



Planning and Transportation Commission STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

ITEM TITLE: 2023 Midblock Crossing Project on Industrial Road and Alameda de las Pulgas.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation on the 2023 Midblock Crossing Project on Industrial Road and Alameda de las Pulgas and provide staff with any comments or feedback on the proposed design.

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, 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 1). The consultant recommended installing traffic signage and midblock crossings along Alameda de las Pulgas and Industrial Road. The proposed improvements are consistent with the City of San Carlos Pedestrian and Bicycle Masterplan.

ANALYSIS:

The design is in its final phase to be bid on as the 2023 Midblock Crossing Project. The purpose of the 2023 Midblock Crossing Project is to improve the path of travel for all modes of transportation including vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. The scope of work includes rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs), new ADA compliant curb ramps, reconstructing sidewalk, curb and gutter segments, installing new red curbs, relocating existing signage, removing and installing new striping and pavement markings, and minor landscape modifications. The project will also increase roadway safety by improving pedestrian visibility to drivers.

Staff sent out letters to properties adjacent to project sites on August 1st, 2023, coordinated with the City of Redwood City, and continue to refine the design with comments received. 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 Planning & Transportation Commission meeting. The current design will be presented at the meeting, and feedback is requested from the Commission and the public to finalize the design.

Staff anticipates completing design and advertising for construction in late 2023. Completion of the project is anticipated in Spring 2024.

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.

ALTERNATIVES:

Options available to the Planning and Transportation Commission include:

1. Provide staff with additional feedback and comments; or
2. Proceed with current design.

Respectfully submitted by:

Hanieh Houshmandi, Senior Traffic Engineer

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. 2022 Crosswalk Warrant Analysis
2. 2023 Midblock Crossing Project Plans