

Meeting Date: 5/13/2014

Report Type: Consent

Report ID: 2014-00321

Title: Active Transportation Program Call for Projects – Approval of the City’s Project Grant Application List

Location: North of Arena Boulevard and east of Truxel Road along East Drain Canal, District 1; North Laguna Creek Bike Path between Center Parkway and Bruceville Road, District 8; Bicycle Parking, Citywide; Front Street Bike Lanes, District 4; El Camino Avenue Sidewalk between Evergreen Street and Clay Street, District 2.

Recommendation: Pass a Motion approving the submission of grant applications to the Active Transportation Program Cycle One call for projects for state and federal funding.

Contact: Jesse Gothan, Senior Engineer (916) 808-6897; Nicholas Theocharides, Engineering Services Manager (916) 808-5065, Department of Public Works

Presenter: None

Department: Public Works Department

Division: Engineering Services Admin

Dept ID: 15001111

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

2-Background

3-Exhibit A1 - Location Map North Natomas Bike Path

4-Exhibit A2 - Location Map North Laguna Creek Bike Path

5-Exhibit A3 - Location Map Front Street Bike Lane

6-Exhibit A4 - Location Map El Camino Ave Sidewalk Improvements

City Attorney Review

Approved as to Form

Gerald Hicks

4/30/2014 2:24:13 PM

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Department Director or Designee: Jerry Way - 4/25/2014 7:00:04 AM

Description/Analysis

Issue: Caltrans has announced a call for projects for the Active Transportation Program (ATP). City staff has evaluated potential projects based on ATP criteria, eligibility requirements, and project readiness and deliverability. Applications are due May 21, 2014.

Policy Considerations: The submission of these projects is consistent with the City General Plan goals of promoting safety and enhancing livability, sustainability, and economic vitality.

Economic Impacts: None.

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): The pursuit of grant funds is not subject to the provisions of the CEQA. Under CEQA general rule 15061-B-3, CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. These actions will have no effect on the environment and are therefore not subject to CEQA review. Appropriate CEQA review for individual projects will take place as part of project development.

Sustainability Considerations: These projects are consistent with the City's Sustainability Master Plan goals to help improve the health of residents by promoting walking and bicycling, and to create a healthier urban environment by constructing pedestrian bridges, bike paths, and bicycle parking. These projects will also reduce dependence on the private automobile, shorten long commutes, decrease the use of fossil fuels, and help meet air quality standards by providing an array of transportation choices near jobs for a balanced, healthy city.

Other: None.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: The granting agency requires that the City Council approve the project list prior to grant applications being submitted.

Financial Considerations: Federal and State funding is increasingly important for delivery of transportation projects. Local match funding is set-aside annually as part of the Capital Improvement Program to address the local funding needs for the projects being recommended. Specific match funding will be determined after the State approves the City's applications and the specific federal and state funds are designated. The City's match on federal projects is typically 11.47% and will come from non-General Fund sources.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): No goods or services are being procured with this action.

Background:

On September 26, 2013, Governor Brown signed legislation creating the Active Transportation Program (ATP) in the Department of Transportation (Senate Bill 99, Chapter 359 and Assembly Bill 101, Chapter 354). The ATP consolidates existing federal and state transportation programs, including the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA), and State Safe Routes to School (SR2S), into a single program with a focus to make California a national leader in active transportation. The ATP is administered by the Division of Local Assistance, Office of Active Transportation and Special Programs.

The purpose of ATP is to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation by achieving the following goals:

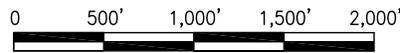
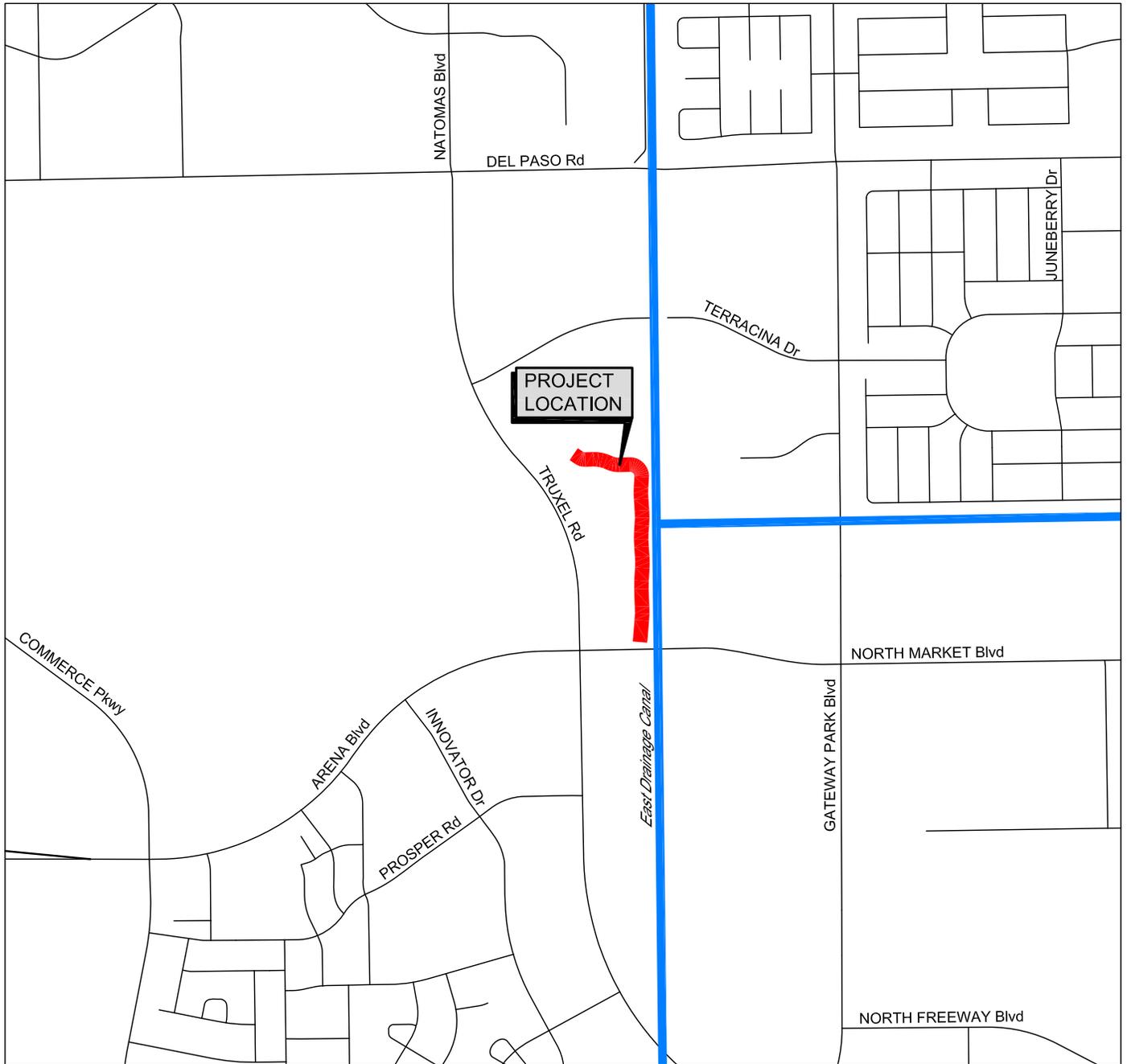
- Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking,
- Increase safety and mobility for nonmotorized users,
- Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals,
- Enhance public health,
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program, and
- Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users.

Due to the current Cycle 1 grant schedule which calls for announcing program funding in November 2014, funding for design work on awarded projects is not expected to be in place until mid-2015 and awarded projects would need to be ready for construction no later than April 2016. Given this extremely short schedule for federally funded projects which require extensive permitting and regulatory approvals, staff reviewed all eligible City projects that have completed environmental documents or completed contract documents, and projects with little or no potential environmental impacts and minimal right-of-way requirements. Given the above considerations, staff is recommending the following projects in order of priority for submission:

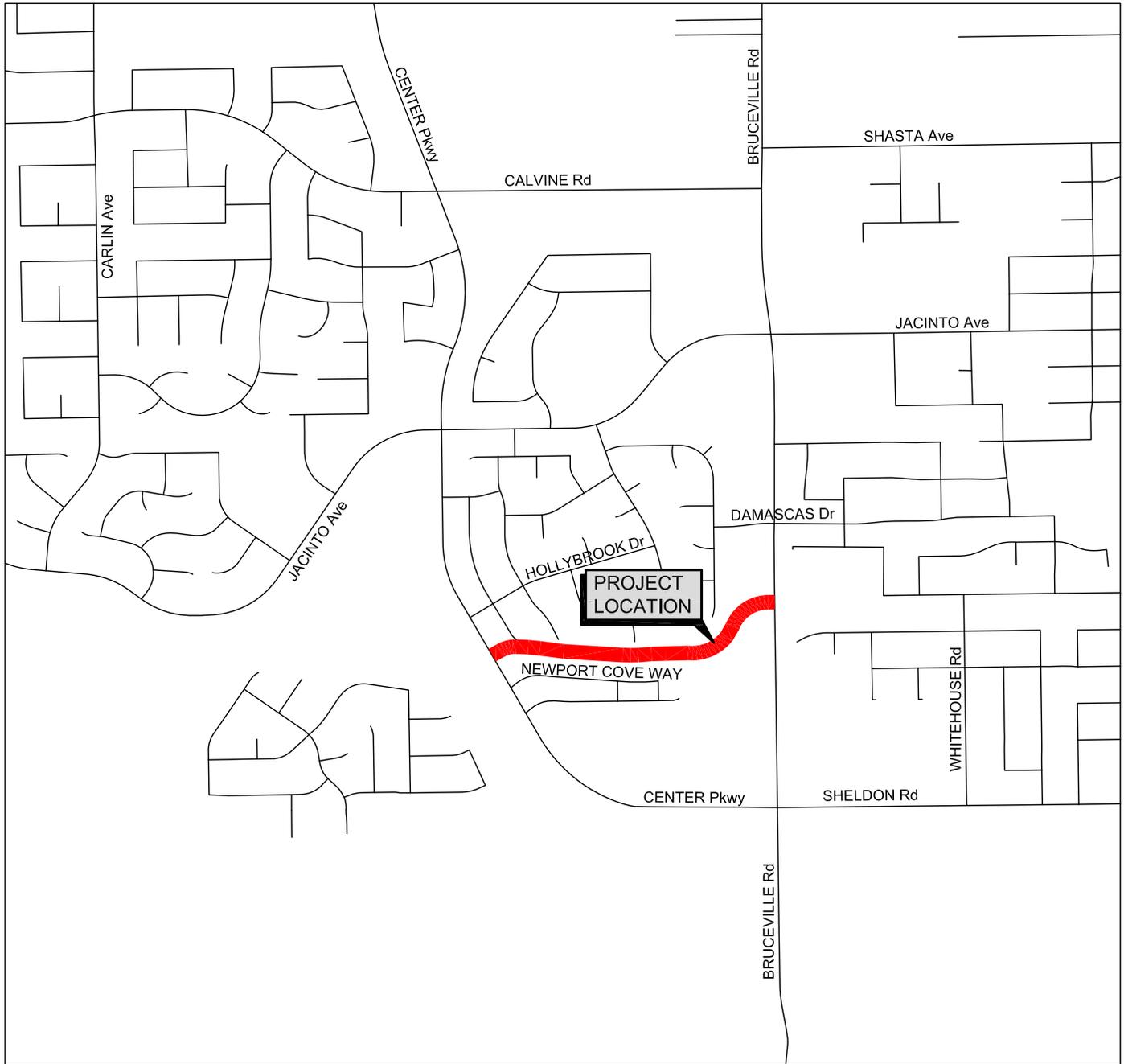
- 1.) North Natomas Bike Path Reconstruction** – This project is located east of Truxel Road along the drain canal behind the Tuscaro Apartments and is approximately 1,600 feet in length. Expansive soils have accelerated the deterioration of the path and it has reached the end of its useful life. Attempts to overlay the path have failed. This project would reconstruct the entire length of the path with a suitable sub-grade section to withstand the expansive soils and increase safety and mobility for nonmotorized users. This improvement will induce more bicycle commuter and recreational travel trips and help increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking.

- 2.) **North Laguna Creek Bike Path Reconstruction** – This project is located between Center Parkway and Bruceville Road south of Jacinto Avenue, and is approximately 2,000 feet of Class 1 bike path. The path has reached the end of its useful life. Street maintenance provides temporary maintenance repairs on an as-needed basis to reduce the rate of deterioration. Reconstructing the path with a suitable sub-grade section will induce more bicycle commuter and recreational travel trips and increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking.
- 3.) **Bicycle Parking** – This project will allow the City to continue its program to install bike parking within the public right of way and on City owned properties. Currently, the program has been funded by a one-time grant from the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. This funding source helped to fund new bike parking for several hundred bicycles and the initial installation of on-street bike parking called bike corrals. The proposed request will allow the City to continue to install bike parking on city-controlled properties as a means to encourage bicycling as a primary mode of transportation.
- 4.) **Front Street Bike Lanes** – This project will complete a gap in the Class 2 bike lanes located on Front Street by constructing a minor roadway widening. This is a primary commuter route for cyclists riding to and from the Central City.
- 5.) **El Camino Avenue Sidewalk Improvements (T15116300)** - El Camino Avenue between Evergreen Street and Clay Street has been identified for in-fill sidewalk improvements. Within the project limits, there are no frontage improvements (sidewalk, curb and gutter) on the north side of El Camino Avenue. On the south side, there are no frontage improvements from approximately 145 feet east of Green Street to Clay Street. Pedestrians are forced to walk unprotected along this segment of El Camino Avenue. Additionally, there are no accessibility compliant curb ramps at the corners within the project limits.

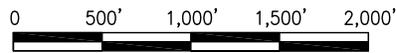
Location map for:
**NORTH NATOMAS BIKE LANE PROJECT
(NEAR THE TUSCARO APARTMENTS)**



Location map for:
NORTH LAGUNA CREEK BIKE LANE PROJECT



Location map for:
FRONT STREET BIKE LANE PROJECT
(PN: K15120002)



Location map for:
**EL CAMINO AVENUE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT**
(PN: T15116300)

