



DATE: August 26, 2020

AGENDA ITEM # 4

**TO:** Complete Streets Commission

**FROM:** Jaime O. Rodriguez, Interim Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** El Monte Avenue – Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathway  
(Almond Avenue to S Clark Avenue), CIP TS-01038

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive report on 8-19-20 community meeting on El Monte Avenue – Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathway Project and provide input on design details

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**INTRODUCTION**

The El Monte Avenue – Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathway Project from Almond Avenue to S Clark Avenue was initially recommended for deferral as part of the FY 2020-21 CIP Program. The City has identified a \$300,000 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant program that expires on 12-31-2020, the City is expediting the design of the project in effort to expedite construction in efforts to utilize the CDBG grant fund. The City held a community outreach meeting on 8-19-2020 to identify a preferred community design alternative. The Complete Streets Commission is being asked to provide input on select design elements so that a complete bid package can be expedited.

**BACKGROUND**

The El Monte Avenue – Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathway was initiated in 2017 but the project was delayed due to design conflicts with private property landscaping, tree removal conflicts, parking impacts, and staff turnover at the City. The original project scope focused on the installation of a pedestrian pathway using decomposed grant material between Almond Avenue and S Clark Avenue. The project was originally deferred as part of the FY 2020-21 CIP program, but the project is being expedited to take advantage of an available CDBG grant funds.

The City has hired a new design consultant, ActiveWayz Engineering, to help identify alternative design alternatives that includes:

- Installation of a multi-use pathway for both bicycles and pedestrians
- Limited impacts to private property landscaping and tree removal
- Provides alternatives to traffic calm vehicle speeds on El Monte Avenue

This project is focused on the west side of El Monte Avenue.

## **DISCUSSION**

A community meeting for the El Monte Avenue – Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathway Project was held on Wednesday, August 19, 2020. The community meeting was held online with noticing provided in the field and through direct mailers to all residences with a 500-FT radius of the project.

During the community meeting staff presented the original design plans that were delayed and highlighted conflicts that impacted the project design. The City also presented two design alternatives.

- Design Alternative 1 – Minimal Roadway Widening

This design alternative provides a 2' – 4' roadway widening of El Monte Avenue along the west side of the street between Almond Avenue and S Clark Avenue in efforts to provide an 8' to 10' multi-use pathway for bicycles and pedestrians. The widening is anticipated to be Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) with grading to provide an ADA accessible pedestrian pathway.

The design would maintain the existing striped roadway buffer that separates bicycles from southbound vehicle traffic on El Monte Avenue. To separate bicycles from pedestrians within the multi-use pathway, input from the Complete Streets Commission is requested.

- Design Alternative 2 – Traffic Calming Measures

This design alternative provides the same minimal roadway widening identified in Design Alternative 1 but also introduces traffic calming measures to help encourage slower vehicles speeds within the project segment. Based on public input, the City is exploring a new All-Way STOP at El Monte Avenue & S Clark Avenue and two speed tables spaced evenly within the project segment. This alternative also builds on top of an already planned All-Way STOP at El Monte Avenue & Almond Avenue.

Input on these traffic calming measures from the Complete Streets Commission is requested.

A copy of the presentation delivered to the community during the 8-19-20 community meeting is provided as an Attachment to this staff report.

The City anticipates expediting and finalizing the design of this project immediately following the Complete Streets Commission meeting so that the project can be bid for construction in early September.