feet below the riverbed. Rock slope protection (RSP) would be installed at both abutments for scour protection.

The proposed roadway would be designed to provide a multimodal route for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. The proposed alignment for the Bohemian Highway Bridge would connect to Main Street west of the existing bridge and east of Moscow Road, and terminate at SR 116 to the north. The proposed roadway cross section (Figure 3) would accommodate two 12-foot vehicular lanes (one lane in each direction), concrete barriers, the steel arch members, and 5-foot shoulders/Class II bike lanes and 6-foot pedestrian sidewalks on both sides of the bridge.

The Project construction is estimated to be completed over three consecutive years. Traffic will continue to use the existing bridge in years one and two. For the third year, traffic would be switched to new bridge as the old structure is deconstructed. Construction would occur year round, with in channel and over water work occurring in the low flow summer months. Construction related Best Management Practices will avoid or minimize environmental impacts associated with the Project.

**Potential Environmental Effects of the Project:** The Draft EIR finds that implementation of the project could result in significant and unavoidable impacts related to cultural resources. The Project proposes to remove and replace an existing bridge that is a Sonoma County Local Historic Landmark, and has a zoning designation of HD as part of the Sonoma County Historic Bridges Thematic District. Impacts in all other areas were found to be less than significant or less than significant with incorporation of mitigation measures. The draft EIR provides a detailed project description, an analysis of physical environmental effects of the project, and an identification of feasible mitigation measures and alternatives that would avoid or lessen the severity of project impacts.

**Availability of the Draft EIR:** The Draft EIR will be available for review at this website: <https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/-GpVd8je3rY/> . A physical copy of the Draft EIR will be available at the Permit Sonoma offices, 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Electronic versions on flash drives or printed copies may be mailed upon request, at cost. To arrange payment and request a flash drive or printed copy of the Draft EIR or any of the documents referenced therein, contact Jackson Ford, at [Jackson.Ford@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Jackson.Ford@sonoma-county.org) or (707) 565-8356.

**EIR Public Review Period:** The Bohemian Highway Bridge over the Russian River Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is available for a public review period of 45 days, **commencing April 4, 2022 and ending May 18, 2022**. All comments on the Draft EIR must be submitted during the public review period.

Please submit written comments by 5:00 p.m. on May 18, 2022:

- Email: [Jackson.Ford@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Jackson.Ford@sonoma-county.org)
- Phone: (707) 565-8356
- Regular Mail: Jackson Ford, Permit Sonoma, 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, California 95403

For comments submitted via email, please include “Draft EIR Comments: Bohemian Highway Bridge over the Russian River” in the subject line and the name and physical address of the commenter in the body of the email.

**Public Hearing on Draft EIR:** The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors will hold a virtual public hearing on **Tuesday, May 17, 2022**. The purpose of the public hearing is for the Board of Supervisors and Permit Sonoma staff to receive comments on the adequacy and accuracy of the EIR. The BOS will not respond to any of the comments or take action on the project at this hearing. Certification of the Final EIR will be



**Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department**

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considered at a later hearing. Contact Jackson Ford ([Jackson.Ford@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Jackson.Ford@sonoma-county.org) or (707) 565-8356) if you wish to be on the mailing list for future notices.

In accordance with AB 361, Governor Newsom’s March 4, 2020 State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sonoma County Public Health Officer’s Recommendation for Teleconferenced Meetings, and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Resolution 21-0399, the May 17, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting will be held virtually.

Members of the public who join the Zoom meeting, either through the Zoom app or by telephone, will have an opportunity to provide live comments during the hearing. Please refer to the meeting agenda for instructions on how to join the meeting via the Zoom app or by telephone. The agenda will be posted one week prior to the hearing date located: <https://sonoma-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

**Figure 1: Project Location**

