



CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2023

ITEM TITLE: Consideration of Adopting a Resolution Approving the 2023 Midblock Crossing Project C1807 Plans and Specifications and Authorizing a Call for Bids.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a Resolution approving the 2023 Midblock Crossing Project C1807 ("Project") plans and specifications and authorizing a call for bids.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no fiscal impacts and no additional funding is needed at this time.

Funding for the Project comes from Project #C1807, Traffic Circle and Midblock Crossings, which has an available budget of \$929,259.46 for fiscal year 2023-24.

The engineer's estimate is approximately \$460,000, which is sufficient to award the Project with contingency and complete the Project. Should additional appropriation be needed, staff will request it at the time the Project is awarded.

BACKGROUND:

In recent years, staff received requests to improve pedestrian safety, particularly at (1) the intersection of Alameda de las Pulgas, Hilltop Drive, and De Anza Avenue and (2) the public right-of-way near 24-Hour Fitness at 1650 Industrial Road. Therefore, in early 2022, staff requested on-call traffic consultant, W-Trans ("Consultant"), to evaluate the need for intersection crossing enhancements, such as high-intensity activated crosswalk ("HAWK") or rectangular rapid flashing beacons ("RRFBs"). The analyses observed vehicular speeds, vehicle and pedestrian counts, collision histories, sight distance evaluation, and a crosswalk warrant analysis (Attachment 2). The Consultant recommended the installation of traffic signage and midblock crossings along Alameda de las Pulgas and Industrial Road.

ANALYSIS:

The Project design is in its final phase to be bid. The Project will increase roadway safety by improving pedestrian visibility to drivers. The scope of work includes RRFBs, new ADA compliant curb ramps, reconstruction of sidewalk, curb and gutter segments, installation of new red curbs, relocation of existing signage, removal and installation of new striping and pavement markings, and minor landscape modifications.

Moreover, the work involves a pilot curb extension on the northeast corner of the Alameda de las

Pulgas, Hilltop Drive, and De Anza Avenue intersection to enable better turning movement at reduced speeds. This means that the extension will be constructed with thermoplastic markings and bolt-down delineators in lieu of permanent fixtures, such as concrete, until adjustments can be made with a potential corridor study in the future.

The purpose of the Project is to improve the path of travel for all modes of transportation including vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. The proposed improvements are consistent with the City's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and support walksheds of Safe Routes to School.

Environmental Clearance

According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, this Project is categorically exempt since it consists of minor alteration of existing public streets and sidewalks, involving negligible or no expansion of existing use.

Outreach, Impact & Schedule

Staff sent out letters to properties adjacent to Project sites on August 1, 2023 and coordinated with the City of Redwood City. In addition, postcards were mailed to residents and businesses within 300 feet of the Project sites to provide another opportunity for input at or prior to the September 18, 2023 Planning and Transportation Commission ("Commission") meeting. The design was presented at the meeting, and feedback was requested from the Commission and the public. Except for feedback to remove some red curbing, plans have been revised to incorporate feedback received from community outreach. Red curbs with the crosswalk enhancements improve safety by providing required sight distance for turning vehicles and increasing the visibility of pedestrians and bicyclists. While removing on-street parking spaces may cause inconvenience, safety is prioritized in line with regulations and guidelines such as Municipal Code 10.32.160, California Vehicle Code 22500, and the City Council-approved Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan.

On October 27, 2023, 141 letters were sent to properties within 300 feet of the Alameda de las Pulgas Project site to notify property owners and residents that the design is complete and will be on the agenda for the City Council's November 13, 2023 meeting. Letters included the revised plans and the required sight distance as shown in Attachment 3. Further notifications were not sent to the properties within 300 feet of the Industrial Road Project site since no feedback nor concerns were received after the initial round of outreach. Project information has been made available and continually updated on the City's project webpage since August 2023.

Staff plans to advertise for construction in late 2023. All improvements will be within the public right-of-way; however, construction may temporarily impact adjacent properties. Currently, staff requests approval of the 2023 Midblock Crossing Project C1807 plans and specifications, including any minor addenda, and authorization for a call for bids. The award for construction of this Project is estimated to return to City Council for approval in early 2024. Completion of the Project is anticipated in Spring 2024.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternatives available to the City Council include:

1. Adopt a Resolution approving the 2023 Midblock Crossing Project C1807 plans and specifications and authorizing a call for bids; or
2. Do not adopt the Resolution; or
3. Provide staff with alternative direction.

Respectfully submitted by:

Steven Machida, Public Works Director

Approved for submission by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Maltbie', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jeff Maltbie, City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Resolution
2. Crosswalk Warrants
3. October 2023 Letter with Revised Plan and Required Sight Distance
4. 2023 Midblock Crossing Plans
5. 2023 Midblock Crossing Specs