



# City of Palo Alto

## City Council Staff Report

(ID # 8260)

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Report Type: Action Items

Meeting Date: 11/27/2017

**Summary Title: Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass and Adobe Creek Reach Trail**

**Title: PUBLIC HEARING / QUASI-JUDICIAL. Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass and Adobe Creek Reach Trail Project [17PLN-00212]: Adoption of a Resolution Adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration, Including the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program; Adoption of a Park Improvement Ordinance; and Approval of a Record of Land Use Action to Allow Construction of a Multi-use Pedestrian and Bicycle Overpass Structure Over Highway 101 Near San Antonio Road, Construction of the Adobe Creek Bridge and Adobe Creek Reach Trail, and Reconfiguration of the Adjacent Parking Lot at 3600 West Bayshore Road. Environmental Assessment: An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was Circulated for Public Comment On September 1, 2017 and Ended on October 2, 2017. A Final IS/MND is Available for Review. (This item was previously noticed for the November 13, 2017 Council Meeting)**

**From: City Manager**

**Lead Department: Planning and Community Environment**

**Recommendation** Staff recommends that Council take the following actions regarding the Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass Capital Improvement Project (CIP; PE-11011):

1. Adopt the Resolution Adopting the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Attachment B) including the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (in Attachment C);
2. Approve the Record of Land Use Action in Attachment C approving the proposed Site and Design application based on the findings and subject to conditions of approval; and
3. Adopt the proposed Park Improvement Ordinance (PIO) in Attachment D for the design of the Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass Capital Improvement Project (CIP; PE-11011)

**Executive Summary**

The City has been pursuing construction of a pedestrian/bicycle overpass over Highway 101 for some time and the requested action would approve the design and allow the Department of Public Works to proceed with final engineering and bidding of the construction contract.

The Planning and Transportation Commission (PTC) reviewed the Site and Design application on September 13, 2017 and recommended approval of the proposed project to Council based on the findings included in the Record of Land Use Action in Attachment C. The Architectural Review Board (ARB) reviewed the project on October 19, 2017 and recommended approval of the proposed project to Council based on the Architectural review findings included in Attachment C. The Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) reviewed the project on September 26, 2017 and recommended adoption of the Park Improvement Ordinance included in Attachment D.

The proposed overcrossing would replace the existing seasonal Benjamin Lefkowitz Highway 101 underpass with year-round connectivity between residential and commercial properties west of Highway 101 and the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, East Bayshore Business Park, and the regional Bay Trail network of multi-use trails east of Highway 101.

There are five distinct sections of the overcrossing and trail that are discussed in more detail in the project description in Attachment I. These are referred to as the Principal Span Structure, the West Approach Structure, the East Approach Structure, the Adobe Creek Bridge, and the Adobe Creek Reach Trail. The project also includes site amenities, signage, landscaping, and lighting improvements and the minor reconfiguration of Google's private parking lot at 3600 West Bayshore Road to accommodate the West Approach Structure.

A map showing the location of the proposed project is included in Attachment A. The project plans are provided in Attachment J.

## **Background**

Council previously approved the bridge, alignment, height, width, and structure type as well as the budget for the bridge. Council's approved budget is outlined in detail later in this report. Prior Council actions are detailed on the following project website: [www.cityofpaloalto.org/101](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/101)

The Planning and Transportation Commission recommended approval of the project based on the Site and Design findings on September 13, 2017. A copy of the transcript from that hearing is included in Attachment E. The Architectural Review Board recommended approval of the project on October 19, 2017. A copy of the transcript from that hearing is included in Attachment F.

The overcrossing connects existing roadways and trails to adjacent commercial and residential

areas. West Bayshore Road includes several commercial centers along the road frontage and there are many newer multi-family housing units as well as single family residences in the Palo Verde and Adobe Meadow/Meadowview Park neighborhoods adjacent West Bayshore Road. The purpose of the project includes reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips by encouraging walking and biking to the Baylands area, improving safety for bikers along East Bayshore Road, and providing a year-round connection to the regional trails in the Baylands for bikers commuting to/from nearby cities. A portion of the project is located within the area identified in the Baylands Master Plan. The project is not within the Airport Influence Area, as identified in the Airport Land Use Plan.

The project includes five sections of the overcrossing/trail, which are described in detail in the project description, included in Attachment I. As shown in the plans, other amenities such as lighting, signage, benches, bike racks, trash receptacles, and drinking fountains are proposed as part of the project. The existing Google parking lot would be reconfigured to improve circulation and accommodate the new access ramp. The landscape area around the parking lot would be improved and would serve as a bio-retention area. Any trees removed would be replaced. No protected trees would be removed.

## Discussion

To the extent the project is comprised of pedestrian and bicycle paths of travel, it is not subject to zoning and land use restrictions for any specific zone district or land use designation (similar to City streets and sidewalks). However, the project has been evaluated to ensure the design meets the intent and objectives of the Code and is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, the Baylands Master Plan, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan, and other city policies.

### Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan, Area Plans and Guidelines<sup>1</sup>

The proposed project is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, particularly goals, policies, and programs outlined in the Transportation Element, the Community Services Element, the Land Use and Design Element, and the Natural Environment Element, as outlined in the Record of Land Use Action in Attachment C. Overall, the Comprehensive Plan programs, goals, and policies support land use decisions and facilities that: promote pedestrian and bicycle use, support reductions in single-occupancy vehicle use, improve the Bay trail network, and that include responsible management of public open space areas to meet habitat protection goals and support public safety. The proposed project is consistent with these goals.

### *Baylands Master Plan<sup>2</sup> and Baylands Site Assessment and Design Guidelines<sup>3</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> The Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan is available online: <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/topics/projects/landuse/compplan.asp>

<sup>2</sup> Palo Alto Baylands Master Plan is available online: <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/14882>

A portion of the proposed overcrossing is located within the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve at the border of one of two areas identified as “The Natural Unit.” The project is consistent with several policies outlined in the Baylands Master Plan, as describe further under Architectural Review Finding 1 in the Record of Land Use Action in Attachment C. The project is consistent in that it expands opportunities for bicyclists and pedestrians to enjoy the Baylands, providing opportunities to safely access this area without the need to drive and park. The project is also consistent with the Site Assessment and Design Guidelines. The rustic design selected for the bridge is intended to integrate into the Baylands design theme, which focuses on low-profile features, natural colors, and low maintenance. The principal span trusses will be constructed using self-weathering steel, which results in a muted, natural coloring that is consistent with the general design principals. The bridge is designed to have as low of a profile as feasible while still meeting separation requirements between the City roads and Highway 101 below.

### Multi-Modal Access & Parking

The project addresses two key Capital Improvement Projects identified in Table 7-1 of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan<sup>4</sup> to improve across barrier connections and trails. As outlined in Attachment C, the project is also consistent with specific objectives identified in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan to reduce emissions and upgrade bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure. The project improves multi-modal transportation in all directions and serves a variety of users choosing forms of transportation other than single-occupancy vehicles for commuting, utilitarian, and recreational purposes. The proposed width of the Highway 101 overcrossing was designed in coordination with Council to provide sufficient maneuvering space for pedestrians and bicyclists while also attempting to slow bicyclists so as not to speed. Both wayfinding signage and signage identifying desired user behavior will be added for improved usability and to ensure user safety.

Because the proposed project would reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips by providing a multi-use connection between commercial and residential areas and regional trail networks, no traffic study is required. In addition, because the project does not add new floor area or generate new vehicle trips, no new public parking is required or proposed as part of the project. Minimal short term traffic impacts associated with construction are assessed in the environmental analysis and were determined to be less than significant without the need for mitigation. Per the Transportation Division’s request, the driveway and parking stalls at the existing Google Parking lot at 3600 West Bayshore Road would be reconfigured to improve circulation, avoid conflicts with the east approach ramp overcrossing column supports, and to

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<sup>3</sup> Site Assessment and Design Guidelines, Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve  
<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/13318>

<sup>4</sup> Palo Alto Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan is available online:  
<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/31928>

accommodate the raised sidewalk and accessible landing of the ramp. There would be no net loss or increase of private parking stalls.

The project also improves safety for bicyclists and pedestrians by providing an alternate connection between West Bayshore Road and East Meadow Drive via the new Adobe Creek Reach Trail. A new at grade crossing is proposed on East Meadow Drive for the safety of those entering and exiting the trail. The project includes a trailhead along West Bayshore Road that provides connections to both the new Adobe Creek Bridge and over Highway 101 and the bicycle path along West Bayshore Road. Because the project eliminates the need for routing pedestrians onto the existing sidewalk/bike lane along West Bayshore Road over Adobe Creek, a dedicated southbound bike lane for West Bayshore Road is included as part of the project.

#### Right of Way & Air Rights Access

The project will require right of way and air rights from a private property owner as well as a joint use agreement with Santa Clara County Water District.

#### ARB Comments

During the ARB hearing the ARB expressed their support for the project and changes that were made to address ideas/preferences conveyed in a preliminary study session in May 2017. One board member expressed that close attention should be paid to ensure that the final signage design fits into the Baylands theme in addition to meeting MUTCD standards, as applicable. One other board member noted that if a powder coating is applied, the City should consider a blue color and noted that the prefabricated main truss should be allowed to rust slightly prior to installation. Currently, the bridge would be designed using self-weathering steel and no powder coating is proposed. The board unanimously approved the project with all members present.

#### PTC Comments

During the hearing the PTC generally expressed their overall support for the project. One commissioner asked for staff to further explore the proposed signage for the project in order to provide clear wayfinding signage between larger tech campuses and residential uses. The City is still exploring final signage for the project in coordination with the Transportation Division and the Palo Alto Bicycle Advisory Committee. One commissioner also noted concerns about the intersection of the Adobe Creek Reach Trail and East Meadow Drive and asked that the raised crosswalk be offset from the path to make bicyclists more aware of the path's intersection with the street. Based on recommendations from Transportation staff, instead of offsetting the crosswalk signage will be installed to make vehicles and bicyclists more aware in order to address this comment. One commissioner also noted concerns regarding value engineering for the project and hoped that the budget would not affect the currently proposed style and materials. The PTC approved the project with one member of the commission abstaining.

## Public Comments

Written comments received throughout the process are included in Attachment G. Oral comments received during several public hearings on the project asked for certain amenities or features to be incorporated, including bird friendly features for swallow nesting, a dog hydration station, and the overlook. These have been incorporated into the project. Some members of the public expressed concerns about whether the overlook should be included as part of the project. Based on Council direction and interest from the ARB, this was included so that users have a place to pause and rest if needed.

Members of the public, commission, and ARB also requested that the new Adobe Creek Reach Trail be paved and be opened to the public as soon as possible to provide a safer route for bicyclists from West Bayshore Road to adjacent neighborhoods. The trail will be paved and would be opened to the public as soon as feasible. However, due to safety concerns, this trail would not be open to users during construction activities on the main span of the bridge.

The majority of comments urged staff to finish the bridge as soon as possible and expressed that the final bridge design should be functional and cost effective.

## **Policy Implications**

Please see the Discussion section above for information about consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and applicable guidelines.

Article VIII of the Charter of the City of Palo Alto and Section 22.08.055 of the Palo Alto Municipal Code require that, before any substantial building, construction reconstruction or development is commenced or approved, upon or with respect to any land held by the City for park purposes, the Council shall first cause to be prepared and, by ordinance, approve and adopt a plan. The PRC reviewed designs for the Highway 101 bicycle overcrossing and Adobe Creek Reach trail at three meetings in March 2017, July 2017, and September 2017. The Commission unanimously recommended adoption of the Park Improvement ordinance, as included in Attachment D, on September 26, 2017.

The project addresses two key Capital Improvement Projects identified as a priority projects in the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan (BPTP) to improve across barrier connections and trail connections in the City. It focuses on reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips and associated emissions, and providing improved connections between open space/recreational areas and nearby residential and commercial uses. The BPTP also includes objectives to double the rate of bicycling for both local and total work commutes by 2020 as well as to convert discretionary vehicle trips into walking and bicycling trips in order to reduce

City transportation-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 15 percent by 2020. This project supports these objectives.

### Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

The Bay Area 2017 Clean Air Plan (CAP) lays the groundwork for a long-term effort to reduce Bay Area greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. These goals are consistent with state mandates under legislation such as Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 32 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Council has also identified that the primary goal of the City of Palo Alto Sustainability and Climate Action Plan is to achieve an 80 percent reduction in GHGs below 1990 levels by 2030, which exceeds these state mandates.

A key initiative in achieving these goals is reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips. Objectives, goals and policies outlined in the updated Comprehensive Plan encourage, in particular, reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips by investing in improvements to infrastructure for other modes of transportation. The Transportation Element in the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan identifies that a key to a sustainable transportation system lies in providing more options and more convenience so that people will more readily choose not to drive. This new bridge provides year-round connectivity where Highway 101 creates a barrier between commercial, residential, and recreational uses. Providing this year-round across barrier connection provides a convenient alternative to single occupancy vehicle use in order to help achieve city, regional, and state goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

### **Resource Impact**

Funding for this project is included in Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project (PE-11011) - Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass Project.

The current project funding is as follows:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Santa Clara County Recreation Fund	\$4.0 million
One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Cycle 2*	\$4.35 million
General Capital Improvement Fund	\$6.86 million
Google Contribution**	\$1.0 million
Total:	\$16.21 million

\*Approval of the OBAG Cycle 2 funds is anticipated in March 2018.

\*\*A contribution of \$1 million from Google is planned to fund additional project contingency to offset any increases in project costs.

These figures include approximately \$2.4 million in funding for staff salaries and benefits.

Staff is evaluating the project cost for the Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass project and the other eight projects included in the 2014 Council Infrastructure Plan. Construction costs in the region have continued to escalate significantly, and a recent cost estimate completed on the Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass project plans indicated that the eventual project cost could be \$2-3 million greater than the current project funding. As design work continues, staff will evaluate value engineering opportunities and other considerations to reduce and limit eventual construction costs. An update to the Council on the project costs and the strategies for providing the necessary funding to complete the Infrastructure Plan is planned for January 2018.

## **Timeline**

Following Council adoption of the CEQA document, approval of the Site and Design application, and adoption of the Park Improvement Ordinance for the project, 65 percent design plans will be provided to Caltrans and the City would seek NEPA approval from Caltrans, the lead federal agency for the project. Staff anticipates bringing an amendment for Council approval to add final design and right of way services to the contract with Biggs Cardosa Associates in December 2017. Following access to grant funding, the project would complete design and bid documents in fall 2018. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2019 and end in Spring 2020.

## **Environmental Review**

The subject project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. Specifically, a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated on September 1, 2017 and circulation ended on October 2, 2017. A link to the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration is included in Attachment H. The Final Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan is included in the Record of Land Use Action (Attachment C).

One comment was received during the review period from the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The comment indicated that the preliminary project plans seem to indicate that work may be conducted within the top of bank near the confluence of Barron and Adobe Creeks. The letter indicates other permits that may be required if work occurs within the creek. However; the letter notes that if work occurs outside of top of bank, no further discussion is required. The project plans currently propose that all work would occur outside of top of bank. Therefore, no changes are required to the Mitigated Negative Declaration to address this comment. Should this conclusion change as a result of final engineering design, changes to the project description and, as needed, to the environmental document, would be addressed at that time.

Mitigation has been included, in particular, to reduce direct and indirect impacts on animal species within the Baylands and to address the discovery of any unanticipated cultural or tribal



resources that could be found during excavation or grading activities. With the incorporation of mitigation, all impacts have been reduced to a less than significant level.

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A: Location Map(PDF)**

**Attachment B: Resolution Adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration (PDF)**

**Attachment C: Record of Land Use Action (DOCX)**

**Attachment D: Park Improvement Ordinance (PDF)**

**Attachment E: PTC Hearing Minutes September 13, 2017 (DOCX)**

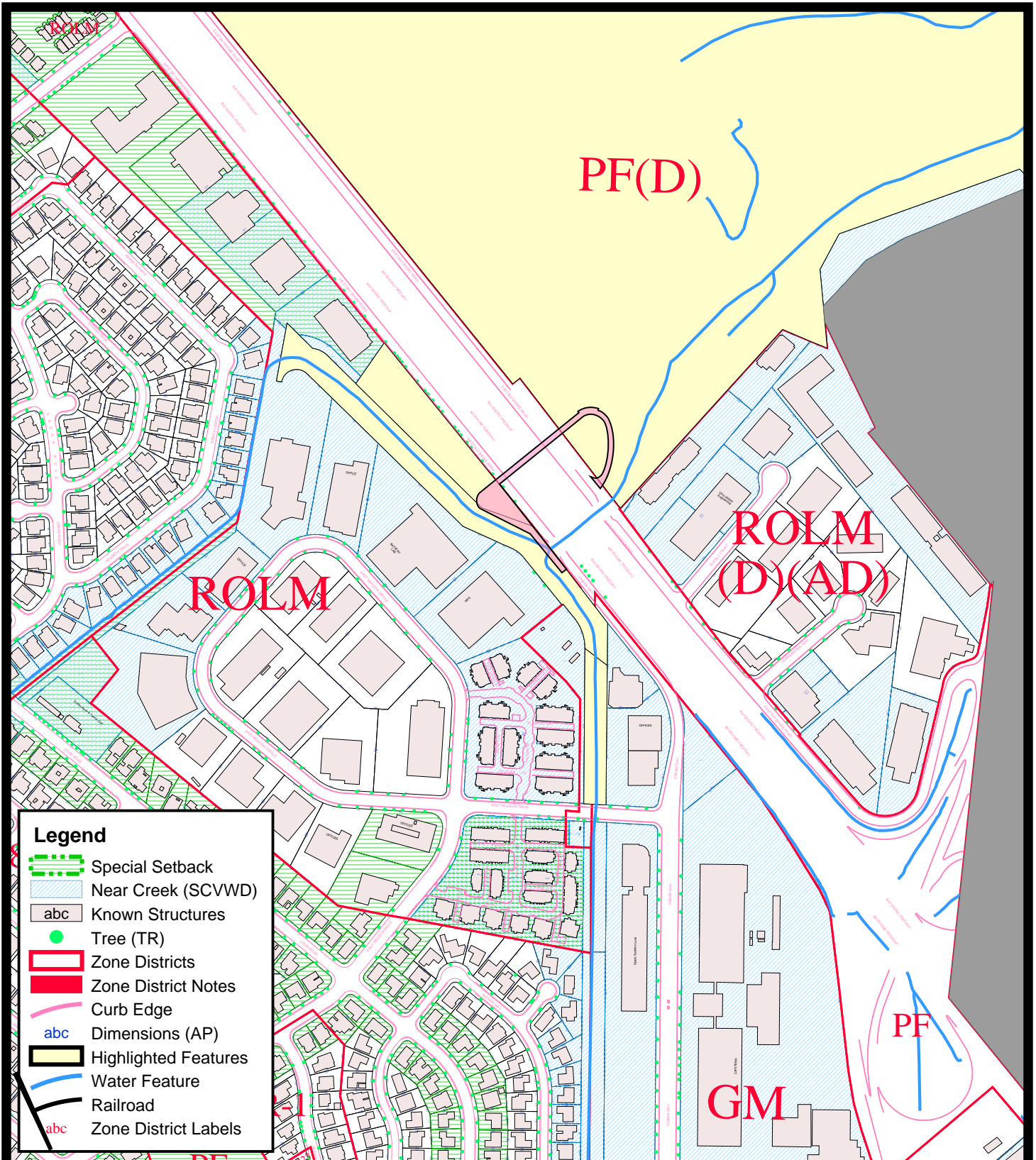
**Attachment F: ARB Hearing Minutes October 19, 2017 (DOCX)**

**Attachment G: Public Comments (PDF)**

**Attachment H: Environmental Analysis (DOCX)**

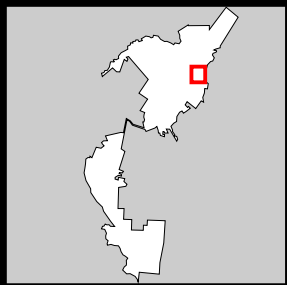
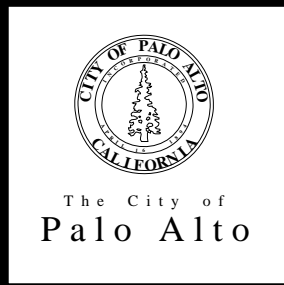
**Attachment I: Project Description (DOC)**

**Attachment J: Project Plans (DOCX)**



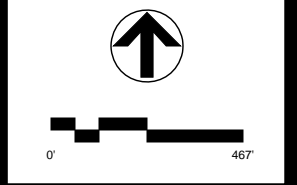
**Legend**

- Special Setback
- Near Creek (SCVWD)
- Known Structures
- Tree (TR)
- Zone Districts
- Zone District Notes
- Curb Edge
- Dimensions (AP)
- Highlighted Features
- Water Feature
- Railroad
- Zone District Labels



# Highway 101 Multi-Use Path Overcrossing

This map is a product of the City of Palo Alto GIS



Not Yet Approved

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Adopting the Highway 101 Overcrossing and Adobe Creek Trail Project Mitigated Negative Declaration for which an Initial Study was Prepared, in Accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and Adopting a Related Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program

R E C I T A L S

- A. Prior to the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Palo Alto prepared an Initial Study and approved for circulation a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Highway 101 Overcrossing and Adobe Creek Trail Project (the “Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration”) all in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, together with state and local guidelines implementing said Act, all as amended to date (collectively “CEQA”).
- B. The Highway 101 Overcrossing and Adobe Creek Trail Project (the “Project”) analyzed under the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration would involve the construction of a bridge for pedestrian and bicycle use crossing over Highway 101 at Adobe Creek, a pedestrian/bicycle connection to the to the San Francisco Bay Trail at East Bayshore Road, and construction of an approximately 650-foot long trail along the east side of Adobe Creek between Highway 101 and East Meadow Drive. A more detailed description of the Project is set forth in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- C. The draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was made available for public comment from September 1, 2017 through October 2, 2017.
- D. The City of Palo Alto considered the comments received during the public review period and prepared a final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- E. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration concluded that implementation of the Project could result in a number of significant effects on the environment and identified mitigation measures that would reduce each of those significant effects to a less-than-significant level.
- F. In connection with the approval of a project involving the preparation of an initial study/mitigated negative declaration that identifies one or more significant environmental effects, CEQA requires the decision-making body of the lead agency to incorporate feasible mitigation measures that would reduce those significant environmental effects to a less-than-significant level.
- G. Whenever a lead agency approves a project requiring the implementation of measures to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment, CEQA also requires the lead agency to

Not Yet Approved

adopt a mitigation monitoring and reporting program to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation, and such a mitigation monitoring and reporting program has been prepared for the Project for consideration by the decision-making body of the City of Palo Alto as lead agency for the Project (the “Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program” or “MMRP”).

H. The City of Palo Alto is the lead agency on the Project, and the City Council is the decision-making body for the proposed approval of the Project.

I. The City Council has reviewed and considered the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project, together with comments received on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, and intends to take actions on the Project in compliance with CEQA and state and local guidelines implementing CEQA.

J. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project are on file in the Office of Planning and Community Environment, located at 250 Hamilton Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Palo Alto, CA 94301 are available for inspection by any interested person at that location and are, by this reference, incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. THE CITY COUNCIL does hereby make the following findings: (1) it has independently reviewed and analyzed the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and other information in the record and has considered the information contained therein, prior to acting upon or approving the Project, (2) the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Project has been completed in compliance with CEQA and is consistent with state and local guidelines implementing CEQA, and (3) the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration represents the independent judgment and analysis of the City of Palo Alto, as lead agency for the Project. The City Council designates the Director of Public Works, at 250 Hamilton Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Palo Alto, CA 94301, as the custodian of documents and records of proceedings on which this decision is based.

SECTION 2. THE CITY COUNCIL does hereby find that based upon the entire record of proceedings before it and all information received that there is no substantial evidence that the Project will have a significant effect on the environment and does hereby adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared for the Project.

Not Yet Approved

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for viewing at City of Palo Alto City Hall, 5th Floor – Planning Department and 6th Floor – Public Works Department, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Planning and Community  
Environment

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Public Works

**APPROVAL NO. 2017-\_\_**  
**RECORD OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO LAND USE ACTION**  
**FOR HIGHWAY 101 MULTI-USE OVERCROSSING AND ADOBE CREEK REACH**  
**TRAIL: SITE AND DESIGN REVIEW**  
**[FILE NO. 17PLN-00212]**

On November 27, 2017, the City Council adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration, Approved the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Approved the Site and Design Review for the Adobe Creek Multi-Use Path Bridge making the following findings, determination and declarations:

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND. The City Council of the City of Palo Alto ("City Council") finds, determines, and declares as follows:

- A. On June 12, 2017, the City of Palo Alto Public Works Engineering Division applied for Site and Design Review for the development of the Adobe Creek Multi-Use Path Bridge.
- B. The project site crosses six parcels, including: APN No. 008-05-005, which is owned by the City of Palo Alto; APN No. 127-10-076 which is owned by a private entity; APN Nos. 127-10-100, 127-56-006, and 127-56-007, which are owned by the Santa Clara Valley Water District. Work on property owned by the private entity and the Santa Clara Valley Water District require access/encroachment permits, which will be obtained by the City following adoption of the environmental analysis and approval of the site and design application.
- C. Following staff review, the Planning and Transportation Commission reviewed the project and considered the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and draft Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) and recommended adoption of the MND, approval of the MMRP, and approval of the Site and Design on September 13, 2017 subject to conditions of approval.
- D. Following staff and Planning and Transportation Commission review, the Architectural Review Board (ARB) reviewed the project and considered the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and draft Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) and recommended adoption of the MND, approval of the MMRP, and approval of the Site and Design on October 19, 2017 subject to conditions of approval.
- E. On November 27, 2017, the City Council reviewed the project design and the MND and MMRP. After hearing public testimony, the Council voted to adopt the MND, approve the MMRP, and approve the Site and Design subject to the conditions set forth in Section 5 of this Record of Land Use Action.

SECTION 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW. In conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan approved by resolution of the City Council on November 27, 2017. The Mitigated Negative Declaration concluded that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment with mitigation as proposed. The MND is included in Attachment H of the staff report and the MMRP is included as Exhibit A of this Record of Land Use Action. All mitigation measures as stated in the approved Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) are incorporated into the conditions of approval.

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**SECTION 3. SITE AND DESIGN OBJECTIVE FINDINGS.** The project is consistent with the Site and Design Objective Findings outlined in Chapter 18.30(G).060 of the PAMC.

*Objective (a): To ensure construction and operation of the use in a manner that will be orderly, harmonious, and compatible with existing or potential uses of adjoining or nearby sites.*

Nearby uses primarily include commercial and residential uses on the west side of highway 101 and bicycle and walking trails within the Baylands on the east side of Highway 101. The proposed project would provide a pedestrian and bicycle connection from commercial and residential areas to the regional trail network in the Baylands for recreational and commuting purposes. The proposed project includes two key capital improvement projects identified in the City’s Bicycle and Pedestrian transportation plan for improving trail connections. The proposed project would be consistent with all applicable clearance requirements for Highway 101, east and west Bayshore road below the bridge as well as California Public Utility Commission clearance requirements for utility lines above the bridge. It improves the vegetation on both the Google Property at 3600 West Bayshore Road as well as restores and improves vegetation within the Baylands. It provides a needed connection to reduce single occupancy vehicle use. With the incorporation of mitigation measures, short term impacts during construction would be less than significant. Operation of the project is intended to reduce traffic, reduce emissions, and would not generate any noise. The bridge is designed to have extremely minimal, if any, light spillover.

*Objective (b): To ensure the desirability of investment, or the conduct of business, research, or educational activities, or other authorized occupations, in the same or adjacent areas.*

The project is consistent with Objective B in that this capital improvement project improves access for employees and residents to open space/recreational areas. This infrastructure improvement project is an improvement to existing conditions in the area and therefore improves the desirability of investment, the conduct of business, research, and other educational activities in adjacent areas.

*Objective (c): To ensure that sound principles of environmental design and ecological balance shall be observed.*

The proposed project is consistent with Objective C in that the project encourages pedestrian and bicycle activity, providing a better connection for commuters and recreational users to access the regional network of bay trails. The project is designed to avoid wetland areas, improve vegetation in the area, reduce overspill lighting, and contribute to a long-term reduction in single-occupancy vehicle uses (and associated traffic and emissions) by providing a year round pedestrian/bicycle connection to the Baylands. No protected trees would be removed. New vegetation would be designed to improve habitat for avian and riparian species.

*Objective (d): To ensure that the use will be in accord with the Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan.*

The proposed project is consistent with Objective D because the project encourages reductions in single-occupancy vehicle use between residential/commercial areas and recreational/open space areas so that residents and employees can enjoy use of these areas without using their vehicle. Specific policies with which the project is consistent are outlined in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Comprehensive Plan Consistency**

<b>Land Use and Community Design Element</b>	
<b>Policy L-9.7:</b> Strengthen the identity of important community gateways, including the entrances to the City at Highway 101.	The project is consistent with the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan because it enhances a gateway site near the entrance to the

<p><b>Program L9.7.1:</b> Develop a strategy to enhance gateway sites with special landscaping, art, public spaces, and/or public buildings. Emphasize the creek bridges and riparian settings at the entrances to the City over Adobe Creek and San Francisquito Creek.</p>	<p>City over Adobe Creek, consistent with Policy L-9.7 and Program L-9.7.1. It enhances vegetation in these areas, includes public art, consistent with policy L-8.5, improves bicycle safety in this area, and provides trailhead improvements. The design connects residential and commercial areas to open space/recreational areas to improve across barrier connections. The plaza area along west Bayshore makes the area more inviting and provides a gathering space for the public, consistent with Policy L-6.1 and Goal L-9.</p>
<p><b>Policy L-6.1:</b> Promote high quality, creative design and site planning that is compatible with surrounding development and public spaces.</p>	
<p><b>Goal L-9:</b> Attractive, inviting public spaces and streets that enhance the image and character of the City.</p>	
<p><b>Policy L-8.5:</b> Encourage the development of new and the enhancement of existing public and private art and cultural facilities throughout Palo Alto. Ensure that such projects are compatible with the character and identity of the surrounding neighborhood.</p>	
<p><b>Transportation Element</b></p>	
<p><b>Goal T-1:</b> Create a sustainable transportation system, complemented by a mix of land uses, that emphasizes walking, bicycling, use of public transportation and other methods to reduce GHG emissions and the use of single-occupancy motor vehicles.</p>	<p>The project would encourage reduced reliance on single occupancy vehicle use by creating more accessible connections to recreational/open space areas for pedestrian and bicyclists, consistent with several goals and policies outlined in the City’s Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The project is designed to be low-maintenance so as to avoid the need for extensive infrastructure maintenance in the future but improves the City’s overall infrastructure by creating a year-round across barrier connection. Prioritizing investments in this type of infrastructure is consistent with program T1.19.2.</p> <p>The proposed project would include improvements to sidewalks, street trees, and public spaces and would also provide public art and pedestrian amenities. Site lighting would also be updated, which in turn would promote an improved pedestrian environment. This is consistent with program T1.19.5.</p> <p>The bridge is designed to accommodate a variety of users safely. Planned etiquette and wayfinding signage will also help to improve safety for users. The bridge would not affect future buildout of Highway 101 in this area, which is already built out to its full capacity.</p> <p>The project includes coordination with the Santa Clara Valley Water District to use existing</p>
<p><b>Policy T-1.1:</b> Take a Comprehensive approach to reducing single-occupant vehicle trips by involving those who live, work and shop in Palo Alto in developing strategies that make it easier and more convenient not to drive.</p>	
<p><b>Policy T-1.18:</b> Increase cooperation with surrounding communities and other agencies to establish and maintain off-road bicycle and pedestrian paths and trails utilizing creek, utility, and railroad rights-of-way.</p>	
<p><b>Program T1.19.2:</b> Prioritize investments for enhanced pedestrian access and bicycle use within Palo Alto and to/from surrounding communities, including by incorporating improvements from related city plans, for example the 2012 Palo Alto Bicycle + Pedestrian Transportation Plan .</p>	
<p><b>Program T1.19.5:</b> Improve amenities such as seating, lighting, bicycle parking, street trees, public art and interpretive stations along bicycle and pedestrian paths and in City parks to encourage walking and cycling and enhance the feeling of safety.</p>	



<p><b>Policy T-3.5:</b> When constructing or modifying roadways, plan for usage of the roadway space by all users.</p>	<p>access road to improve off-road bicycle/pedestrian pathways, consistent with Policy T-1.18.</p>
<p><b>Policy T8.12.1:</b> Identify and improve bicycle connections to/from neighboring communities in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties to support local trips that cross city boundaries. Also advocate for reducing barriers to bicycling and walking at freeway interchanges, expressway intersections and railroad grade crossings.</p>	<p>For these reasons the proposed project is consistent with the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.</p>
<p><b>Natural Environment Element</b></p>	
<p><b>Policy N-4.9:</b> Reduce pollution in urban runoff from residential, commercial, industrial, municipal, and transportation land uses and activities.</p>	<p>The project is designed to avoid impacts to habitat within the Baylands through the location of the bridge, the lighting, and proposed vegetation improvements. The project is required to comply with the NPDES Stormwater Permit and includes bio-retention areas for stormwater management.</p>
<p><b>Community Services Element</b></p>	
<p><b>Policy C-4.4:</b> Design and construct new community facilities to have flexible functions to ensure adaptability to the changing needs of the community.</p>	<p>The bridge is designed to accommodate a wide range of users choosing alternate transportation to single-occupancy vehicles. For example, the bridge is designed to safely accommodate bicyclists that may have a trailer; it provides a rest area so that users can pause to rest, fix their bicycle, etc. without impacting the flow along the bridge; and it provides access from various access points to accommodate a variety of users from East meadow drive and west Bayshore. It also provides a connection for commuters using the regional trail connections in the Baylands and coming into/out of Palo Alto.</p>

Therefore, as outlined in the table, the proposed use of the site is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

SECTION 4. ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD FINDINGS. The design and architecture of the proposed improvements, as conditioned, complies with the Findings for Architectural Review as required in Chapter 18.76 of the PAMC.

*Finding #1: The design is consistent with applicable provisions of the Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Code, coordinated area plans (including compatibility requirements), and any relevant design guides.*

*The project is consistent with Finding #1 because:*

As discussed above under Site and Design Objective D and detailed in Table 1 above, the proposed project is consistent with the Land Use, Transportation, Natural Environment, and Community Services Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Specifically, it is designed and located to reduce dependence on single-occupancy vehicle trips by creating an across barrier connection between residential and commercial uses and nearby open space/recreational uses. It is also designed to better connect to the regional bicycle trail network for those that commute in and out of the City. Table 2 below outlines the project’s consistency with specific objectives in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan.

**Table 2: Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan Consistency**

<p>Across Barrier Connections [ABC]-1 Adobe Creek Highway 101 Overcrossing and trails [TR]-2 Adobe Creek Reach Trail</p>	<p>The proposed project addresses two key capital improvement projects outlined the Bicycle and pedestrian bridge plan.</p>
<p>Objective 2: Convert discretionary vehicle trips into walking and bicycling trips in order to reduce City transportation-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 15% by 2020.</p>	<p>A key strategy of Objective 2 is to remove and/or upgrade substandard bike lanes and trail crossing barriers to improve safety and convenience. The project would be consistent with this strategy and objective because it provides a bicycle/pedestrian connection to the Baylands for residents and commercial developments on the East side of Highway 101, discouraging the use of single-occupancy vehicle trips to cross over the highway in order to take year-round advantage of this area.</p>
<p>Objective 3: Develop a core network of shared paths, bikeways, and traffic-calmed streets that connects business and residential districts, schools, parks, and open spaces to promote healthy, active living.</p>	<p>Key strategies of Objective 3 include prioritizing enhancements to the Bay to Ridge trail corridor and expanding trail networks along creeks through partnership projects with regional agencies including the SCVWD. The project would be consistent with these strategies and this objective because it improves the existing bike lanes along East and West Bayshore Road, better connecting them to trails and residential/commercial areas.</p>

To the extent that the project is a bicycle trail/walking path it would not be subject to the same zoning development standards or identified under a specific land use in the City’s zoning code in the same way that buildings or associated accessory structures are. However, the project is designed to fit in with the adjacent area and be consistent with the intent of the code (e.g. ensuring that the height is compatible with the area) and complying with all applicable requirements for work in open space areas. There is no applicable coordinated area plan for this area; however, the portion of the project east of Highway 101 is located within the area defined in the Baylands Master Plan. The project would be consistent with applicable policies identified in the Baylands Master Plan and the associated Baylands Design Guidelines, as described in the staff report. The project would not be subject to any other design guidelines. Therefore, the project is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning code, and applicable design guides.

*Finding #2: The project has a unified and coherent design, that:*

- a. creates an internal sense of order and desirable environment for occupants, visitors, and the general community,*
- b. preserves, respects and integrates existing natural features that contribute positively to the site and the historic character including historic resources of the area when relevant,*
- c. is consistent with the context-based design criteria of the applicable zone district,*
- d. provides harmonious transitions in scale, mass and character to adjacent land uses and land use designations,*
- e. enhances living conditions on the site (if it includes residential uses) and in adjacent residential areas.*

*The project is consistent with Finding #2 because:*

It enhances the existing conditions at the site by improving safety for bicyclists and pedestrians along West Bayshore Road; creates a year-round connection from commercial/residential uses to the Baylands where an unreliable connection exists; and improves the connection for residences along East Meadow Drive to access

West Bayshore Road and the Baylands area without the need to use their vehicle. There are no historical features at/immediately adjacent the site. The project preserves natural features on the site, including existing wetlands and protected trees while also improving landscaping/riparian habitat in the areas around the bridge. It enhances living conditions by providing better connections for residents in the area. The project is designed using materials such as self-weathering steel that are intended to provide a more natural feel to the bridge, consistent with the Baylands theme. The bridge is designed to be as low as possible while still meeting all applicable Caltrans and City of Palo Alto clearance requirements beneath the bridge. The bridge height is well below the typical height limit for buildings in the area. The bridge width is designed to be wide enough to accommodate various users traveling in both directions while also being narrow enough to slow bicyclists.

*Finding #3: The design is of high aesthetic quality, using high quality, integrated materials and appropriate construction techniques, and incorporating textures, colors, and other details that are compatible with and enhance the surrounding area.*

*The project is consistent with Finding #3 because:*

The project uses high quality materials while still balancing the engineered design of the project to meet all clearance and safety requirements. Specifically, the project uses core-ten, self-weathering steel, consistent with the architectural review board's recommendations. This material is intended to provide a natural feel to the bridge consistent with the character of the Baylands. The self-weathering steel also reduces long-term maintenance of the project, consistent with Comprehensive Plan goals. In addition, the project uses a vinyl clad chain link fencing with a sand colored finish, consistent with rustic look of the Cor-ten steel finish. This proposed fencing is consistent with the Baylands Site Assessment and Design Guidelines, which allows the use of vinyl clad chain link fencing for security purposes. If funding allows, this would be revised to an even higher quality woven wire mesh material for the fencing, which would also be consistent. All signage will be consistent with the Baylands Design Guidelines, which discourages the use of bright colors for signage. The vegetation is being developed in accordance with the City's landscape architects and urban forestry division to fit into the Baylands theme and enhance the habitat within the project area. Therefore, the project is consistent with Finding 3.

*Finding #4: The design is functional, allowing for ease and safety of pedestrian and bicycle traffic and providing for elements that support the building's necessary operations (e.g. convenient vehicle access to property and utilities, appropriate arrangement and amount of open space and integrated signage, if applicable, etc.).*

*The project is consistent with Finding #4 because:*

The project is a multi-use trail, which is specifically designed to improve connections for pedestrian and bicyclists and other users seeking alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles. It has been identified as the highest priority across barrier connection capital improvement project in the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan. Special consideration has been given to ensuring safety of all users by ensuring visibility around corners, providing etiquette and wayfinding signage, ensuring ADA accessibility, and ensuring that all aspects of the design are functional for a variety of users (such as the elderly, bicyclists, bicyclists with trailers, young kids, etc.).

*Finding #5: The landscape design complements and enhances the building design and its surroundings, is appropriate to the site's functions, and utilizes to the extent practical, regional indigenous drought resistant plant material capable of providing desirable habitat that can be appropriately maintained.*

*The project is consistent with Finding #5 because:*

The landscape is being designed in accordance with the City's Urban Forestry Division and landscape architects to fit into the Baylands theme and improve riparian and avian habitat in a sensitive area. All protected trees would remain and all trees removed would be replaced with appropriate species for the site that are

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indigenous and provide habitat. Based on an in-field meeting with stakeholders and a restoration specialist, mulching for vegetation restoration will be used in lieu of hydroseeding to reduce the potential for regrowth of predominant non-native weeds at the site. Additional planting, beyond the proposed mulching and the vegetation proposed in the project plans, would be included as funding allows in order to further enhance the restoration in coordination stakeholders and the restoration specialist.

*Finding #6: The project incorporates design principles that achieve sustainability in areas related to energy efficiency, water conservation, building materials, landscaping, and site planning.*

*The project is consistent with Finding #6 because:*

The project will use indigenous, low water-use, drought resistant plants that are consistent with the Baylands theme and improve the habitat within the project area. The project is a pedestrian and bicycle bridge that provides year round connections to the Baylands and regional network of bay trails to improve access to recreational areas without the use of single-occupancy vehicles as well as to provide better connections for commuters. Therefore, the purpose of the project is to reduce vehicle use in order to reduce emissions. The project is, therefore, consistent with Finding #6.

#### SECTION 5. Conditions of Approval.

#### **PLANNING DIVISION**

1. CONFORMANCE WITH PLANS. Construction and development shall conform to the approved plans entitled, "Highway 101 Multi-Use Overcrossing and Adobe Creek Reach Trail Site and Design Review Package" dated October 5, 2017 and stamped as received by the City on October 10, 2017 on file with the Planning Department, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California except as modified by these conditions of approval.
2. BUILDING PERMIT. Apply for a building permit and meet any and all conditions of the Planning, Fire, Public Works, and Building Departments.
3. BUILDING PERMIT PLAN SET. The approval letter including all Department conditions of approval for the project shall be printed on the plans submitted for building permit.
4. PROJECT MODIFICATIONS. All modifications to the approved project shall be submitted for review and approval prior to construction. If during the Building Permit review and construction phase, the project is modified by the applicant, it is the responsibility of the applicant to contact the Planning Division/project planner directly to obtain approval of the project modification. It is the applicant's responsibility to highlight any proposed changes to the project and to bring it to the project planner's attention.
5. MMRP. The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program associated with the project and included here as Exhibit A is incorporated by reference and all mitigation measures shall be implemented as described in such document.
6. FINAL INSPECTION. A Planning Division Final inspection will be required to determine substantial compliance with the approved plans prior to the scheduling of a Building Division final. Any revisions during the building process must be approved by Planning, including but not limited to; materials, landscaping and hard surface locations. Contact your Project Planner, Claire Hodgkins at [claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org) to schedule this inspection.

#### **Building Division**

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The following comments are required to be addressed prior to any future related permit application:

7. RAMP SLOPES. On the previously submitted civil sheet P-1 (dated 6-2-17), Profile of the proposed bridge span appears to show the slope of the bridge between West Approach Structure at 3.0% (over West Bayshore Rd), Principal Span Structure at 4.75% & -4.75% (over Hwy 101). For clarification, can these ramp/walkway slopes also be shown on the Construction Detail civil sheets C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4 (dated 6-2-17). An accessible walkway shall not be steeper than 1:20 (5%) and accessible ramps shall have a running slope not steeper than 1:12 (8.33%). If the running slopes are shown on the various sections of the bridge, then it can be determined if that section is to be considered a walkway or a ramp. (CBC 11B -403.3, 11B-405.2)
  8. SIDEWALK GRADE. On civil sheet C-2 (dated 6-2-17), Construction Detail, show the slope of the Raised Sidewalk and clarify if it will be a walkway or ramp (see comment 1). Clarify if this raised sidewalk is a continuous grade and the maximum length. All walks with continuous gradients shall have resting areas 60 in in length at intervals of 400-ft maximum. The resting area shall be at least as wide as the walk. The slope of the resting area in all directions shall be 1:48 maximum. Accessible ramps shall have a maximum slope of 1:12 (8.33%) and shall provide landings for a maximum rise of 30-in. Bottom landings shall extend 72-in minimum in the direction of the ramp run with a 60-in minimum width. (CBC 11B-403.7, 11B-405.6.11B-405.7)
  9. GUARDRAILS. On civil sheet C-2 (dated 6-2-17), Construction Detail, provide a profile or elevation view of the Raised sidewalk. Guards shall be located along open sided walking surfaces that are located 30" vertically to the grade below. Guards shall have a minimum height of 42". Openings in the guards shall not allow a passage of 4" sphere from the walking surface to the required guard height. Provide details of the guardrails to show compliance. (CBC 1015.2)
  10. EAST APPROACH SLOPE. On civil sheet C-3 (dated 6-2-17), Construction Detail, for the East Approach Structure show the maximum bridge running slope and cross slope (1:48 max) to determine if it fits the requirements of a walkway or ramp. If the running slope is between 1:20 & 1:12, then it will be considered a ramp. Ramps that change direction between runs shall have a clear landing 60 in minimum in the direction of the downward travel. Ramps that do not have level landings at changes in direction can create a compound slope that will not meet the requirements of CBC 11B-405.7. Curvilinear ramps with small radii also can create compound cross slopes and cannot, by their nature meet the requirements for accessible routes. (CBC 11B-405)
  11. BAYTRAIL APPROACH SLOPE. On civil sheet C-3 (dated 6-2-17), Construction Detail, for the Baytrail Connection, show the running and cross slopes of the bridge. If the running slope is between 1:20 & 1:20 then it will be considered as an accessible ramp and will require a level landing at the bottom that extends 72-in minimum in the direction of the ramp run. (CBC 11B-405.7.3)
  12. PRINCIPAL SPAN SLOPE. On civil sheet labeled "Adobe Creek POC Elevation No. 1" (dated 6/1/17), for clarification show the running bridge slope for the "Principal Span Developed Elevation" and the "West Approach Developed Elevation" to determine if these spans are to be considered as accessible walkways or ramps. (See comment 1)
  13. TYPICAL SECTIONS. On civil sheet labeled " Adobe Creek POC Typical Section" (dated 6-1-17), for Typical Section A-A, B-B & C-C, show a 2-in high minimum edge curb that prevents the passage of a 4-in diameter sphere. (CBC 11B-405.9.2)
  14. GUARD OPENINGS. On civil sheet labeled "Adobe Creek POC Typical Section" (dated 6-1-17), Openings in the guards shall not allow a passage of 4" sphere from the walking surface to the required guard height. Provide
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details of the guardrails to show compliance. (CBC 1015.2)

### **Public Works Engineering**

15. STORM WATER TREATMENT: This project shall comply with the storm water regulations contained in provision C.3 of the NPDES municipal storm water discharge permit issued by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (and incorporated into Palo Alto Municipal Code Chapter 16.11). These regulations apply to land development projects that create or replace 10,000 square feet or more of impervious surface, and restaurants, retail gasoline outlets, auto service facilities, and uncovered parking lots that create and/or replace 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface. In order to address the potential permanent impacts of the project on storm water quality, the applicant shall incorporate into the project a set of permanent site design measures, source controls, and treatment controls that serve to protect storm water quality, subject to the approval of the Public Works Department. The applicant shall identify, size, design and incorporate permanent storm water pollution prevention measures (preferably landscape-based treatment controls such as bioswales, filter strips, and permeable pavement rather than mechanical devices that require long-term maintenance) to treat the runoff from a "water quality storm" specified in PAMC Chapter 16.11 prior to discharge to the municipal storm drain system. **Effective February 10, 2011, regulated projects, must contract with a qualified third-party reviewer during the building permit review process to certify that the proposed permanent storm water pollution prevention measures comply with the requirements of Palo Alto Municipal Code Chapter 16.11.** The certification form, 2 copies of approved storm water treatment plan, and a description of Maintenance Task and Schedule must be received by the City from the third-party reviewer prior to approval of the building permit by the Public Works department. **Within 45 days of the installation of the required storm water treatment measures and prior to the issuance of an occupancy permit for the building, third-party reviewer shall also submit to the City a certification for approval that the project's permanent measures were constructed and installed in accordance to the approved permit drawings.**
  16. STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION: The City's full-sized "Pollution Prevention - It's Part of the Plan" sheet must be included in the plan set. The sheet is available here: <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/2732>
  17. IMPERVIOUS SURFACE AREA: The project will be creating or replacing 500 square feet or more of impervious surface. Accordingly, the applicant shall provide calculations of the existing and proposed impervious surface areas with the building permit application. The *Impervious Area Worksheet for Land Developments* form and instructions are available at the Development Center or on our website.
  18. STORMWATER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT: If the project is C.3 regulated, the applicant shall designate a party to maintain the control measures for the life of the improvements and must enter into a **maintenance agreement** with the City to guarantee the ongoing maintenance of the permanent C.3 storm water discharge compliance measures. **The maintenance agreement shall be executed prior to Building or Grading permit issuance.** The City will inspect the treatment measures yearly and charge an inspection fee.
  19. CALTRANS: Caltrans review and approval of this project is required.
  20. Applicant shall obtain right-to-enter and right-to-construct from private property owners and SCVWD for portions of the project outside of City right-of-way.
  21. As this proposed project is in the flood zone, any proposed electrical or mechanical equipment will need to be above the BFE.
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### **Watershed Protection Division**

The following conditions are required to be addressed prior to any future related permit application such as a Building Permit, Excavation and Grading Permit, Certificate of Compliance, Street Work Permit, Encroachment Permit, etc.:

22. DISCHARGE OF GROUNDWATER. In accordance with PAMC 16.09.170, 16.09.040 prior approval shall be obtained from the city engineer or designee to discharge water pumped from construction sites to the storm drain. The city engineer or designee may require gravity settling and filtration upon a determination that either or both would improve the water quality of the discharge. Contaminated ground water or water that exceeds state or federal requirements for discharge to navigable waters may not be discharged to the storm drain. Such water may be discharged to the sewer, provided that the discharge limits contained in Palo Alto Municipal Code (16.09.040(m)) are not exceeded and the approval of the superintendent is obtained prior to discharge. The City shall be compensated for any costs it incurs in authorizing such discharge, at the rate set forth in the Municipal Fee Schedule. Note that the discharge of groundwater to both the storm drain and sanitary sewer systems is only allowed during the period of April 1-October 31. Refer to the code for updates before construction.
23. ARCHITECTURAL COPPER (PAMC 16.09.180[b][14]). On and after January 1, 2003, copper metal roofing, copper metal gutters, copper metal down spouts, and copper granule containing asphalt shingles shall not be permitted for use on any residential, commercial or industrial building for which a building permit is required. Copper flashing for use under tiles or slates and small copper ornaments are exempt from this prohibition. Replacement roofing, gutters and downspouts on historic structures are exempt, provided that the roofing material used shall be prepatinated at the factory. For the purposes of this exemption, the definition of "historic" shall be limited to structures designated as Category 1 or Category 2 buildings in the current edition of the Palo Alto Historical and Architectural Resources Report and Inventory.
24. COPPER PIPING. In accordance with PAMC 16.09.180(b)(b) copper, copper alloys, lead and lead alloys, including brass, shall not be used in sewer lines, connectors, or seals coming in contact with sewage except for domestic waste sink traps and short lengths of associated connecting pipes where alternate materials are not practical. The plans must specify that copper piping will not be used for wastewater plumbing.
25. STORM DRAIN LABELING. In accordance with PAMC 16.09.165(h) storm drain inlets shall be clearly marked with the words "No dumping - Flows to Bay," or equivalent. This includes public and private drains.

### **UTILITIES- WATER, GAS, WASTEWATER**

26. EXISTING UTILITIES. Building plans shall show the existing WGW utility on the proposed plan sets (utility sheet/s).
27. WATER FOUNTAIN CONNECTION. Identify the drinking water fountain's water meter and its connections on the plan.

### **RECYCLING**

28. RECEPTACLES. Waste receptacles must be colored coded - black for landfill (garbage/trash) and blue for recycling.

### **PUBLIC WORKS URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION**

29. Update Landscape Plan Sheet 6.1 to match the corresponding sheets.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

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30. To ensure that the final signage is consistent with City standards, continue to work with the transportation division and consult the division regarding the proposed signage.

**GREENBUILDING**

31. Recycled Water Infrastructure for Landscape: If the project is either a new construction or a rehabilitated landscape and is greater than 1,000 square feet, then the project must install a dedicated irrigation meter related to the recycled water infrastructure. PAMC 16.14.230 (Ord. 5393 § 1 (part), 2016). The project applicant shall indicate the requirements on the Permit Plans.

SECTION 6. Term of Approval.

Site and Design Approval. The project approval shall be valid for a period of two years from the original date of approval. In the event a building permit(s), if applicable, is not secured for the project within the time limit specified above, the Site and Design approval shall expire and be of no further force or effect. Application for extension of this entitlement may be made prior to the one year expiration.

PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Senior Assistant City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Planning and  
Community Environment



Exhibit A:

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program



## MITIGATION MONITORING + REPORTING PROGRAM

<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	Highway 101 Overcrossing and Adobe Creek Tail Project	<b>APPLICATION NUMBER</b>	17PLN-00212
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	City of Palo Alto Planning and Community Environment	<b>DATE</b>	October 2017
<b>APPLICANT/OWNER</b>	City of Palo Alto Public Works Engineering Division		

The Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Highway 101 Overcrossing and Adobe Creek Tail Project identifies the mitigation measures that will be implemented to reduce the impacts associated with the project. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was amended in 1989 to add Section 21081.6, which requires a public agency to adopt a monitoring and reporting program for assessing and ensuring compliance with any required mitigation measures applied to proposed development. As stated in section 21081.6(a)(1) of the Public Resources Code:

... the public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes made to the project or conditions of project approval, adopted in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment.

Section 21081.6 also provides general guidelines for implementing mitigation monitoring programs and indicates that specific reporting and/or monitoring requirements, to be enforced during project implementation, shall be defined as part of adopting an MND.

The mitigation monitoring table lists those mitigation measures that would be included as conditions of approval for the project. To ensure that the mitigation measures are properly implemented, a monitoring program has been devised which identifies the timing and responsibility for monitoring each measure.



## MITIGATION MONITORING + REPORTING PROGRAM

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>				
<p><b>Impact AQ-1:</b> Dust generated by various construction activities could adversely impact residences and/or other receptors located in the project vicinity.</p>	<p><b>MM AQ-1.1:</b> Implementation of MM AQ-1.1, described below, will ensure that any significant adverse effects associated with construction-generated dust are avoided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day or covered.</li> <li>• Haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.</li> <li>• Visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.</li> <li>• Roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible.</li> </ul> <p>A publicly visible sign shall be posted with the telephone number and name of an individual working for the construction contractor who can be contacted regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District’s phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable</p>	<p>Applicant/Contractor</p>	<p>During construction</p>	<p>Planning and Community Environment Department</p>

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
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regulations.

**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

<p><b>Impact BIO-1:</b> If project construction occurs during a flooding event that inundates the area Flood Control Basin, there is the potential for project activities to result in take of salt marsh harvest mice and impacts to salt marsh wandering shrews.</p>	<p><b>MM BIO-1.1:</b> The project contractors will implement the following measures to avoid potential take of salt marsh harvest mice and impacts to salt marsh wandering shrews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Work Schedule:</b> Work within the biological study area will occur between April 15 and October 15. If it is not possible to schedule project activities between April 15 and October 15 within the biological study area, then pre-construction surveys by a United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)-approved biologist for salt marsh harvest mouse and wandering shrews will be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that these species will not be disturbed during project implementation. These surveys will be conducted no more than one month prior to the initiation of project activities conducted prior to April 15 and after October 15.</li> <li>• <b>Worker Environmental Awareness Program.</b> Before any construction activities begin, a USFWS-approved biologist will conduct a training session for all construction personnel. At a minimum, the training will include descriptions of the salt marsh harvest mouse and salt marsh wandering shrew, their habitats, the importance of the species, general measures that are being implemented to conserve these species as they relate to the project, and boundaries within which the project may be accomplished, and if</li> </ul>	<p>Applicant/Contractor</p>	<p>Prior to and During construction</p>	<p>Planning and Community Environment Department; USFWS</p>
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Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>found (living or dead) their observations must be immediately reported to the Resident Engineer and USFWS-approved biologist..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Herbaceous Cover Removal.</b> Prior to the start of project activities within the Flood Control Basin portion of the biological study area (including vehicle/equipment access), herbaceous vegetation will be removed from impact areas to eliminate cover for salt marsh harvest mice and salt marsh wandering shrews, thereby discouraging them from occurring in impact areas. The grassland land cover within the project footprint on the northeast side of Highway 101 will be trimmed to within two inches of the ground level prior to the start of ground disturbing activities. Vegetation removal will start where the San Francisco Bay Trail crosses Adobe Creek, and will proceed gradually northwards towards the open marsh habitat in the Flood Control Basin. Vegetation will not be removed during a flooding event that inundates the Flood Control Basin, as these are the conditions in which salt marsh harvest mice and salt marsh wandering shrews are most likely to be present in the biological study area. A USFWS-approved biologist familiar with the biology of these species will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to vegetation removal, and will monitor the vegetation removal process. Vegetation will be removed using hand-held equipment (e.g., weed-whackers). This will allow any small mammals, including salt marsh harvest mice and salt marsh wandering shrews, to </li> </ul>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>escape the biological study area under the cover of vegetation, and will encourage movement of such small mammals towards available vegetated habitat to the north outside the biological study area. Herbaceous vegetation that could potentially conceal a salt marsh harvest mouse or salt marsh wandering shrew within the biological study area will be removed, including herbaceous understory vegetation on the north bank of Adobe Creek. Vegetation that is removed will be hauled offsite the day it is removed, and will not be left on the site to provide potential cover for small mammal species. It is possible that vegetation within the Flood Control Basin portion of the biological study area will be removed during the fall prior to construction to reduce potential impacts to nesting birds. In such a case, if sufficient herbaceous cover regrows prior to construction the following year, this herbaceous cover will again be removed by hand prior to initiation of construction activities.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Exclusion Barrier.</b> Following vegetation trimming and prior to the start of construction activities on the northeast side of Highway 101, a fence will be installed at the outer limits of the work area, as shown in the Initial Study. The fence will be designed to exclude salt marsh harvest mice from the project footprint, define the limits of the footprint, and provide a visual screen. This barrier, which will be constructed under the guidance of a Service-Approved Biologist, will consist of a three-foot tall, tight cloth,</li> </ul>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>smooth plastic, or sheet-metal (or similar material approved by the Service) fence toed into the soil at least three inches deep and supported with stakes placed on the inside of the barrier. A USFWS-Approved Biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey of the area where vegetation was trimmed prior to construction access, and will monitor the installation of the barrier. Following the installation of the barrier, designated construction personnel will check its integrity each morning that construction activities occurring, and will initiate repairs immediately as needed. The area of vegetation removal will extend approximately two to three feet beyond the area where equipment and personnel will operate during project construction to create an open area that will discourage salt marsh harvest mice and salt marsh wandering shrews from approaching the exclusion barrier</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Environmentally Sensitive Area Fencing.</b> Within the Flood Control Basin, biological study area limits will also be clearly demarcated with Environmentally Sensitive Area fencing to avoid inadvertent disturbance of any habitat outside of the designated construction area during construction activities. This fencing can be combined with the exclusion barrier but must not be outside that barrier.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>Visual Screening.</b> Additional green-screen fencing will be installed along the limits of the biological study area between work areas and natural habitats within the Palo Alto Flood Control Basin to screen project</p> </li> </ul>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>activities from view of the Baylands and avoid potential visual disturbance of salt marsh harvest mice and salt marsh wandering shrews. This fencing can be combined with the fencing described above but must not be outside the exclusion barrier.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High-water Work Suspension.</b> All ground work on the northeast side of highway 101, including vegetation trimming, will be suspended while there are flood waters within 100 feet of the project footprint (other than waters within the Adobe Creek channel).</li> <li>• <b>Immediate Work Stoppage.</b> If a salt marsh harvest mouse or salt marsh wandering shrew, or an animal that could be a harvest mouse or wandering shrew (e.g., a similar species of mouse or shrew), is observed within the biological study area during project activities, all work that could result in the injury or death of the individual will stop and the USFWS-approved biologist will be immediately notified. The animal will be allowed to leave the area on its own and will not be handled before work in that area resumes.</li> <li>• <b>Work Limits.</b> All activity will be limited to the existing and proposed footprint, access, and staging described in the May 2017 Biological Assessment, prepared by H.T. Harvey &amp; Associates. Environmentally sensitive areas, such as wetlands and tidal habitat, will be identified on contract plans and discussed in the Special Provisions. Temporary orange fencing or other obvious system will be used to identify</li> </ul>			



Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>areas of avoidance and will remain in place until all construction is completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Night Work Lighting.</b> If night-time work is conducted, the use of temporary artificial lighting during nighttime construction hours will be minimized to the maximum extent practicable and will be directed at the associated work zone and away from adjacent tidal wetland habitat.</li> <li>• <b>Trash.</b> Food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps will be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a day from the work area.</li> <li>• <b>Firearms Forbidden.</b> No firearms will be allowed on the project except for those carried by authorized security personnel, or local, state, or federal law enforcement officials.</li> <li>• <b>Pets Forbidden.</b> To prevent harassment, injury or mortality of wildlife species, no pets will be permitted on the project site.</li> <li>• <b>Water Quality.</b> The potential for adverse effects to water quality will be avoided by implementing temporary and permanent Best Management Practices (BMPs) outlined in Section 7-1.01 G of the Caltrans Standard Specifications. Caltrans erosion control BMPs will be used to minimize any wind or water-related erosion. The State Water Resources Control Board has issued a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Statewide Storm Water Permit to Caltrans to regulate storm water and non-storm water discharges from Caltrans facilities. A Storm Water Pollution</li> </ul>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be developed for the project, as one is required for all projects that have at least 1.0 acre of soil disturbance. The SWPPP complies with the Caltrans Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP). The SWMP includes guidance for Design staff to include provisions in construction contracts to include measures to protect sensitive areas and to prevent and minimize storm water and non-storm water discharges.</p> <p>The SWPPP will reference the Caltrans Construction Site BMPs Manual. This manual is comprehensive and includes many other protective measures and guidance to prevent and minimize pollutant discharges and can be found at the following website:  <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construe/stormwater/manuals.htm">http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construe/stormwater/manuals.htm</a>.</p> <p>Protective measures will be included in the contract, including, at a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) No discharge of pollutants from vehicle and equipment cleaning are allowed into the storm drain or water courses.</li> <li>b) Vehicle and equipment fueling and maintenance operations must be at least 50 feet away from water courses.</li> <li>c) Concrete wastes are collected in washouts and water from curing operations is collected and disposed of and not allowed into water courses.</li> <li>d) Dust control will be implemented,</li> </ul>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
<p><b>Impact BIO-2:</b> Construction activities associated with the proposed project could result in impacts to nesting birds through the loss of fertile eggs or nest abandonment.</p>	<p>including use of water trucks and tackifiers to control dust in excavation and fill areas, rocking temporary access road entrances and exits, and covering temporary stockpiles when weather conditions require.</p> <p>e) Coir rolls will be installed along or at the base of slopes during construction to capture sediment and temporary organic hydro-mulching will be applied to all unfinished disturbed and graded areas.</p> <p>f) Work areas where temporary disturbance has removed the pre-existing vegetation will be restored and re-seeded with a native seed mix.</p> <p>Graded areas will be protected from erosion using a combination of silt fences, fiber rolls along toe of slopes or along edges of designated staging areas, and erosion-control netting (such as jute or coir) as appropriate.</p> <p><b>MM BIO-2.1:</b> The following measures will be implemented to ensure that project activities avoid substantial impacts to nesting birds and their eggs, which are protected under the migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code (CDGC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Avoidance of the Nesting Bird Season.</b> To the extent feasible, project activities will be scheduled to avoid the avian nesting season. If such activities are scheduled to take place outside the nesting season, impacts on nesting birds, including raptors,</li> </ul>	<p>Applicant/Contractor/Qualified Biologist</p>	<p>Prior to and During construction</p>	<p>Planning and Community Environment Department</p>

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>protected under the MBTA and CFGC, will be avoided. The nesting season for most birds in Santa Clara County typically extends from February 1 through August 31.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Vegetation Removal during the Non-Nesting Season.</b> If project activities will not be initiated until after the start of the nesting season, potential nesting substrate (e.g., bushes, trees, grasses, and other vegetation) that is scheduled to be removed by the project, if any, may be removed prior to the start of the nesting season (e.g., prior to February) to reduce the potential for initiation of nests. The project schedule includes vegetation removal in the Flood Control Basin portion of the biological study area during the fall prior to construction to minimize impacts to nesting birds the following spring. If it is not feasible to schedule vegetation removal during the nonbreeding season, or where vegetation cannot be removed (e.g., in areas immediately adjacent to the biological study area), then pre-construction surveys for nesting birds will be conducted as described below. </li> <li> <b>Pre-construction/Pre-disturbance Surveys for Nesting Birds.</b> If it is not possible to schedule project activities between September 1 and January 31, then pre-construction surveys for nesting birds will be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no nests will be disturbed during project implementation. These surveys will be conducted no more than 48 hours prior to the initiation of project activities. During this survey, a qualified </li> </ul>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>biologist will inspect all potential nesting habitats (e.g., trees, shrubs, grasslands, and buildings) within 300 feet of impact areas for raptor nests and within 100 feet of impact areas for nests of non-raptors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Buffers around Active Nests.</b> If an active nest (i.e., a nest with eggs or young, or any completed raptor nest attended by adults) is found sufficiently close to work areas to be disturbed by these activities, the biologist, in consultation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife, will determine the extent of a disturbance-free buffer zone to be established around the nest (typically 300 feet for raptors and 100 feet for other species), to ensure that no nests of species protected by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code will be disturbed during project implementation. Because the majority of the biological study area is already subject to disturbance by vehicles and pedestrians, activities that will be prohibited from occurring within the buffer zone around a nest will be determined on a case-by-case basis. In general, activities prohibited within such a buffer while a nest is active will be limited to new construction-related activities (i.e., activities that were not ongoing when the nest was constructed) involving significantly greater noise, human presence, or vibrations than were present prior to nest initiation. </li> <li> <b>Screening.</b> As described for salt marsh harvest mice and salt marsh wandering shrews above, additional fencing with a green screen will be installed along the limits of the biological study area between </li> </ul>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>work areas and natural habitats within the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve’s Flood Control Basin (Flood Control Basin). This fencing will screen project activities from view of the Baylands and minimize potential visual disturbance of nesting birds as a result of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nest Deterrence.</b> If necessary to avoid impacts to active nests (i.e., nests containing eggs or young), nest starts may be removed on a regular basis (e.g., every second or third day), starting in late January or early February, or measures such as exclusion netting or slippery panels may be placed over nesting sites on the existing bridges to prevent active nests from becoming established. Any netting installed for nest deterrence must be installed appropriately by an experienced deterrence technician, under the supervision of a qualified biologist, and must be inspected and maintained regularly to avoid the entrapment or entanglement of birds.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Impact BIO-3:</b> The project could result in potential impacts as a result of bird strikes with the bridge structure; as well as disorientation, predation, and habitat impacts from increased lighting.</p>	<p><b>MM BIO-3.1:</b> The following measures will be implemented to avoid impacts on bird populations due to potential collisions and project lighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The overcrossing will be designed to minimize the potential for bird strikes; it will not include highly reflective surfaces, suspension cables, transparent surfaces, or features such as small wires or netting that could injure birds.</li> <li>• No power lines will be suspended above</li> </ul>	<p>Project Engineer/Applicant/Construction Contractor</p>	<p>Prior to Construction (Shown on Building Plans); During Operation</p>	<p>Planning and Community Environment Department</p>

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>the bridge deck.</p> <p>Night lighting on the bridge will be minimized; only lighting needed for safety purposes will be installed. Lighting will be directed at the bridge deck or downward, not outwards toward natural areas, and lights will be shielded to minimize spillover of light into natural areas.</p>			
<b>CULTURAL AND TRIBAL RESOURCES</b>				
<p><b>Impact CUL-1:</b> Unknown subsurface archaeological or paleontological resources could be present on the site in underlying native soils and could be disturbed during project construction.</p>	<p><b>MM CUL-1.1:</b> In the event any significant cultural materials (including fossils) are encountered during construction grading or excavation, construction within a radius of 50 feet of the find would be halted, the Director of Public Works shall be notified, and a qualified archaeologist shall examine the find and make appropriate recommendations regarding the significance of the find and the appropriate treatment of the resource. Recommendations could include collection, recordation and analysis of any significant cultural materials. A report of findings documenting any data recovered during monitoring shall be submitted to the Director of Planning.</p>	<p>Applicant/Contractor</p>	<p>During construction</p>	<p>Planning and Community Environment Department</p>
	<p><b>MM CUL-1.2:</b> Pursuant to Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, and Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California in the event of the discovery of human remains during construction, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains. The Santa Clara County Coroner shall be notified and shall make a determination as to whether the remains are Native American. If the Coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his authority, he shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who shall attempt to</p>	<p>Applicant/Contractor</p>	<p>During construction</p>	<p>Planning and Community Environment Department</p>

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
<p><b>Impact CUL-2:</b> Unknown tribal cultural resources could be uncovered or disturbed during construction activities associate with the project.</p>	<p>identify descendants of the deceased Native American. If no satisfactory agreement can be reached as to the disposition of the remains pursuant to this state law, then the land owner shall reinter the human remains and items associated with Native American burials on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance. If the Director of Planning finds that the archaeological find is not a significant resource, work would resume only after the submittal of a preliminary archaeological report and after provisions for reburial and ongoing monitoring are accepted.</p> <p><b>MM CUL-2.1:</b> In the event that a tribal cultural resource is found during construction, the NAHC will be contacted for information regarding the appropriate tribe and/or persons to notify. Once the appropriate tribal representatives are notified, consultation will take place consistent with Assembly Bill 52 requirements. Mitigation measures that may be considered to avoid significant impacts (if there is no agreement on appropriate mitigation in discussions with the tribal representatives) may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoidance and preservation of the resources in place, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Planning and construction to avoid the resources and protect the cultural and natural context;</li> <li>- Planning greenspace, parks, or other open space, to incorporate the resources with culturally appropriate protection and management criteria;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity, taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of</li> </ul>	Applicant/Contractor	During construction	Planning and Community Environment Department



Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>the resource, including, but not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preservation in place;</li> <li>- Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource;</li> <li>- Protecting the traditional use of the resource;</li> <li>- Protecting the confidentiality of the resource;</li> <li>- Permanent conservation easements or other interests in real property, with culturally appropriate management criteria for the purposes of preserving or utilizing the resources or places.</li> </ul>			

**HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

<p><b>Impact HAZ-1:</b> Aerially deposited lead located in soils at the project site could be disturbed during grading and construction activities and potentially impact workers, area residents, or the environment.</p>	<p><b>MM HAZ-1.1:</b> A construction risk and spoils management plan (CRSMP) shall be prepared for the project prior to the start of any ground-disturbing activities. The CRSMP shall include necessary procedures to ensure that excavated materials are stored, managed, and disposed of in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The CRSMP shall include the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A site-specific health and safety plan (HASP) shall be prepared by a qualified environmental professional in accordance with federal OSHA regulations (29 CFR 1910.120) and State of California Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations (8 CCR 5192). The HASP shall include required measures to protect construction workers and the general public by including engineering controls, monitoring, and security</li> </ul>	Applicant/Contractor	Prior to Building Permit Issuance	Planning and Community Environment Department
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Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<p>measures to prevent unauthorized entry to the construction area and to reduce hazards outside of the construction area. If prescribed contaminant exposure levels are exceeded, personal protective equipment shall be required for workers in accordance with state and federal regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The CRMSP shall include step-by-step procedures for evaluation, handling, stockpiling, storage, testing, and disposal of excavated material, including criteria for: (1) reuse within the project area; (2) stockpiling within the project area; and (3) offsite disposal shall be included. Excavated materials shall be inspected prior to initial stockpiling, and spoils that are visibly stained and/or have a noticeable odor should be stockpiled separately to minimize the amount of material that may require special handling. The chemical quality of the spoils intended for reuse shall be characterized, and spoils should be reused onsite only if they meet the reuse criteria established in the Department of Toxic Substances Control Variance obtained by Caltrans (Variance No. V09HQSCD006). If some of the spoils do not meet the reuse criteria and/or debris is identified, these materials shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal waste disposal requirements.</li> </ul> <p>The CRMSP shall also include procedures to be implemented if unknown subsurface conditions or contamination are encountered, such as previously unreported tanks, wells, or contaminated soils shall be included in the</p>			

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
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CRSMP.

**NOISE**

<p><b>Impact NOI-1:</b> The project could result in exposure of persons in the project area to a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels during construction activities.</p>	<p><b>MM NOI-1.1:</b> The following measures will be implemented during construction to lessen the potential for noise impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With one exception, noise-generating construction activities will be restricted to the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays. The exception is that, as stated above, there would be up to seven nights of construction including up to three nights to lower prefabricated structures in place over Highway 101, West Bayshore Road, and East Bayshore Road. No construction activities will occur on Sundays or holidays.</li> <li>• For any planned construction outside permitted hours, the project contractor will notify property owners within 500 feet of the proposed work at least one week in advance of the construction activities, require the contractor to implement a construction noise monitoring program and, if feasible, provide additional mitigation as necessary (in the form of noise control blankets or other temporary noise barriers, etc.) for affected receptors.</li> <li>• Internal combustion engine driven equipment will be equipped with intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment.</li> <li>• Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines within 100 feet of residences will be strictly prohibited.</li> </ul>	<p>Applicant/Contractor</p>	<p>Prior to construction outside permitted construction work hours</p>	<p>Planning and Community Environment Department</p>
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Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measure	Responsible for Implementation	Timing of Compliance	Oversight of Implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stationary noise generating equipment will be located as far as possible from sensitive receptors when sensitive receptors adjoin or are near a construction project area.</li> <li>"Quiet" air compressors and other "quiet" equipment will be utilized where such technology exists.</li> <li>Construction equipment will conform to Section 14-8.02, Noise Control, of the latest Caltrans Standard Specifications.</li> </ul>			
	<p>The contractor will prepare a detailed construction plan identifying the schedule for major noise-generating construction activities and distribute this plan to adjacent noise-sensitive receptors. The construction plan will also contain these construction noise reduction measures.</p>			

\*NOT YET APPROVED\*

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance of the Council of the City Of Palo Alto Approving and Adopting Plans for the Highway 101 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge

The Council of the City of Palo Alto does ORDAIN as follows:

SECTION 1. Findings. The City Council finds and declares that:

(a) Article VIII of the Charter of the City of Palo Alto and Section 22.08.005 of the Palo Alto Municipal Code require that, before any substantial building, construction, reconstruction or development is commenced or approved, upon or with respect to any land held by the City for park purposes, the Council shall first cause to be prepared and by ordinance approve and adopt a plan therefor.

(b) The Highway 101 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge Project is partially within the Baylands, which is dedicated parkland, as described in Municipal Code Section 22.08.020.

(c) The City intends to approve and adopt the plan to construct the Highway 101 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge, as detailed in Exhibit "A" and as generally listed below:

1. Construction of three new self-weathering steel trusses spanning Highway 101, and East and West Bayshore Roads, with safety railing.
2. Construction of cast-in-place concrete approach structures on east and west sides, with safety railing.
3. Construction of a new 140-foot long, self-weathering prefabricated steel truss over the Adobe and Barron Creeks confluence along West Bayshore Road.
4. Incorporation of a new pedestrian access ramp into the Western Approach Structure.
5. Construction of an overlook on the East Approach Structure.
6. Construction of three new trailheads/trail connections at West Bayshore Road, East Meadow Drive and East Bayshore Road.
7. Installation of pole, rail and handrail light-emitting diode (LED) lighting along the structure:
  - a) 15 Pole mounted lights containing 12-foot tall pole with field adjustable modules on the western approach structure.
  - b) Integrated rail lights throughout the pathway including 74 higher mounting height fixtures at the principal span and 141 lower mounting height fixtures at other locations.
  - c) 15 rail mounted step lights, ten in-ground step lights at the curb, and a linear LED light under the bench.
8. Removal and replacement of 28 trees with native trees in accordance with the City's Tree Technical Manual. Installation of vegetated swales.
9. Installation of enhanced amenities including bike racks and bike repair station, benches, trash receptacle, and drinking water fountains.
10. Incorporation of signage including wayfinding, informational and educational signs.
11. Asphalt concrete, compacted gravel, and fencing on Adobe Creek Reach Trail.
12. Street lights replacement, widened sidewalk and mid-block access to trailheads.

13. No lighting on the Adobe Creek Reach and Bay Trails.

SECTION 2. The Council hereby approves the Plan for construction of a new year-round, grade-separated, shared bicycle and pedestrian crossing over Highway 101 and Adobe Creek and hereby adopts the Plan attached hereto as Exhibit "A" as part of the official plan for the construction of Highway 101 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge.

SECTION 3. The City Council has reviewed and adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration and a related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for this project by Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, 2017 prior to adoption of this ordinance. The Mitigated Negative Declaration concluded that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment with mitigation as proposed.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall be effective on the thirty-first day after the date of its adoption.

INTRODUCED:

PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Community Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Administrative Services

# Exhibit A - Site Plan

## SITE PLAN – ABOVE-GRADE FACILITIES

### NOTES:

1. FOR GRADING DETAILS, SEE CONSTRUCTION DETAIL SHEETS.
2. FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS, SEE CONSTRUCTION DETAIL SHEETS.
3. FOR BRIDGE DETAILS, SEE STRUCTURAL PLANS.
4. EXISTING EASEMENT RIGHTS ARE NOT ILLUSTRATED AS THESE RIGHTS AND BOUNDARIES ARE STILL BEING INVESTIGATED.

### LEGEND:

- PCC SIDEWALK, PCC CR, AND PCC DRIVEWAY
- HMA OVERLAY (TYPE A)
- 1' HMA DEEP LIFT
- LANDSCAPE AREA
- DIRECTION OF FLOW

- CITY R/W
- CALTRANS R/W
- SCVWD R/W
- SAWCUT
- RETAINING WALL
- CUT AND FILL LINE

- EXISTING ROADSIDE SIGN
- PROPOSED ROADSIDE SIGN
- REMOVE EXISTING ROADSIDE SIGN
- EXISTING ROADSIDE SIGN TO REMAIN
- INSTALL NEW ROADSIDE SIGN

### ABBREVIATIONS:

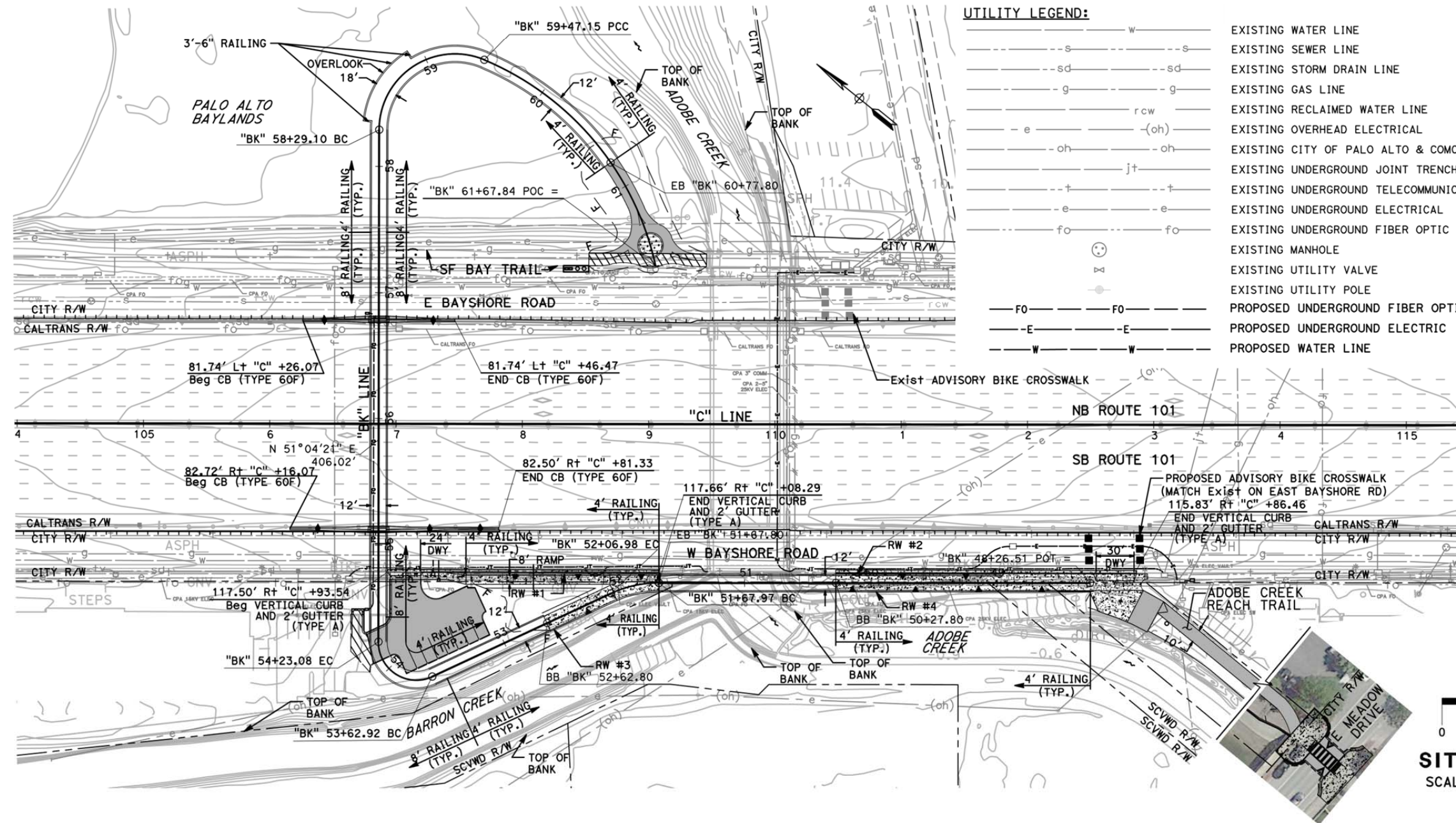
- C&G CURB & GUTTER
- CR CURB RAMP
- Rem REMOVE

1  
C-1

DETAIL NUMBER DESIGNATION  
DETAIL 1 ON SHEET C-1

### UTILITY LEGEND:

- EXISTING WATER LINE
- EXISTING SEWER LINE
- EXISTING STORM DRAIN LINE
- EXISTING GAS LINE
- EXISTING RECLAIMED WATER LINE
- EXISTING OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL
- EXISTING CITY OF PALO ALTO & COMCAST JOINT OVERHEAD
- EXISTING UNDERGROUND JOINT TRENCH
- EXISTING UNDERGROUND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
- EXISTING UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL
- EXISTING UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC
- EXISTING MANHOLE
- EXISTING UTILITY VALVE
- EXISTING UTILITY POLE
- PROPOSED UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC
- PROPOSED UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC
- PROPOSED WATER LINE



0 20' 40' 80'  
**SITE PLAN**  
SCALE AS SHOWN

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## Planning and Transportation Commission

### EXCERPT MINUTES: September 13, 2017

City Hall/City Council Chambers

250 Hamilton Avenue

6:00 PM

#### Call to Order/Roll Call

Present: Chair Michael Alchek, Vice Chair Asher Walfogel, Eric Rosenblum, Ed Lauing, Przemek Gardias, Susan Monk, Doria Summa

Absent:

#### Oral Communications

#### Agenda Changes, Additions and Deletions

#### Action Items

1. PUBLIC HEARING / QUASI-JUDICIAL. Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass and Adobe Creek Reach Trail Project [17PLN-00212]: Recommendation on Applicant's Request for Approval of a Site and Design Review to Allow Construction of a Multi-Use Pedestrian and Bicycle Overpass Structure Over Highway 101 Near San Antonio Road; Construction of the Adobe Creek Bridge and Adobe Creek Reach Trail; and, Reconfiguration of the Adjacent Parking Lot at 3600 West Bayshore Road. Environmental Assessment: An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was Circulated for Public Comment On September 1, 2017 and Circulation Ends on October 2, 2017. Zoning Districts: PF(D), PF, ROLM, and GM. For More Information Contact the Project Planner Claire Hodgkins at [claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org).

Chair Alchek: Ok, with that I'd like to invite staff to begin Agenda Item Number 2.

Claire Hodgkins, Project Planner: Thank you. Good evening, Commissioners. Claire Hodgkins, Project Planner. Tonight we're discussing the Highway 101 bicycle and pedestrian overpass and Adobe Creek Reach Trail. The proposed project crosses Highway 101 between the East Oregon Expressway and San Antonio Road overcrossings and it also connects out to East Meadow Drive. Purpose of the project to provide a year round bicycle/pedestrian connection between commercial/residential uses west of Highway 101 and the walking and biking trails east of Highway 101. It also completes the Adobe Creek Reach Trail which leads out to bicycle boulevards. Just a quick summary of the process through previous meetings and hearings Council has already selected the alignment of the bridge, the type of structure, and the budget



1 for the bridge. As you know staff conducted study sessions with the Architectural Review Board (ARB) and the Planning and  
2 Transportation Commission (PTC) in May of this year. And our current schedule assumes that tonight we would get a  
3 recommendation from the PTC and assumes that in October we would go to ARB and in November we would be going  
4 to Council for a final decision on the project. Quick summary of key project changes, staff outlined key project changes  
5 that were made to based on PTC comments in the staff report. Specifically you had commented on the following areas  
6 where changes were made which is the Adobe Creek Reach Trail paving, lighting improvements, amenity refinements, and  
7 especially user safety refinements. I know our Public Works Engineering Team will discussing these key changes in their  
8 presentation so I'm going to leave it to them to kind of summarize those a little bit further. So staff recommends that the  
9 PTC take the following actions: consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and mitigation monitoring and reporting  
10 plan for the project and recommend approval of the Site and Design Application to City Council based on findings and  
11 subject to conditions of approval in the Record of Land Use Action and that's it for me.

12  
13 Chair Alcheck: Ok, thank you. At this time I'd like to open it up. I also don't have any... oh, I do  
14 have a speaker card. Bear with me. I'd like to invite Claire Elliott to speak for five minutes. That's fine, let me just set  
15 the timer for you and you can begin. Go ahead.

16  
17 Claire Elliot: My name is Claire Elliott and I am a resident of the Ventura neighborhood and I'm also an ecologist with  
18 Grassroots Ecology formerly Acterra Stewardship. And we do a lot of habitat restoration and creating habitat in urban  
19 parks in Palo Alto as partners with the City. And I'm also a bicyclist. Not as often as I should be, but I ride the trail  
20 underneath the 101 and I'm going to be delighted to have a bridge that we can use year round because riding San  
21 Antonio is very scary. And I applaud the process and the progress in getting that in. I have provided comments to the City  
22 staff about the revegetation of the area where the bridge will land and that's my major interest in being here today is that  
23 the Natural Element component of the Comprehensive Plan says that we're going to protect our resources and habitat in  
24 our natural areas and this is a damaged natural area that needs some help and since there's some access, more access  
25 coming into the area it'd be nice to have it look more aesthetically appealing. And right now my understanding is that the  
26 budget is going to allow for some hydroseeding. There's been years of weedy plants growing there because of the  
27 disturbance of the area and so that those plants will need to be removed several years in a row or at least a couple which I  
28 think we have, but there needs to be budget for that so that any seeding is going to just be overwhelmed by the amount  
29 of weed seed that's there. The main thing though is have a budget for actually placing plants and not just hydro seeding and  
30 having them be locally specific native plants. And then really important and this is something that I see overall in City  
31 efforts is that a lot of money goes towards building or installing things and then the maintenance. We don't have  
32 enough budget in this City in general for maintenance of our City parks and for making sure that the people we hire to do  
33 that maintenance are trained in how to maintain natural spaces because a lot of people don't recognize the plants that are  
34 locally indigenous here as landscaping plants because they're not being used enough for that purpose. So that's the most  
35 important thing and I'm hoping that the Planning Commission can advise staff to look for budget to make sure the  
36 maintenance goes on and the planting as well in that area. Thank you.

37  
38 Chair Alcheck: Thank you. Ok, I'm going to open it up to the Commission. Please light up the board and I will...

39  
40 Ms. Hodgkins: Sorry, we would recommend that Public Works Engineering has a presentation as well.

41  
42 Chair Alcheck: Oh, I'm sorry. It's ok, yeah. Sorry, my mistake.

43  
44 Megha Bansal, Project Engineer: Good evening, my name is Megha Bansal, I'm a Project Engineer with Public Works  
45 Department. I would like to introduce our consultant Roy Schnabel from Biggs Cardosa Associates. Tonight we will focus our  
46 discussion on refinements in design that we made based on input received from the PTC back in May of this year, but I would  
47 like to take a moment to go over the key project elements and then Roy will discuss the refinements in the design. So as you

1 can see on this slide the project includes principal span structures consisting of self [unintelligible] steel trusses across  
2 Highway 101 and East and West Bayshore roads with concrete approaches and 12 wide pathway. To the west of Highway  
3 101 Adobe Creek Reach Trail connects two new trailheads and there is Adobe Creek bridge at the confluence of Adobe and  
4 Barron Creeks. There is also a pedestrian access ramp that is incorporated in the western approach structure. To the east  
5 of Highway 101 we have an overlook included with the [east up road] structure and a new trail head at the connection of  
6 bridge that is actually a [roundabout] that connects the bridge to San Francisco Bay Trail. The project also includes some  
7 landscaping, habit restoration, lighting, signage and amenities. And Roy will go over in detail on those. With that I turn it  
8 over to Roy.

9  
10 Roy Schnabel, Biggs Cardosa Associates: I wanted to highlight some of the decision making points as that's where  
11 some of the signage and areas of signage that will be incorporated into this project. First the pedestrian access structure as  
12 you guys recall this was in lieu of putting a staircase we extended the sidewalk and extended the sidewalk over across the  
13 Adobe Creek and Barron Creek confluence to allow for an extension of the sidewalk and equal access Americans with  
14 Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant equal access to the other side which currently does not exist. It also allows us to retain  
15 the bike lane which was being shared by the pedestrians and creates a better safer sort of controlled sidewalk situation. For  
16 this area the decision making points are going to be the areas where a lot of the signage is going to be located for this  
17 pedestrian access structure. We anticipate placing dismount signs for the bicyclists both at the beginning at the end of the  
18 access ramp. Next slide. At the Adobe Creek trailhead a lot of this is being controlled by our coordination with the Water  
19 District and our coordination they asked us to reduce the number of amenities that were in that area and so we've  
20 done that. One of the additional revisions per the recommendation of this Commission is that we are going to now pave the  
21 trail. So that now is included in this project. At Meadow Drive at the other end we are going to place a raised sidewalk and  
22 some chicanes consistent with another City project which connects to this area so we're putting something that's  
23 consistent with that project and reflects similar elements. And then at the other end at the Baylands we have a  
24 roundabout and this is very similar to what we showed previously. It has been coordinated with Palo Alto Bicycle Advisory  
25 Committee (PABAC), City staff and basically these are all the areas where we're probably well we will have wayfinding  
26 signage and directional signage.

27  
28 The project included a baseline railing concept which was approved by Council and that included steel railings with chain  
29 link vinyl clad. We have been asked by the ARB to review some alternatives so we've done that so we're reviewing some  
30 railing alternatives which include welded weaved wire mesh and welded wire mesh as an alternative to the chain link and so  
31 we're reviewing that and looking to put that as railing [adds additive] alternatives. The overlook is consistent with what we  
32 presented before with several changes. The benches it was requested the benches have armrests and backs. The benches are  
33 going to be designed by the artists that's part of this project and they've been informed about the need for armrests and  
34 back rests and those are currently in design. We have also added of an area for bike storage which includes some  
35 bike racks so that there is a defined place to locate bikes for people who want to, bicyclists who want to use, utilize this  
36 area. It has required a little bit of an extension of the overlook and localized areas to accommodate some of these features.  
37 Landscaping; the area in the parking lot at 3600 West Bayshore is where the majority if not all of the impacts still to the  
38 trees are being contained. We are going to replace per the City ordinance and code, tree code, the canopy areas for  
39 the trees that we're impacting; however, this area cannot fulfill replacement of the entire trees that we're impacting in this  
40 area. We're planning to replace based on conversations with the City Landscape Architect, the City's Urban Forester and  
41 with, in collaboration with some of the stakeholders involved in this project to plant native species in this area. We're

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1 also planning to locate some additional trees and plants on the Bay Trail on the Baylands side adjacent to the Bay Trail in the  
2 area that we're also doing habitat restoration for the non-native species that are being impacted by our construction  
3 operations. The plan as you heard from Claire is to do a hydro seeding and some localized planting in that area. With regards  
4 to the lighting, the lighting is still consistent with what we presented previously. It's a combination of rail mounted  
5 lighting and pole lighting. The pole lighting is only on the west side to avoid perching situations on the other side. The  
6 change the one change to the pole lights is that we went to a head mounted light in lieu of the other lighting fixture that  
7 we had based on recommendations from ARB to match some of the context and vocabulary of the existing or of the  
8 proposed structure so we've done that. We'd also be utilizing the same form for the two street lights that are also being  
9 impacted by this project and being replaced by this project so it'll have the same sort of vocabulary as these lights. With  
10 regards to signage the left is what was recommended by staff based on conversations. We are going to limit the signage  
11 to destination, distance, and direction and not put duration. We're also planning some toppings that are project specific and  
12 identify this as a trail, multi-use trail. With regards to the etiquette signage the etiquette signage will be sporadically  
13 placed along the trail and the signs that are shown here are recommendations from staff in collaboration with PABAC.  
14 They are currently creating some shared path signage that will be standardized and so we don't have the formal ones yet,  
15 but this is the general direction that the etiquette signs are basically following. With regards to the amenities it's also  
16 similar to what we presented previously. There is a reduction based on what the Water District wants on the Adobe Creek  
17 trailhead area. The only other change is the bike racks. The specialized bike rack that we had shown previously was  
18 revised to something that was utilized in other areas in the City and that the City Maintenance preferred so that we could  
19 standardize some of the bike racks. So this is the bike rack revision.  
20

21 Ms. Bansal: And real quick on the schedule we have completed 35 percent design. Currently initial study is in circulation.  
22 After tonight's hearing we have tentatively scheduled park improvement ordinance meeting with PRC in September followed  
23 by ARB hearing in October and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) adoption by Council in November. Caltrans  
24 [unintelligible] approval and right of way and final design will follow CEQA approval. At this point a site and design  
25 review and CEQA approval is on critical path on our schedule to take us to construction beginning of 2019 and  
26 completion by 2020. So that concludes our presentation. Thank you.  
27

28 Chair Alcheck: Ok, thank you. Alright at this time I would invite Commissioners to weigh in. Please use your lights,  
29 switch the metal switch up. And I will begin to call you. Ok, start with Commissioner Gardias.  
30

31 Commissioner Gardias: Thank you. Thank you for your presentation. Thanks for coming and showing us the progress  
32 today. I am very pleased with the change that indicates that there will be access along the Adobe Creek. This is the change  
33 that was not present on the prior drawings so or maybe I didn't notice so if you could just share the history because it's a  
34 positive improvement. I have always been lobbying for opening those closed access roads to Palo Alto citizens and it's  
35 maybe one percent success, but it's a gigantic step forward so I hope that we can open the remainder of them. So if you  
36 could share your experience how it happened in Santa Clara Water District agreed to do so.  
37

38 Ms. Hodgkins: I'll just start briefly and turn it over. Planning staff was not at the meetings, but Public Works Engineering  
39 was at all of the meetings with Santa Clara Valley Water District. I think it was always the intent that we were, we hoped to  
40 open that trail obviously and it requires some negotiations with Santa Clara Valley Water District. And they weren't shown;  
41 it wasn't shown completely on the previous plan set so you're correct. We had spoken about it orally, but it wasn't on the  
42 actual plans in the initial study session, but with that I'll turn it to Roy if you have anything to add to that.  
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1 Mr. Schnabel: Yeah, so part of the discussions with the Water District has been to utilize the trail and open it  
2 throughout year round and they have they had agreed to do that in the very early conversations and we had we had  
3 shown that in the previous study session. The thing that's different is that we didn't have the paving. It was still the  
4 crushed gravel that was there so we've added based on the recommendations we've added that to the project. And so  
5 now it's going to be a paved trail all the way continues through from Meadow to West Bayshore so.

6  
7 Commissioner Gardias: Very good. Congratulations on this positive from my perspective improvement. And minor  
8 detail when it butts against East Meadow Drive. Is there any fencing planned? I can imagine that there is a bike and  
9 when I was thinking about this access road I notice that pretty much that those access shoulders they are wider on one  
10 side and narrower on the other side. They pretty much they change sides at every intersection and I cannot see this on  
11 these plans, but I can imagine that maybe on the other side if you continued along the creek there would be a wider road  
12 on the other side as opposed to on the same side of the creek, but I'm saying this because with prospective thinking and  
13 maybe hope that they will be at other side open at some point in the future there should be some barrier at the end of  
14 this bike corridor so the bike cannot enter the road rapidly unobstructed and then pretty much crash into a car or vice  
15 versa.

16  
17 Ms. Hodgkins: Yeah, I believe we have bollards at the end that are required for that very purpose.

18  
19 Commissioner Gardias: There is something, yeah?

20 Ms. Hodgkins: Yeah.

21 Mr. Schnabel: The bollards are for two purposes. One is to slow down the bicyclists through that connection, but they're  
22 also to prevent vehicles from entering and accessing. So the Water District is requiring that we provide some sort of  
23 preventive measure for vehicles to enter into that.

24  
25 Commissioner Gardias: I'm not talking about this. I'm not talking about the bollards. I'm talking about the physical fencing  
26 or some barrier so if somebody rides a bike along this opened pathway doesn't cross the street immediately, but is  
27 forced to stop. Because there is no crossing there, right? And then I think that the view may be obstructed because there is  
28 a fencing... a commercial building or office building fencing on one side and some trees if I remember correctly. So I don't  
29 believe that visibility is clear so I'm afraid that the bike would...somebody would be writing a bike, could be a kid, and then  
30 pretty much cuts through the road and there is a car coming from the other side and then pretty much doesn't see the kid.

31  
32 Ms. Hodgkins: Right, yeah. So two things; that is the purpose of the bollards though that we are putting on there in  
33 addition to stopping vehicles it's intended to slow down bicyclists as they exit out. And also the project does include a  
34 new crosswalk across there.

35  
36 Mr. Schnabel: It's going to be a raised crosswalk.

37 Ms. Hodgkins: Raised crosswalk which basically intended to slow down.

38 Commissioner Gardias: Ok, but the crosswalk is at the same, it's extension of the same (interrupted)

39  
40 Mr. Schnabel: Side route.

41  
42 Commissioner Gardias: Route. Ok, so I don't believe that this is the right solution. I would suggest the crosswalk is shifted

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1 towards the middle of the bridge just to pretty much to enforce stopping of the bikes.

2  
3 Chair Alcheck: I'm sorry Commissioner Gardias, do you mind Commissioner Summa and I are trying to figure out which  
4 intersection you're talking about and make sure we also understand.

5  
6 Commissioner Gardias: It's intersection of this, this is on Page 7.1 with the drawings and then if you can see the red line  
7 indicates that paved access road along the creek and then you see the green lines along East Meadow Drive. So I'm  
8 talking about the intersection of this newly opened bike plus pedestrian route at with East Meadow Drive. Story.

9  
10 Mr. Schnabel: So as I understand you're asking for an offset of the chicanes (interrupted) 8

11 Commissioner Gardias: That's correct.

12 Mr. Schnabel: Crosswalks (interrupted)

13 Commissioner Gardias: Yes.

14 Mr. Schnabel: To slow down (interrupted)

15 Commissioner Gardias: Yes.

16 Mr. Schnabel: The bicyclists and pedestrians even more.

17 Commissioner Gardias: Exactly, yes.

18 Ms. Hodgkins: Yeah, I mean we can certainly look into that option. Yeah, thank you.

19 Commissioner Gardias: Sure. Thank you very much. I continue at the next round.

20 Chair Alcheck: Ok, thank you Commissioner Gardias. The next light I have is Commissioner Summa.

21  
22 Commissioner Summa: So thank you everyone for the presentation. Also I'm I think the public is very happy that we're  
23 going to get this bridge and I think it will be well used. I appreciate Commissioner Gardias' concern. I hadn't thought of  
24 it, but if but if there's a way to make that safer I think that's a good idea. I know that one member of the public also  
25 might have been referring to the same situation in a letter we had in the packet. So I had an earlier I had a preference for  
26 there not being any pole lights and just lights down low, but I guess staff looked at that pretty thoroughly and they feel that  
27 the pole lights are necessary for safety reasons. Is that correct?

28  
29 Ms. Hodgkins: That's correct. I think that there was a general feeling that at least in some locations the taller pole  
30 lights were more appropriate particularly in locations where there were there wasn't railing on both sides to provide  
31 sufficient light to make it feel safe for people.

32  
33 Commissioner Summa: Ok, and the other observation I had and this was reinforced by our speaker Ms. Elliot is that it  
34 would be to enhance the plantings on either end most especially with native plants. It just seems a little bare both of  
35 the entry points. So any room that you have that obviously we don't want to take away room from the pedestrians and  
36 bicyclists, but any place that you can put more vegetation, trees, shrubs, whatever and also if you could look into her  
37 concern that the hydro seeding will be ineffectual if there's not years of weeding proceeding it and maintenance

1 afterwards. I also observe that sometimes we with the best intentions we plant things in City places and they're not  
2 very well maintained and of course there's exceptions to that rule. And I have a strong preference personally for  
3 native plants there and other than that I think it's a great project and I'm glad to see that it's going to be started pretty soon.  
4 So thank you.

5  
6 Chair Alcheck: Thank you, Commissioner Summa. The next light I have is Commissioner Lauing.

7 Commissioner Lauing: Thanks very much. Sensitive to our specific purview still I'd like to ask a few questions. I do note that  
8 you reference that in March 28, 2016, Parks Commission saw this and I was on Parks Commission at that time and that's  
9 what you say there, but it was about six years before that that we first got introduced to how are we going to get people to  
10 cross over there. So I've had a long history with it so for me it's really exciting that we're getting closer. We're getting  
11 closer and people can actually get to the Baylands safely on a bike or by walking. What ended up being the overall budget?  
12 And I think that was made up of both grants and other funds and a separate grant from Google?

13  
14 Ms. Bansal: Yes, so the total project budget is \$14 million.

15 Commissioner Lauing: \$14?

16 Ms. Bansal: \$14. 13

17 Commissioner Lauing: And how much of that was a grant in addition to Google?

18 Ms. Bansal: So it includes Santa Clara...

19  
20 Commissioner Lauing: \$3 million-ish as I recall?

21  
22 Ms. Bansal: Yeah, that is \$4 million. Let me, I have a... yeah, so that includes Santa Clara County that creation fund \$4  
23 million and then a federal grant, One Bay Area Grant's \$4.35 million, City's General Fund \$4.65 million, and Google  
24 contribution \$1 million.

25  
26 Commissioner Lauing: Ok. There is one reference in here if I can actually find it or you mention short term on Page 18 of the  
27 packet, minimal short term traffic impacts associated with construction which obviously is in our purview. What will that  
28 actually look like and for how long? Meaning will that effectively create should I call that a non-bridge there? Will it be  
29 a blockage where people can't get across? I'm just trying to visualize what the construction is going to look like even  
30 though you say it's minimal. It's not going to be only two weeks so I'm just trying to get a feeling with that's going to look  
31 like.

32  
33 Ms. Hodgkins: So are you asking how long construction is going to take basically or how long we might expect kind of peak  
34 construction?

35  
36 Commissioner Lauing: How long and... that's fine and is it going to take up a half a mile or 10 feet and we just order of  
37 magnitude kind of... What are our citizens going to look at and have to drive by and bike by during the timeframe?

38  
39 Ms. Hodgkins: Yeah, I...

40 Commissioner Lauing: I didn't mean that to be such a hard question.

41 Mr. Schnabel: So specifically first with regards to the freeway there will probably still be some night closures for the  
42 erection.

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1  
2 Commissioner Lauing: Ok.  
3

4 Mr. Schnabel: We're probably going to take the shoulders for construction of the [bents] that  
5 are adjacent to the freeway right at the border of the Bayshore Roads, frontage roads, and the freeway. That will also impact  
6 the Bayshore Roads during construction of that and we'll likely create a one lane situation which will be the current  
7 strategy is to do a one-way signalized traffic for that duration. That's probably a two to three month duration for the  
8 construction of those foundations. Once the erection of the [vain] spans, the steel spans occurs there should be very little  
9 traffic impacts to Bayshore and the freeways except for the construction traffic.  
10

11 Commissioner Lauing: Ok. So the process that's been used on Bayshore before there Geng Road and so on was that kind  
12 of signal light?  
13

14 Ms. Hodgkins: Yeah.  
15

16 Commissioner Lauing: It's getting through to East Palo Alto during that time frame was... it was very long.  
17

18 Mr. Schnabel: Yeah, it's just what we've tried to do is minimize that and mitigate that utilizing constructing, the  
19 construction techniques that have advanced over the past 10 to 15 years. And we're utilizing systems that are much  
20 smaller with regards to foundation footprints. So basically both the technology and the amount of impacts are mitigated  
21 from what's been done over the last 10 years or so.  
22

23 Ms. Hodgkins: So just to clarify too the time periods for the lane closures on East Bayshore Road would be minimized. It  
24 wouldn't just be all day every day for three months. We would be reducing it so that it's not impacting commute hour traffic  
25 and it was specific we specifically chose to do it in that way so that instead of closing East Bayshore Road which would  
26 have basically we would have had to reroute traffic through residential neighborhoods which obviously would have been  
27 much more impactful to residents.  
28

29 Commissioner: Ok.  
30

31 Ms. Hodgkins: Oh, no. Did that answer your question?  
32

33 Commissioner Lauing: Yeah. Thank you. Back over on the actual mitigation toward the end where you talk about existing  
34 trees with a circumference so on and existing visitation should be retained as much as possible. I'm not as familiar with the  
35 exact vegetation there as I am with the golf course which we also renovated in the Parks Commission, but we took out  
36 in Parks something like 600 trees and it was very important to communicate to the public that that was actually a good  
37 thing for two reasons. One is that a lot of them were non-native. They were invasive so they really shouldn't be there. And  
38 secondly the restoration there was natural Baylands habitat and so on. So that sounds like that's exactly what you're doing  
39 here. When you have to put stuff back in you're not putting up non-native trees just because there was a tree there, but  
40 you're saying no, this is the Baylands and we should be putting stuff in here that fits.  
41

42 Ms. Hodgkins: Correct, yeah. I definitely would agree with the conclusion that overall it's an improvement in terms of  
43 habitat restoration for the area and much more native species than are existing there today.  
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1 Commissioner Lauing: The reason I'm bringing this up is sometimes we tend to count dead trees and that's really not  
2 the metric. So that's why I'm raising it so that we should have public communication on that so that they understand it.  
3 And then just overall I want to comment that I really appreciate you commenting when we make comments and  
4 they're not going to happen that you gave us the reasoning for it from ARB or the Council or whatever. So that's really  
5 helpful and much appreciated. Thank you.

6  
7 Chair Alcheck: Thank you, Commissioner Lauing. Next is Commissioner Note Vice-Chair Waldfogel.

8  
9 Vice-Chair Waldfogel: Whoops. Thank you and thank you to Claire, Megha, and Roy for the presentations. Appreciate it.  
10 So after many, many years on this project, not sure does it go back to 2010?

11  
12 Commissioner Lauing: I think so. That was pre-project, but that was kind of planning time. 13

14 Vice-Chair Waldfogel: Pre-project. Ok, so many years. I think we should collectively breathe a sigh of relief that something  
15 is moving forward, but the same time I think we should just paused for a second and ask ourselves why after all of this  
16 time, all this effort, this is the design that we're ending up with. I think I said this at the last meeting as well that honestly  
17 this design is what a village builds over a stream. It's not what a city builds over a major highway, a prefab trestle. And  
18 why is this a problem? It's a problem because in the Comp Plan we set goals for good design and it's disappointing  
19 when I don't see great design in front of us. We're connecting the urban boundary to the Baylands and I think  
20 that the design really needs to reflect that connection. And the problem is how do we demand that private developers  
21 bring their A game to design which is something we try to do in the Comp Plan when we don't do the same thing to ourselves  
22 in City projects? I mean I think this is a problem. I mean the east side makes a lot of sense in the Baylands context I  
23 mean it's really an appropriate design for that context, but the west side on the urban side doesn't really make a lot of  
24 sense. And it makes this makes me really pessimistic about other City designs that I think that we'll see going forward. I  
25 mean about the parking structure designs are going to bring A game designs forward or not? Grade crossings, will we bring  
26 our A team our A vision? Because I think what we're signaling with this design is that the only thing that matters is cost. I  
27 mean we've cost engineered this to the point that we're basically building a trestle. I mean I think some people may  
28 applaud that, but I think that if we have City ambitions that we really need to have a bigger vision than this for the kinds of  
29 designs that we bring forward. And I really hope that the project doesn't get value engineered anymore from this point. I  
30 mean things like the ARB recommended fence improvement actually seems like an important move, a vinyl fence versus  
31 a steel fence seems like a significant difference in materiality and in user experience for the bridge. So if we were taking a  
32 specific vote on the design for this I would definitely have to take a pass on voting for that. I mean if the question that  
33 we're voting on tonight is whether this meets other Environmental Impact Report (EIR) criteria the answer is yeah, I  
34 think it does. I mean I think that this project has been worked to the point that it that it absolutely does, but I mean that  
35 said I'm still inclined to abstain tonight and I really hope that the ARB takes another look at this when they see this in  
36 October because I would just really like to see us bring our A game when we take on major civic projects.

37  
38 Chair Alcheck: Thank you, Commissioner Note Vice-Chair Waldfogel. Next is Commissioner Rosenblum.

39  
40 Commissioner Rosenblum: I also thank you for bringing this and I'm so excited to see the project move forward. I  
41 can't believe it's been this long. I was I used to be a Googler. I lived on East Meadow and so this was when it was closed,

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1 when the underpass was closed it was very painful. When it was open it was delightful, but even that it was delightful it  
2 was not a great solution. And so this is going to be wonderful. I have the same concerns that Commissioner Lauing has  
3 after seeing this project. I have our PTC findings which are listed as in short: construction operation in a manner that  
4 should be orderly, harmonious, and compatible etcetera; to assure the desirability of investment or the conduct of  
5 business, research, educational activities; to ensure the sound principles of environmental design and ecological balance will  
6 be observed; to ensure that the use shall be in accord with the Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan. I think on all of these findings I  
7 think we have to say yes, it has met these criteria and in fact in our previous meeting we're down to very small items. My  
8 concern is the same as Commissioner Lauing's which is once this gets going the degree of disruption to both the  
9 neighboring streets and the existing underpass so to the extent that you have construction that is supposed to start in early  
10 2019 through Spring 2020 that so lose a year of service for that the underpass and I know it's only open for half the year  
11 so we lose half a year of service for example is still a loss. And so just my only concern with this is degree of disruption  
12 and if it actually extends any farther the alternative to what we have there is quite dangerous and pretty bad. I have one last  
13 request though and again my experience as a Googler using this it took me three or four tries before I found out kind of an  
14 optimal way to go. In fact the first time I got completely lost and I couldn't figure out how to get there. And I would tell my  
15 colleagues once I kind of cracked the code you should really do this, this is great and none of them wanted to go through the  
16 exploration of figuring out. And it is not obvious. There's like some places you have to jump over like little bits of  
17 Shoreline Park and get onto sidewalks. Its... I would work or my request is that given that Google is involved this should be  
18 fairly straightforward, but work with Mountain View and the other side when you come across the other side there should  
19 be corporate signage. So it should tell you if you're going to Intuit here's how you go. If you're going to Google here's  
20 how you go. If you're going to whatever LinkedIn if it still exists there. So the major employers it would be very helpful to  
21 have a guide on the other side how to get there because I really hope we encourage the people that are currently in  
22 their cars going to work that they find that this is a really delightful and easy alternative. But my fear again I was the  
23 power user there. It took me a while and that's not solved by having a bridge. The wayfinding on the other side was  
24 poor. So my request is that the signage which I note the designs are quite clear, but I don't see a category for sort of  
25 corporate wayfinding and I'm hoping that becomes a major category of users. Well I guess I should ask is that  
26 something that's a possibility? Is that something that you're in favor of/can be done?  
27

28 Ms. Hodgkins: I think we'd have to think about specific wayfinding to specific companies. I don't see any reason that it  
29 wouldn't be, but yeah we can certainly reach out to them and see if that's an opportunity. I think we have considered  
30 wayfinding to other more major locations like Shoreline Amphitheatre and whatnot. If you want to add something?  
31

32 Mr. Schnabel: Yeah, I think for the scope of this project it's kind of hard because we're such a...as you said it's a bigger issue  
33 than just the bridge. I think that needs to be tackled from a global standpoint and we've talked to staff about wayfinding  
34 and they were sort of taking care of wayfinding outside of the area. We were sort of taking care of the individual  
35 wayfinding for this, but I think that's probably something that you should discuss with the Transportation staff to sort of how  
36 that (interrupted) 4  
37

38 Ms. Hodgkins: Yeah, I don't (interrupted)

39 Commissioner Rosenblum: I strongly suggest this. I mean we're talking about some of these campuses may have 10,000  
40 people sitting at one of these campuses and there's like six of them over there. So it's a major source of people and I do

---

1 think this is a major barrier. I think there is some reticence to use this when it takes some time to figure out where you're  
2 going.

3  
4 Ms. Hodgkins: Yeah, of course. I will definitely be talking to Transportation staff and we'll work with other agencies and  
5 jurisdictions to see what we can do for that.

6  
7 Commissioner Rosenblum: Thank you. I have nothing further. I think that you've met the findings that the PTC is required to  
8 find.

9  
10 Chair Alcheck: Ok. Thank you. Commissioner Rosenblum. I have Commissioner Gardias.

11 Commissioner Gardias: Thank you very much for the second round. So in terms of the signage I talked about this  
12 like a one year ago. So I mean if in terms of the of having a signage to Google I would agree, but it would have to  
13 come with a hefty price tag like a million dollars per signage. Something like this because it is different than  
14 the City related signage. And before we invented the signages that were just pointing us to two other locations  
15 there were natural signages like for example Asher's living room or Mendy's Inn something like this. There  
16 was naturally developed signage that was posted on the posts and trees throughout the country. And then at  
17 a certain point of time it was replaced by us with pretty much just removing those and then replacing with our  
18 standardized boards that don't mean much to the citizens. I'd rather see signage that reflects pointing to the  
19 to the interesting locations within the Palo Alto like for example Eichler's Swimming Club, something like this that  
20 means something to us since this is under jurisdiction. But if others would like to have their post on the signage or  
21 add their signage that would be fine, but I think that I would ask very much to pay for it because it's a would  
22 be related to the corporate advertisement from my perspective.

23  
24 Jonathan Lait, Assistant Director: So yeah, I appreciate your comments tonight. I appreciate  
25 Commissioner Rosenblum's comments as well. I mean this is I think the interest there is to find some way to if it's possible  
26 find some way to provide, make it easier, and encourage more people to bike instead of drive to different campuses.  
27 And there may be all kinds of discreet signage that can be employed, but even before we get there we'd want to have a  
28 conversation with other municipalities, talk to our Transportation Department, we'd actually reach out to other  
29 interested stakeholders in the area to have a conversation about that to see if it's something that can be done in a discreet  
30 way. So but your comments are understood and we'll also consider that as we move forward.

31  
32 Commissioner Gardias: Very good, thank you. But I would like to add a second comment about this what Vice-Chair  
33 Waldfogel was talking about that the design of the bridge. I'm already I slept with it so I'm not going to comment on this  
34 so I and I you can look up the minutes I shared my disappointment with the design back then. But what I would  
35 recommend, I would recommend that you go and you visit Palo Alto Unity Church that is located by the by the  
36 overflow creek and look at the barrier how it was designed. This is quasi a Frank Lloyd Wright design. I think it was must  
37 have been done by one of the Taliesin architects or somebody that followed Frank Lloyd Wright. And then pretty much  
38 when you look at the when you go to the church there is a bridge that crosses the creek. It's like pretty much maybe  
39 like 20-30 yards away from Middlefield or? Yeah, maybe Middlefield. And then if you come closer that bridge has a railing  
40 that's also designed following Frank Lloyd Wright patterns and then it opens. So pretty much it's flexible that it opens on  
41 both sides, has leaves like doors, and then pretty much it allows that the traffic along creek to pass through if the gate  
42 is open. So I would be looking in your design and maybe in the barrier that would stop the bicyclists from crossing  
43 suddenly the street some consistency of a higher class if possible. If we cannot just do this with the bridge I would just  
44 maybe start proposing something maybe consistent with that railing, just go there and take a look at this, and then a  
45 think about this what's going to happen in 10 years if we're going to open many of the major access roads along the  
46 creeks it would be nice to have uniform thinking, uniform fencing, uniform design across those roads. And my last question

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1 and my last comment is rather a question because I remember like year and a half ago we talked about the bicycle  
2 route along the Fabian Road. Yeah, so what happened because I remembered that back then there was a the project  
3 was showing that there will be from the bridge and maybe this was one of the options, right, so help me with my memory.  
4 So I remembered that from the bridge the trail would be going directly to Fabian Road as opposed to going along the  
5 creek. Which for me is an improvement, but I'm wondering how this affects the design that we looked at before?  
6

7 Ms. Hodgkins: I believe there's two options you can continue onto Fabian or you can continue onto West Bayshore Road  
8 and then continue on to Fabian again, but the Adobe Creek access trail provides an alternate option to Fabian to going  
9 around to Fabian Road that based on comments from the PTC and from the public is much safer.

10  
11 Commissioner Gardias: Oh, sure. Ok, I simply didn't remember how it was. So it was one of the options. Thank you very  
12 much. Thank you.

13  
14 Chair Alcheck: Ok, I have one more light from Commissioner Rosenblum.

15  
16 Commissioner Rosenblum: Yeah, I just want to respond to Commissioner Gardias just in case there is confusion around  
17 my comment also to staff. It's certainly not corporate advertising or at least that's not what I'm proposing. I think that  
18 the purpose of building the bridge is to encourage cycling and to get people out of their cars if possible. If you drive to  
19 Shoreline or any of those exits it's pretty obvious that a lot of the traffic is driven by the corporate campuses in that area  
20 and what we've built here is a really nice alternative. We recently studied the Stanford general use plan and even  
21 though I was recused from that meeting I read the report and one of the issues is trying to get people out of the cars that  
22 actually live pretty close. It's difficult they don't really run shuttles all through Mountain View and Palo Alto. So it's people  
23 that live within a couple miles it's actually quite difficult to get them out of their cars. And indeed Google doesn't run  
24 shuttle buses through Palo Alto. And so my purpose was you have several thousand employees that live on this side of 101  
25 and have to get to the other side of 101 every day and most of them get in their car. And so my purpose to that  
26 comment was If you make it easier for them to cross the bridge and bike, same thing with the other corporate campuses  
27 then why not do that? So it's a net benefit. And sure I mean if we want to put, sell signage I personally again I think that  
28 this conflicts with our goal of the beautiful city and having the Nascar look of sponsored by Intel and Google, whatever.  
29 But I'm not a marketer, it's up to others. But that was my purpose; my purpose was to try to increase usage of the road  
30 or of the bridge and the costs we're talking about \$14 million I don't know what the average lifetime of these things is, but if  
31 it's say twenty years and you have 500 users per day, three hundred and sixty-five days a year you're still talking about \$4  
32 per use and 500 per day is a lot if you think about just the daylight hours that we're using this. And so I really want a  
33 lot of people to use this. The whole purpose of this I think is to get people out of their cars and across that bridge and I think  
34 that getting these corporations on board with teaching their employees we can I think that would go a long way. So anyway  
35 that was the purpose of it not the advertising aspect.

36  
37 Commissioner Gardias: Yeah if you don't mind just me responding. I mean this is I totally (Interrupted)

38  
39 Chair Alcheck: Just a sec, just a sec, just a second. Thank you, Commissioner Rosenblum. Commissioner Gardias.

40  
41 Commissioner Gardias: Thank you. So I totally acknowledge their effort, right? They granted us \$1 million and they are just  
42 doing great work. So it's not about this, right? I think that they will find a way to their corporate offices. What I'm saying is  
43 that pretty much this is that we should just make sure that this City has its own character, unique character and for this  
44 reason I think that with an acknowledgement of their effort I just think that we should just focus the City on our internal  
45 values and internal orientation points as opposed to of the on the others knowing that they will find their way I'm sure.

1 There will be some other technology that they will developed very quickly.

2  
3 Chair Alcheck: Ok, thank you, Commissioner Gardias. I just want to remind everybody let's really rely on our lights  
4 tonight. I have a light from Commissioner Summa.

5  
6 Commissioner Summa: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to say something about the design process because I haven't  
7 been on the Planning Commission for the years it was discussed. And I really appreciate Commissioner [Note Vice-Chair]  
8 Waldfoegel and Commissioner Gardias' concerns about character of the City and quality of design. I'm I was also disappointed  
9 after the very long process we had and the design competition and whatnot, but I... and so I do appreciate those comments  
10 very much. I guess at this point I think that this is kind of the bridge we have so despite my disappointment with the  
11 design and the process I think I will be able to support it, but I just so I just wanted to share that.

12  
13 Chair Alcheck: Ok, thank you, Commissioner Summa. I want to thank everyone for their input and their feedback. I'll just  
14 respond that I think this bridge represents sort of two very different uses. It's a recreational bridge in some regard, but it's  
15 also a commuter tool. I think that Commissioner Rosenblum's ask tonight is very representative of his passion for  
16 Transportation Demand Management (TDM) advocacy. This idea that maybe I would assume that Commissioner  
17 Rosenblum would be in favor of signage on many of our streets that said something like hey, what about biking to work  
18 today? And I imagine that a recreational user who came over the bridge and saw a sign that said Google, one mile, this way  
19 would think twice oh, you know that's interesting and then mention it to their neighbor. You know what? You can just take  
20 that bridge and it's a very quick ride... I think that that idea of sort of getting sort of advertising that this is both a  
21 commuter tool and also recreational tool is important. And so I think those two purposes need to sort of be  
22 balanced. So I would I think that's a great recommendation.

23  
24 With respect to the design I sat on this Commission when we made our vote for the design that we liked the most as part of  
25 a design competition. And that was sort of a thrilling process. It was very much fun actually. But I think that this result is  
26 very emblematic of the challenge of sort of satisfying everyone that when we went through that design process we  
27 had many members of our community who suggested that there are far better things to spend our money on. And that is a  
28 challenge that we approach with almost every project in this City and every applicant on the private side has to approach  
29 with their projects is how do they sort of budget all of the desires they might have. So I think we have we're here we're I  
30 from my perspective what we have in front of us is not perfect, but it is good enough and hopefully whatever funds that  
31 we saved on this design will sort of meet the needs that the City has in other respects. So I turn to the Commission now. If  
32 anybody would like to make a Motion with respect to this agenda item I would appreciate it. Commissioner Rosenblum.

33  
34 MOTION:

35  
36 Commissioner Rosenblum: Yeah, I'd like to make a Motion that we find this project consistent with our PTC required  
37 findings. I don't know if we need to name each of the findings staff or the Motion say that we find this consistent with the  
38 findings under our purview?

39  
40 Ms. Hodgkins: I think you could say as recommended by staff because staff did include findings and rationale.

41  
42 Commissioner Rosenblum: Ok, yeah. Then I recommend the PTC find that this proposal is consistent with staff's

1 recommendation.

2  
3 Chair Alcheck: Can I get a second?

4  
5 SECOND

6 Commissioner Lauing: Second.

7 Chair Alcheck: Thank you, Commissioner Lauing. Would either of you like to speak to your Motion?

8  
9 Commissioner Rosenblum: Just very briefly.

10  
11 Chair Alcheck: Commissioner Rosenblum, go ahead.

12 Commissioner Rosenblum: I think that everyone has already said or given their position they think within the narrow  
13 purview of the PTC that this has met our hurdle and that the objections that I've heard have been more around design,  
14 ARB issues, and are more around suggestions for other things to do and study. But in terms of the purview that we have  
15 I've heard from other Commissioners I believe that the elements of the EIR, etcetera that we are asked to look at and are  
16 outlined in the report were met.

17  
18 VOTE

19 Chair Alcheck: Ok, thank you. Seeing no other lights I'm going to put this to a vote; all those in favor of supporting the  
20 Motion on the floor please raise your hand and say aye. All those opposed? Ok and abstentions? Alright, we have six in favor  
21 and one abstention, Commissioner [Note Vice-Chair] Waldfogel abstains. Great, thank you very much. With that I'm going to  
22 close Agenda Item Number 2. Let's take a 10 minute break as we prepare for our discussion on Agenda Item 3. Thank  
23 you.

24 MOTION PASSED (6-0-1, Vice-Chair Waldfogel abstained)

25  
26 **Commission Action**: Motion to support staff's recommendation made by Commissioner Rosenblum, seconded by  
27 Commissioner Lauing; motion passed 6-0-1 (Vice-chair Waldfogel abstained).

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**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**  
**EXCERPT DRAFT MINUTES: October 19, 2016**  
City Hall/City Council Chambers  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
8:30 AM

8  
9

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

10  
11 Present: Chair Alexander Lew, Vice Chair Kyu Kim, Board Member Wynne Furth, Peter  
12 Baltay, Robert Gooyer

13  
14 Absent:

15  
16  
17

**Oral Communications**

18  
19  
20

**Agenda Changes, Additions and Deletions**

21  
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23

**City Official Reports**

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25  
26

**1. Transmittal of the ARB Meeting Schedule and Attendance Record, and  
Administrative Staff-Level Architectural Review Approvals**

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**Action Items**

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**2. PUBLIC HEARING / QUASI-JUDICIAL.** Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass and Adobe Creek Reach Trail Project [17PLN-00212]: Recommendation on Applicant's Request for Approval of a Site and Design Review to Allow Construction of a MultiUse Pedestrian and Bicycle Overpass Structure Over Highway 101 Near San Antonio Road; Construction of the Adobe Creek Bridge and Adobe Creek Reach Trail; and, Reconfiguration of the Adjacent Parking Lot at 3600 West Bayshore Road. Environmental Assessment: An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was Circulated for Public Comment On September 1, 2017 and Ended on October 2, 2017. Zoning Districts: PF(D), PF, ROLM, and GM. For More Information Contact the Project Planner Claire Hodgkins at [claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org)

40  
41  
42

Chair Lew: Ok, I think we've got the presentation up. This is item number four which is a public hearing for a quasi-judicial item, Highway 101 pedestrian/bicycle overpass and Adobe Creek Reach Trail Project. Recommendation on applicant's request for approval of a Site and

1 Design Review to allow construction of a multi-use pedestrian and bicycle overpass structure  
2 over Highway 101 near San Antonio Road; construction of the Adobe Creek Bridge and Adobe  
3 Creek Reach Trail; and reconfiguration of the adjacent parking lot at 3600 West Bayshore  
4 Road. The environmental assessment is an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was  
5 circulated for public comment on September 1, 2017, and ended on October 2, 2017. The  
6 zone districts is PF(D), PF, ROLM, and GM. Our project planner today is Claire Hodgkins.

7  
8 Board Member Furth: Chair Lew, before we start I have...

9  
10 Chair Lew: Yes, disclosures?

11  
12 Board Member Furth: ... a disclosure other than that I visited the site. I received a  
13 communication from and briefly discussed this matter with Asher [phonetics] [Wolfogal] who  
14 expressed the view that this was not a good design, that it seemed to be trying to be rural  
15 and actually it was connecting an urban area with open space and the urban elements should  
16 go all the way to the edge of the open space.

17  
18 Chair Lew: Great, thank you. Any other disclosures? Ok.

19  
20 Ms. Claire Hodgkins, Project Planner: Good afternoon Board Members, Claire Hodgkins Project  
21 Planner. Today's project is the Highway 101 bicycles/pedestrian overpass and Adobe Creek  
22 Reach Trail. I'll be very brief in my presentation so the project crosses Highway 101 between  
23 East Oregon Expressway and San Antonio Road over crossings. It also includes the Adobe  
24 Creek Reach Trail connecting West Bay Shore Road out to East Meadow Drive. The purpose of  
25 the project is so that it provides year around pedestrian/bicycle connection between the  
26 commercial and residential uses West of Highway 101 and the walking/biking trails in the Bay  
27 Lands East of Highway 101. It completes the Adobe Creek Reach Trail and both of these  
28 projects are capital improvement projects. Briefly on the process, through previous meetings,  
29 the Council has already selected the alignment of the bridge, the type of structure and the  
30 budget for the structure. As all you all know, Staff conducted a study session with you, as well  
31 as with the PTC in May of this year. PTC recommended approval on September 13<sup>th</sup> for the  
32 project and today we're looking for a recommendation from the ARB. The current schedule is  
33 soon so the project would go to Council for a final decision in November. Key project changes,  
34 I'm just going to list these because I know Public Works Engineering is going to go through  
35 these in a little bit more detail for you. The bridge truss design, the trailhead and amenity  
36 refinements, lighting improvements, form liner wall finish and self-weathering truss finish. The  
37 recommended motion today is considering the Negative – Mitigated Negative Declaration and  
38 the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan and recommend approval of the Site and Design  
39 Application to the City Council based on findings and subject to conditions of approval included  
40 in the draft Record of Land Use Action. With that, I'll turn it back to you and recommend that  
41 you hear from Public Works Engineering.

42  
43 Ms. Elizabeth Ames, Project Manager: Good afternoon, hello, Elizabeth Ames Project Manager  
44 with Public Works Engineering. We have a design team here, Roy Schnabel from Biggs  
45 Cardosa Associates, we have Claudia Guadagne from FMG Architects and we also have [Mega  
46 Bonsaul] our project engineer in the audience and Elise DeMarzo with Director of Art...

47  
48 Ms. Elise DeMarzo: Public Art.

49  
50 Ms. Ames: Public Art, thank you. With that, I just wanted to have Roy go into the design  
51 elements and I will wrap up with the schedule.

52  
53 Mr. Roy Schnabel: I want to briefly highlight the major project elements and revisions that  
54 were made from the last time. I think it's clear from – for everybody on our challenges in

1 balancing the community's, the Council's, the various Commission's and this Board's goals and  
2 desires to deliver expeditiously a thoughtfully designed project. We appreciate all of the  
3 feedback that we have gotten from the Commissions, especially this Board, from the last  
4 study session to help us improve the design narrative for this specific project. On the first  
5 slide, the red items are the major structural elements and the blue items are the  
6 ingress/egress gathering areas. Where's the – one of the most significant architectural  
7 elements is, of course, the principle truss which spans over both Bay Shores and US 101. For  
8 various reasons as discussed previously, we went with a long span steel structure to improve  
9 a number of characteristics. It draws from the vocabulary – design vocabulary of the existing  
10 truss that crosses Adobe Creek. Some of the previous comments were to attempt to reduce  
11 the overall height and mass of the structure and there was a lot of input on the discontinuity  
12 of the three truss – the individual truss, especially at the connections. So, we looked at  
13 reviewing that and made some considerable changes to the truss to address those issues. The  
14 major one is that we went from – instead of three individual trusses to a single truss which  
15 resolved the continuity issue. It also became a little more efficient structurally so it helped us  
16 reduce very slightly the height of the overall structure. Also, some of the members were  
17 reduced in size so we got it less massive looking. One of the disadvantages is that it creates a  
18 little bit more complicated erection process because now we have a longer truss system to  
19 have to erect, particularly over the freeway. The baseline fencing included a chain link fence  
20 and we're – based on what we were recommended to do by Council, the baseline fencing is  
21 still consistent with what they recommended which was a vinyl clad chain link fence. We have  
22 looked at other alternatives and we also have painted the posts to more reflect sort of the  
23 design vocabulary that's being invoked by the main truss elements. Go to the next slide – the  
24 alternatives to the chain link as potential upgrades or add alternatives to be reviewed with  
25 Council include either woven or welded wire mesh which was one of the recommendations  
26 from this panel. We're looking at some of those as alternatives as upgrades or an added  
27 alternative. Another revision slightly is the overlook and based on input from a number of  
28 Commissions and Panels we expanded a couple of areas. One was the area for bike storage to  
29 allow for people to locate bikes and not just have them leaning against fences so this is a  
30 more active space. Then the other expanded area is basically an expanded lounge area for a  
31 placement of functional but very beautiful project art in the form of cast seating elements and  
32 there are some examples of the cast seating elements in your presentation. This is to basically  
33 provide for rest areas or reflection areas and areas to appreciate the Bay Lands. It's located  
34 farthest away from the freeway to mitigate some of the noise issues and then it's located in  
35 the area where the vistas are probably the best to view the Bay Lands and the adjacent  
36 riparian areas. There's also -- depending on project budgets and art budgets, there is  
37 potential to include artistic railing and so the artistic railing is also included in that rendering,  
38 which basically simulates the grass and the grasses that are prevalent in the Bay Lands area.  
39 The lighting, the lighting is fairly consistent with what we presented previously in terms of its  
40 overall look and characteristics and its basic elimination of light pollution and some of the  
41 reasons for that. One of the major changes was a change of the pole standard. We removed  
42 that anodized aluminum linear pole for a more traditional headed pole system and are  
43 recommending painting that pole to further be consistent with the design narrative with the  
44 vertical elements of the bridge. It also is a little bit more efficient than that other lighting  
45 system and so this sort of was one of the recommendations from the Board that we've added  
46 to the project. Landscaping so we have two areas where we're putting all the – where we're  
47 replacing a number of trees that are being affected by this project. One of them is on the west  
48 side in the Google parking lot and we are – this has a more urban, more industrial feel to it  
49 because it's basically adjacent to the existing landscaping at Google. So, it's very structured  
50 but we're planting, based on recommendations by City Staff, Park and Rec. Maintenance, the  
51 Urban Forester, where all the landscaping is going to be native species. On the other side we  
52 couldn't fit all the replacement trees on this side so based on some additional  
53 recommendations, we've now located a number of trees on the West side which has a more  
54 organic feel. We've identified three zones, a woodland zone closer to the Adobe Creek area, a



1 shrubland zone where we're locating shrubs which will act as refuge – upland refuge for the  
2 endangered mouse that's habitat is close to this site and then we'll have some transition  
3 zones between the shrubland and the Bay Lands areas. All of this is being worked with the  
4 City Staff and Park and Rec. Maintenance, a number of environmental stakeholders and with  
5 our project landscaper and restoration specialist. Another revision to this is we are no longer  
6 recommending hydroseeding which was the main baseline option. Based on those same  
7 conversations it was concluded that hydroseeding would not be effective over the long term  
8 and they – we are replacing hydroseeding with mulching, which was the recommended  
9 solution to that to create a better experience and long-term effect. Then I'll go briefly over the  
10 ingress/egress areas so the pedestrian access structure, this basically replaces the pedestrian  
11 funneling of pedestrians onto the street and creates a pedestrian access all the way across  
12 West Bay Shore. Then we would return the bicycle lane back to the bicyclist. It also provides  
13 secondary access for people coming south to access the pedestrian structure – pedestrian bike  
14 structure. The next area is a little further south of that, is the area that connects to the Adobe  
15 Creek Trail. We have implemented the Adobe Creek Trail and one of the things that occurred  
16 between the process of the time we met and now, is that the actual paving of the trail is now  
17 included in the project. We are now paving the trail and the funds for that have been allocated  
18 to support that. We've also had several meetings with regards to the Water District and a  
19 number of the amenities that were originally planned for this area have been eliminated for  
20 concern of issues with the Water District. Maintenance vehicles running into them and their  
21 fear for that so they've asked for those – a number of those amenities be removed. At the  
22 other end of the trail is the connection to Meadow Drive and we're implementing a raised  
23 sidewalk and chicanes, which is basically to stay a recommendation from transportation to  
24 create continuity with their Bike Safety Programs which is installing a number of these  
25 throughout the neighborhood. So, we're trying to stay consistent with that so we're following  
26 their design cues for both the raised sidewalk and the chicanes in this area. Then at the other  
27 end on the East Bay Shore side we have a roundabout which will help traffic calm, slow speeds  
28 and create an area for people and bicyclist to recognize that there is a potential confluence of  
29 different users at that point. We're imploring both textures and colors to signify that area so  
30 we're looking for the roundabout to be – to have colorized concrete. Then with regards to  
31 signage, a lot of the signage is concentrated in and around the areas of those points of  
32 connection and where decision making needs to happen. We're also taking our cues from the  
33 City's Transportation Staff. The one decision that made it through all the Commissions is that  
34 with regards to the signage, the one at the far left is the standard signage for the bike project.  
35 We've cut down a number of the -- we've cut down – we've taken out the durations from that  
36 sign to make it a little bit easier to understand and to apply to both bicyclists and pedestrian.  
37 So, the distance applies but the durations don't so we thought it would get to cluttered with  
38 information. Then one of the things that came out of that is some project specific signage for  
39 the multi-use path. That would signify that and that's an example of it. That's not the final and  
40 it's still has to go through graphics. The informational signage is being worked on Pay Back  
41 and Transportation and their developing some multi-use path signage and these are the  
42 samples they have given us. So, those will be sporadically located along the path to – as  
43 etiquette signage. Then the last is the amenities, the one major amenity change is the bike  
44 rack. The bike rack that we had was requested to be revised by City Staff to this which is  
45 being used in the City and other locations. They felt it was a little bit more effective and  
46 functional. Schedule, I'll turn that over to Elizabeth.

47  
48 Ms. Ames: Thank you, Roy. What we're trying to do is expedite this after this milestone.  
49 Hopefully, this goes well today with your input and we are hoping to start our right of way  
50 phase soon after this when we get our environmental clearance with NEPA; Caltrans is helping  
51 us with that. Once we do this, hopefully, we can expedite the design and the right of way  
52 phase. Right now, we're saying we're going to start construction in 2019 but we're trying to go  
53 sooner than that pending the permits with Caltrans and the process we have to go through,  
54 which we're heavily relying on Biggs Cardosa Associates to help us with that. Hopefully, we

1 can build it sooner than starting in 2019 but that's what we're going with right now. Thank  
2 you.

3  
4 Chair Lew: Great, thank you, Elizabeth. I don't have any speaker cards for this. Are there any  
5 Board Member questions?

6  
7 Board Member Gooyer: Yeah, I got a couple. On the core ten for the main structure, is that  
8 going to be or is going to be allowed to rust before it's installed or afterward? The only  
9 problem with afterward is that while it's going through the rusting process is if it rains, it leaks  
10 and every car driving underneath it is going to end up with rust stains all over it and you're  
11 going to have a lot of irritated people. I mean I've had experience with that for 30-years  
12 where we put the roofs on there like that and you make the dumb mistake of having a nice  
13 white wall next to it and after a while the nice white wall is stained. So, it has to either be  
14 done beforehand or something.

15  
16 Mr. Schnabel: Ok, well we can specify that and there are ways to accelerate that so we could...

17  
18 Board Member Gooyer: No, I am aware of that. I just wanted to make sure that you don't  
19 inadvertently do that and then like I said, have a lot of irritated people. The second question is  
20 on sheet 4.3-C on the - you show the main truss and then you have that interior chain link  
21 assembly. Then on 5.2, the chain link appears to be part of the main truss.

22  
23 Mr. Schnabel: Yeah so originally, we were thinking of framing the chain link with individual  
24 elements and later enhancement to that to mitigate the number of...

25  
26 Board Member Gooyer: So, the 5.2 is what you're going to go with?

27  
28 Mr. Schnabel: Yeah, that's we're recommending going with.

29 Board Member Gooyer: Ok, thank you.

30  
31 Chair Lew: Ok, any other questions? Wynne, no? Wynne.

32  
33 Board Member Furth: I forgot to look at what the Bay Lands plan has to say about signage so  
34 how is the signage consistent with it? I know it has a lot to say about it.

35  
36 Ms. Hodgkins: So, I'm going to pull it up as we talk but I think just in terms of muted colors  
37 and - do you have - it sounds like she has additional information so I'll let...

38  
39 Ms. Ames: Yes, I think what we're going to try to do is - well, there's an interpreted signage  
40 feature that we have not developed yet and that would be consistent with the guidelines. Most  
41 of the signage that we're proposing here is really consistent with the City's signage plan and  
42 it's not tying in with the Bay Lands Design Guidelines for the street - the street signage. So,  
43 we've got a lot of stenciling on the pavement but there's really not a lot of signage in the Bay  
44 Lands component other than the interpretive signage and Roy can elaborate on that.

45  
46 Mr. Schnabel: We have three different - I mean four different classifications of signage. One is  
47 the traffic signage and that's going to follow the City's Transportation MUTCD requirements for  
48 those signs. So, those are going to be - follow those design standards as required by the  
49 Transportation Staff. We have information - etiquette signage and the etiquette signage is  
50 also going to follow some of those same guidelines with regards to the MUTCD requirements.  
51 With regards to informational signage, those we will - we have several areas and those  
52 haven't been coordinated yet. Those will include trail maps and information and things like  
53 that and we haven't defined what standard to follow with regards to that because we have  
54 basically two distinct areas. One is the Bay Lands area and the other one is at the Adobe

1 Creek Trail. With regards to the educational signs which are the ones that are at the overlook,  
2 those will be – what we’re sort of hoping that will be since that’s not part of this contract, is  
3 very similar to what is being done over at the boardwalk to keep some continuity and  
4 connection to that area.

5  
6 Board Member Furth: So, you’re mindful of those standards not always – sometimes those are  
7 being subordinated to Citywide traffic conventions. Thank you.

8  
9 Chair Lew: Board Member comments. Wynne, will you start us off?

10  
11 Board Member Furth: I have no further comments.

12  
13 Chair Lew: Ok, Kyu?

14  
15 Vice Chair Kim: Thank you for the presentation and bringing this project back. I guess Staff is  
16 seeking some input on our preferences or recommendations for the fencing and...

17  
18 Male: Guardrails, right?

19  
20 Vice Chair Kim: The guardrail fencing, right? I’m looking at some of the samples that you’ve  
21 brought here. I think my personal preference is leaning towards that 1-inch woven wire mesh  
22 but I don’t know that I feel so strongly about that, that I wouldn’t recommend the project  
23 otherwise but that would be my preference. I think it provides the more constituency and it  
24 tends to blend better with the rest of the bridge and there’s no need to worry about the vinyl  
25 coming off the other option or possibly somebody cutting a piece off of that and how do you  
26 replace it with the same vinyl coating so on and so forth. Even at the last presentation, I think  
27 I had a small issue with the roundabout over on the east side and I think I finally figure out  
28 what it was. I think – it’s a very small thing to me but the roundabout seems to push the  
29 paths a little bit outwards. In other words, the circle is off-set so that it makes each path off-  
30 set except for that one on the left. So, you see how the path becomes tangent to the circle  
31 but it’s not actually pushed out by the circle and I think that’s what it is that’s been bothering  
32 me about it. I don’t know if that’s such a huge issue but I would think that if it’s for traffic  
33 calming, that maybe it would benefit from the circle shifting a little bit to the left such that  
34 each of the three sides of the path are bumped out a little bit. Other than that, I’m fine with  
35 the overall look. The – with the seating, maybe – depending on what kind of finish in on that  
36 seating, I would imagine early morning or in the winter that it may be a little bit too cold  
37 because it’s aluminum. Then maybe in the hot summer sun that it could get too hot but those  
38 are relatively minor things and I think the seating itself is quite lovely. The final – I’ve very  
39 pleased with the way that it’s been heading. I appreciate the fact that you’ve brought the  
40 whole trusses together and I understand that it will be a little bit more difficult during  
41 construction but I think it does seem to tie together a little bit better than it had previously.  
42 My – in closing my final question would be just some clarification on the lighting. As one  
43 where to cross over from the Bay to the Westside and connecting over to East Meadow, what  
44 kind of lighting is provided along Adobe Creek, if any?

45  
46 Mr. Schnabel: Are you talking about within the Adobe Creek Trail itself?

47  
48 Vice Chair Kim: Yes.

49  
50 Mr. Schnabel: We’re not allowed to light that.

51  
52 Vice Chair Kim: So, there’s no lighting at all?

53  
54 Mr. Schnabel: No lighting.

1  
2 Vice Chair Kim: Alright.  
3

4 Mr. Schnabel: By the condition of the Water Districts requirements. What we want to do is  
5 the areas where the trail heads begin we want to make sure there's adequate lighting,  
6 including the roundabout, to identify areas of confluence and areas where the points of  
7 connection are occurring. We're hoping to light those a little bit more robustly than in the  
8 standard areas just to signify them both from a visual standpoint in the lighting.  
9

10 Chair Lew: Can I ask a follow-up question to that? Would the Adobe Creek Reach Trail be  
11 closed at night or have any hours restricted? I'm thinking like Stevens Creek Trail in Mountain  
12 View technically closes from dusk to dawn.  
13

14 Mr. Schnabel: That will be dependent on you. There's not going to be a restriction with the  
15 Water District closing it so it will be open 24-hours a day every day until they maintain it. The  
16 only restriction they'll have is closer during maintenance hours.  
17

18 Chair Lew: Thank you. Robert?  
19

20 Board Member Gooyer: A couple things, I was also looking at that trail roundabout and the  
21 thing is for a car – I mean the whole idea is to slow people down but the reality of it is if  
22 you're cruising on a bicycle, you don't really have to slow down. That roundabout really isn't  
23 doing anything to make you slow down, go around the turn and then keep going. You can cut  
24 that thing straight through and not – so it's basically defeating the purpose of what it's there  
25 for, other than just putting more concrete down. Secondly, with the core ten in place, the only  
26 thing is that I don't know how attractive a chocolate brown barrier across the freeway is going  
27 to look. I understand core ten is great because you never have to touch it after you're done  
28 but I just don't like the final color. They have a bridge similar to this at Hospital Curb up in the  
29 City which is bright blue and I kind of like that. I mean it's just a bright color and I know the  
30 maintenance issue is probably a little bit more but if you do a powder coating or something  
31 like that, it – I'd rather see something like that than this sort of chocolate brown. I don't really  
32 think that's – again, I want you to make sure that whatever the finish that you put on this is  
33 done before you put it on their rather than – other than that like I said it's a shame based on  
34 the designs we saw what last year? That could have been built here than what we ended up  
35 getting but that's my own personal opinion.  
36

37 Chair Lew: Great, thank you, Robert. Peter.

38 Board Member Baltay: Thank you, I find it to be a well put together project. I commend you  
39 on a detailed presentation and I can make the findings to recommend approval.  
40

41 Chair Lew: I also can recommend approval of the project. You had asked for comments on the  
42 railings and I actually think I – I think I actually prefer the coated chain link from what I've  
43 seen other bicycle bridges. Then I think the second choice would be the welded – I'm sorry,  
44 the woven wire and I'm generally not crazy about the welded wire which is over there. To me,  
45 I wouldn't want to spend more money for that versus the coated chain link. On the  
46 roundabout, I actually think it's better to have the roundabout because if you at some of the  
47 other bridges – bicycle bridges in Mountain View, the bicyclists can pick up a lot of speed –  
48 you can actually go very fast downhill. There's on bicycle bridge that crosses Moffet Boulevard  
49 and then there's the t-intersection at the bottom where all the – t-intersection at the bottom  
50 of the ramp and I think it's kind of issue. I think you do want the bicyclist to slow down a little  
51 bit but I think I agree with Kyu. I think there's – it seems a little circuitous at the moment the  
52 way you have it. I realize you have space constraints, right? I mean I think that's the problem  
53 there and I think I can – I can make all of the findings on here. Does anybody want to try to  
54 make a motion? Don't jump all at once. Wynne, will you give it a stab?

1  
2 **MOTION**

3  
4 Board Member Furth: I move approval – well, I move that we recommend approval of the  
5 Mitigated Negative Environmental Declaration and the proposed project subject to the findings  
6 and conditions contained in the Staff report.

7  
8 Board Member Baltay: Second.

9  
10 Chair Lew: Can I have a...

11  
12 Board Member Furth: Is there any other thing you want to add?

13  
14 Chair Lew: It's just a typo so under finding five...

15  
16 Board Member Furth: Yep.

17  
18 Chair Lew: ...it says the landscape is being designed...

19  
20 Board Member Furth: I'm sorry, could you give me a page number? I'm having trouble.

21  
22 Chair Lew: It's just a little typo, it's 198.

23  
24 Board Member Furth: Ok.

25  
26 Chair Lew: I think it should just say designed instead of design.

27  
28 Board Member Furth: Ok.

29  
30 Chair Lew: I don't know if there are any others that you noticed?

31  
32 Board Member Furth: Which line are you on? It's the landscape design, right? Oh, I see it,  
33 right. Has been designed.

34  
35 Chair Lew: Yeah.

36  
37 Board Member Furth: Ok.

38  
39 Chair Lew: Just a little nitpicky thing.

40 Board Member Baltay: I second that.

41  
42 Chair Lew: All in favor? Opposed? None. Thank you very much...

43  
44 **MOTION PASSES 5-0**

45  
46 Ms. Ames: Thank you very much. That was a big milestone for us so thank you so much.

47  
48 Ms. Hodgkins: Thank you.

## Hodgkins, Claire

---

**From:** Hettenhausen, Michael <michael.hettenhausen@PRK.SCCGOV.ORG>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** Hodgkins, Claire  
**Subject:** Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overcrossing and Adobe Creek Reach Trail

Ms. Hodgkins,

I noticed this item on tonight's Planning & Transportation Commission agenda and would like to note the County Parks Department's support. Please let me know the outcome of tonight's meeting and the possible construction timeline, when possible.

Thanks,

Michael

**Michael Hettenhausen, Associate Planner**

Santa Clara County Parks | 298 Garden Hill Drive | Los Gatos, CA 95032  
(408) 355-2362 | [parkhere.org](http://parkhere.org)



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## Hodgkins, Claire

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**Subject:** FW: Comments Hwy 101 Adobe Multi-Use Bridge

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**From:** Penny Ellson [<mailto:pellson@pacbell.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 31, 2017 2:37 PM  
**To:** Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Comments Hwy 101 Adobe Multi-Use Bridge

Honorable Commissioners,

I cannot attend tonight's meeting because our family will be celebrating my daughter's high school graduation. Here are my comments on the Hwy 101 Pedestrian-Bicycle Bridge to the baylands:

**Please encourage staff and Council to move this much-needed project forward expediently.**

I remember writing letters in support of VTA funding for this important connection more than a decade ago—funding that was awarded and then subsequently rescinded because of project delays. The project before you is a good, cost-effective plan. Please move it forward.

The bridge project is well-supported by Comprehensive Plan policies and goals.

The current crossing at Embarcadero Road is 1.5 miles away. Using it when the tunnel is closed can add as much as three miles to a bike trip. That is a barrier for young children. For an adult biking at 15 miles an hour this extra distance means added time of 12 minutes, plus up to 3 minutes waiting for a green light at Oregon Expressway.

For people who bike commute from south Palo Alto to points south, that would be a significant addition to daily bike commutes. Instead, without the bridge, they are pushed to busy, arterial surface streets during the wettest, darkest months when the Lefkowitz Tunnel is closed. Safety is an issue.

For people who enjoy hiking and birding in the baylands, the bridge will provide a new car-free connection to this amazing open, natural space.

The Hwy 101/Adobe pedestrian/bike bridge is an important regional connector that is long overdue. Please move it forward quickly.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Penny Ellson  
Palo Alto resident

## Hodgkins, Claire

---

**Subject:** FW: Highway 101 Bike Bridge - PTC Meeting

**From:** Boris Foelsch [<mailto:borisfoelsch@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 31, 2017 5:07 PM

**To:** Planning Commission; pwecips

**Subject:** Highway 101 Bike Bridge - PTC Meeting

Dear Members of the Planning and Transportation Commission,

In advance of tonight's meeting, which I cannot attend, I'd like to write you about the proposed design for the Adobe Creek over crossing of 101.

Upon reviewing the materials, which are very helpful, I was pleased to see that the design is straightforward, functional and simple, yet aesthetically pleasing. I think it's absolutely fine to have a design that is not particularly ornate, especially given that it looks fairly sleek.

I ride across the freeway about five or six times a week to take Bay trails to/from work and the availability of a safe, year-round alternative will be very welcome. I'd like to recommend that move the project forward expediently. I see no reason to make changes.

Sincerely,

Boris Foelsch

3694 Louis Rd.



## Hodgkins, Claire

---

**From:** Architectural Review Board  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 11:20 AM  
**To:** Lew, Alex; Kim, Kyu; Baltay, Peter; Gooyer, Robert; Furth, Wynne  
**Cc:** Gerhardt, Jodie; Lait, Jonathan; Hodgkins, Claire  
**Subject:** FW: Ped/Bike Bridge

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann Pianetta [<mailto:annpianetta@yahoo.com>]  
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 10:43 AM  
To: Architectural Review Board; pwecips  
Subject: Ped/Bike Bridge

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a well thought-out project except for one thing. There is not enough protection for peds and bikes next to the roadway. There should be a wall. This will keep people from jumping in front of cars and cars hitting peds. And this should be on both sides of the freeway.

Also, when is there going to be better landscaping in general at all the entry ways into Palo Alto from 101. It looks horrible and reflects on our city. Please do something about it and let me know.

Sincerely,

Ann Pianetta  
3815 La Donna Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA  
94306  
650-424-9070

## Hodgkins, Claire

---

**From:** Architectural Review Board  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 11:19 AM  
**To:** Lew, Alex; Kim, Kyu; Baltay, Peter; Gooyer, Robert; Furth, Wynne  
**Cc:** Hodgkins, Claire  
**Subject:** FW: Highway 101 Bridge

-----Original Message-----

From: Joel Davidson [<mailto:joelscottd@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 11:08 AM  
To: Architectural Review Board  
Cc: pwecips  
Subject: Highway 101 Bridge

To whom it may concern,

I am strongly supportive of the proposed Bike bridge on Highway 101. This project has been too long on the waiting list of the Parks and Recreation Commissions agenda. I guessing about 10 years. Please move forward on this project ASAP.

Thank you,

Joel Davidson former Parks and Recreation Commissioner  
504 Thain Way  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

## Hodgkins, Claire

---

**From:** Architectural Review Board  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 11:20 AM  
**To:** Lew, Alex; Kim, Kyu; Baltay, Peter; Gooyer, Robert; Furth, Wynne  
**Cc:** Hodgkins, Claire; Lait, Jonathan; Gerhardt, Jodie  
**Subject:** FW: Highway 101 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge

**From:** Judd Volino [<mailto:gobike20816@typespot.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 10:33 AM  
**To:** Architectural Review Board; pwecips  
**Subject:** Highway 101 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge

Dear ARB and City Staff:

I am a Palo Alto resident and cyclist and am writing that you do everything possible to expedite this project to ensure that inflation doesn't catch up again and cause it to be short on funding. A bridge that allows mounted riding and that is much more visible than the Embarcadero bridge will do a great deal to open access to the Baylands and provide safe crossing of the freeway.

Please just build this thing!

Thank you,  
Judd Volino  
1150 Parkinson Ave

## Hodgkins, Claire

---

**From:** Architectural Review Board  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 11:21 AM  
**To:** Lew, Alex; Kim, Kyu; Baltay, Peter; Gooyer, Robert; Furth, Wynne  
**Cc:** Hodgkins, Claire; Gerhardt, Jodie; Lait, Jonathan  
**Subject:** FW: Excited about highway 101 bicycle bridge

**From:** Lisa Dusseault [<mailto:lisa.dusseault@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 10:11 AM  
**To:** Architectural Review Board  
**Subject:** Excited about highway 101 bicycle bridge

Hi,  
I just wanted to say I'm excited about this bridge. As a family we use the existing bridges (Oregon and Stevens Creek trail) maybe 10 times a week. My husband commutes by bike, and I sometimes go to meetings by bike from the Duveneck area where we live to places like Google. Sometimes we go to the baylands or Shoreline Park with our kids. Sometimes my husband runs in the baylands and Shoreline park and we bike along with him to keep him company.

My main frustration with the Oregon bridge is the difficulty getting a bicycle trailer through the slow-down gates. From the images I've seen about the new bridge this will be much easier and we'll have more choices where to cross the 101.

I have to admit we totally ignore the "walk your bikes" injunction along the top of the Oregon bridge. I've never seen any problems with people riding their bikes - people are polite and pass each other civilly whether anybody is biking, walking or walking their bike. Perhaps the problems, when they occur, are not with people riding their bikes (which they're going to do anyway) but with being unsafe or inconsiderate (which they're going to do anyway).

Lisa

## Hodgkins, Claire

---

**From:** Deborah Baldwin <baldwinart@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 2:49 PM  
**To:** Hodgkins, Claire  
**Cc:** lenraven1@gmail.com; Architectural Review Board; Larry; Cornelia and Arne Stoschek  
**Subject:** Re: [dsfna] Bike bridge planning meeting

Hi Claire,

Thank you for responding so fast!

Some of my thoughts/concerns regarding the project are (there are 4 key areas):

1) Managing cyclists/pedestrians:

I propose that there are separate lanes for both parties. Many cyclists will use this trail for getting to work, pedestrians for pleasure. I have seen many unnecessary near clashes because the walkers spread out over the entire walkway or one or the other had headphones on. This is particularly concerning where there are benches for viewing-as many may congregate there.

2) Transitions

Remember what happened to the cyclist on Pagemill that was hit by a car a year ago? I believe part of the responsibility lies in not having an adequate transition. Indeed, there is NO notice-(even a year later!) to motorists that a cyclist may enter a highway and little guidance to a cyclist. Even a stop sign would be a solution. This is a rampant problem.

I have seen this many times, where the bike paths, once you are on them are lovely, but getting there and transitioning to another road are nightmares. I don't mean to attribute blame, unfortunately, dead cyclists can not tell "their" side.

3) Safety

I'm concerned (from a brief look at the plans) that the fencing over any overpass or high area is not sufficient to deter a person from attempting to "jump" off the bridge. How are we going to ensure this?

4) Cost

I have seen many bridge constructed over 101 that takes these concerns into account. They may not be the prettiest, but they look nice and look to be cost effective. Perhaps we should reconsider that? In fact, in so doing, there may be funds to address the transition issues or perhaps to update that "nightmare" of a bridge near Oregon along with getting onto the bike path on the other side of the road.

Thank you for permitting me to "vent" , I DO hope I was being constructive in my comments. Please do keep me updated. I have scheduled for myself to be attend on the 25th of May. :-)

Debbie Baldwin

Sent from my iphone

On May 1, 2017, at 12:45 PM, Hodgkins, Claire <[Claire.Hodgkins@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Claire.Hodgkins@CityofPaloAlto.org)> wrote:

Good afternoon Lenore and Debbie,

Thank you for your comments regarding the Architectural Review Board meeting set for May 4, 2017. All meetings for the Architectural Review Committee are held on Thursday mornings. However, there are several other opportunities for you to provide input on this project. You may:

- 1) Call, e-mail, or mail me, the Project Planner for the proposed project, to discuss any questions/comments/concerns about the project.

- 2) We will have a study session in the evening with the Planning and Transportation Commission so that anyone that cannot attend the Architectural Review Board meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> could still express comments at that public meeting. The Planning and Transportation Commission hearing for this project is tentatively set for May 25, 2017 and starts at 6pm.
- 3) Following these two study session meetings the City's Public Works Engineering Division will work to incorporate/address comments from the public (whether expressed at the hearing or provided separately to the project planner) as well as comments from both the Architectural Review Board and the Planning and Transportation Commission study session meetings.
- 4) The City's Public Works Engineering Division will then come back to the Architectural Review Board, Planning and Transportation Commission, and to City Council before a decision on the proposed project is issued. The Planning and Transportation Commission and Council hearings will both be held in the evening. I'd be happy to update you once the dates for those hearings have been set.

Warm regards,  
Claire Hodgkins

<image001.jpg>

Claire Hodgkins, Associate Planner  
250 Hamilton Avenue | Palo Alto, CA 94301  
O: 650-329-2116 | E: [claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:claire.hodgkins@cityofpaloalto.org)

---

**From:** Architectural Review Board  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 12:11 PM  
**To:** Lew, Alex; Kim, Kyu; Baltay, Peter; Gooyer, Robert; Furth, Wynne  
**Cc:** Hodgkins, Claire; Gerhardt, Jodie; Lait, Jonathan  
**Subject:** FW: [dsfna] Bike bridge planning meeting

**From:** Lenore Cymes [<mailto:lenraven1@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** Deborah Baldwin  
**Cc:** pwecips; Architectural Review Board; Jeff Levinsky; [dsfna@yahoogroups.com](mailto:dsfna@yahoogroups.com)  
[dsfna@yahoogroups.com](mailto:dsfna@yahoogroups.com)  
**Subject:** Re: [dsfna] Bike bridge planning meeting

Good catch Debbie. I didn't even read it.

I agree! Not just this meeting, but no meeting concerning community input should ever be held during the day and this meeting must be rescheduled to a proper time for people to finish their work and show up. If it is not changed, why bother at all - what is the goal of the Arch. Review Committee?

Lenore

On May 1, 2017, at 11:31 AM, Deborah Baldwin [baldwinart@mac.com](mailto:baldwinart@mac.com) [dsfna] <[dsfna-noreply@yahoogroups.com](mailto:dsfna-noreply@yahoogroups.com)> wrote:

Hi

I noticed that the planning meeting set for this important bike bridge is set for the morning. To me, It is very confusing to have the time set specifically at a time many

commuters by bikes can not come because they are working.

What is the mechanism to have these voices and their wealth of experience heard?

Thank you

Debbie Baldwin

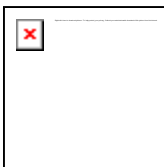
Sent from my iPhone

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Posted by: Deborah Baldwin <[baldwinart@mac.com](mailto:baldwinart@mac.com)>

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## Hodgkins, Claire

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**From:** Architectural Review Board  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2017 2:52 PM  
**To:** Lew, Alex; Kim, Kyu; Baltay, Peter; Gooyer, Robert; Furth, Wynne  
**Cc:** Hodgkins, Claire; Gerhardt, Jodie; Lait, Jonathan  
**Subject:** FW: Comments on the HWY 101 Adobe Creek Overcrossing  
**Attachments:** W.BayShore Bike Lane - 02.jpg; W.BayShore Bike Lane - 04.jpg; W.BayShore Bike Lane - 15.jpg

**From:** [roycsnyder@comcast.net](mailto:roycsnyder@comcast.net) [<mailto:roycsnyder@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2017 2:45 PM  
**To:** Architectural Review Board  
**Cc:** pwecips  
**Subject:** Comments on the HWY 101 Adobe Creek Overcrossing

To the City of Palo Alto Architecture Review Board - May 4, 2017

(We have lived in the south Palo Alto Palo Verde neighborhood for over forty years. In all but the most inclement weather, we bike at the Baylands 2-4 times per week, using the existing Adobe Creek Undercrossing or the Embarcadero Overcrossing.)

Comments:

The proposed overcrossing is not a destination, but rather a mere conveyance from South Palo Alto to the main attraction, the Baylands. It should be simple, cost effective, speedily constructed, and, since it crosses a main artery, seismically robust.

The concept of an Eastern Approach Overlook is wrong headed: There is nothing of natural beauty nor remarkable wildlife to be viewed from such a point. The proposed location is close to HWY 101 and the constant traffic noise will detract from any "appreciation" of the adjacent Baylands. The proposed Overlook is redundant to existing and better nature viewpoints actually located in the Baylands, only 200-300 meters further along the trail. It adds undue cost.

The proposed drinking fountains, trash and recycling containers, trail head art, bike racks, etc. would serve greater purpose if located further up the trail where it joins the Baylands Trail at the Coast Casey Forebay. Again, this structure is not a destination. Such amenities will only impede flow along the trail.

The Adobe Creek Reach Trail should be opened immediately, even if in a temporary configuration. The bike lane along West Bay Shore - northbound is currently unsafe due to south bound vehicles drifting into the bike lane. (See photos attached.)

Respectfully,



Roy Snyder  
Thomas Drive,  
Palo Alto

## Attachment H

### **Environmental Documents**

Hardcopies of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration are provided to Council members. This document is available to the public by visiting the Planning and Community Environmental Department on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall at 250 Hamilton Avenue.

#### **Directions to review the Environmental Document online:**

1. Go to: [www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln)
2. Click on "Development Proposals"
3. Click on "Development Projects" in the drop down menu
4. Click on "Adobe Creek/101 Overcrossing (3600 West Bayshore)" to view the final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

# HIGHWAY 101 MULTI-USE PATH OVERCROSSING PROJECT AT ADOBE CREEK

## WRITTEN PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed Highway 101 Multi-Use Path Overcrossing (Overcrossing) is located in the City of Palo Alto in Santa Clara County, between the East Oregon Expressway and San Antonio Road overpasses of Highway 101, and will replace the existing seasonal Benjamin Lefkowitz Underpass of Highway 101 located within the Adobe Creek corridor. The grade-separated crossing will provide year-round connectivity from residential and commercial areas west of Highway 101 to the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve (Baylands), East Bayshore Business Park area, and the regional Bay Trail network of multi-use trails east of Highway 101. The project will include a new bridge structure over Highway 101 and West and East Bayshore Roads, a trail connection along Adobe Creek to East Meadow Drive, sidewalk improvements along West Bayshore Road, and landscaping and habitat restoration within the Baylands and along the Adobe Creek riparian corridor. The project lies primarily within City and Caltrans rights-of-way, although the south/west project area includes Santa Clara Valley Water District property and private property owned by Google.

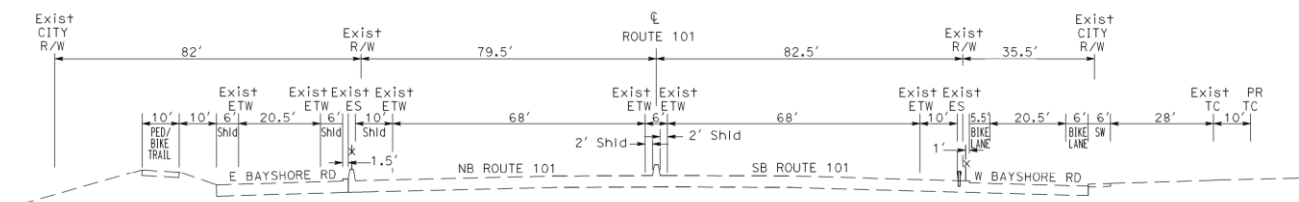
The proposed Overcrossing will consist of multiple structure types in order to maximize the benefits of the different structure types for the various constraints present in the project. The Overcrossing structure is divided into the following four major elements:

1. **Principal Span Structure:** Three span structure over Highway 101 and East and West Bayshore Roads
2. **West Approach Structure:** Multi-span structure located west of West Bayshore Road
3. **East Approach Structure:** Multi-span structure located east of East Bayshore Road
4. **Adobe Creek Bridge:** Simple span crossing of Adobe Creek west of West Bayshore Road

### STRUCTURE DESCRIPTION:

#### **PRINCIPAL SPAN STRUCTURE**

The Principal Span Structure is set to a straight alignment that is essentially perpendicular to the Highway 101 and Bayshore Road alignments. It consists of three steel truss spans spanning across West Bayshore Road, Highway 101, and East Bayshore Road. At this location, Highway 101 is a 12-lane highway with a 162-foot wide right-of-way (See Figure below). East Bayshore Road consists of two travel lanes with a 20.5-foot wide traveled way and two 6-foot shoulders. West Bayshore Road consists of two travel lanes with an approximately 20.5-foot wide traveled way and a 5.5-foot shoulder and 6-foot bicycle lane.



The span over Highway 101 will consist of a 165-foot long, prefabricated steel bowed truss. The bowed truss is able to achieve the long clear span while keeping the profile depth from the top of deck to bridge soffit to a minimum. The adjacent side spans spanning over East and West Bayshore Roads will consist of a 72'-0" long prefabricated steel trusses continuous with the Highway 101 span. All spans will accommodate a 12-foot clear width pathway.

Bents under the Principal Structure spans will consist of 2-foot thick non-skewed concrete pier walls on cast-in-drilled-hole (CIDH) pile foundations. In order to reduce traffic control requirements within Highway 101, the pier walls adjacent to Highway 101 (Bents 6 and 7) will be founded on a concrete pile cap supported by CIDH piles located within the medians between Highway 101 and East and West Bayshore Roads. The concrete pier walls supporting the other ends of the steel Pratt trusses (Bents 5 and 8) will be founded on a concrete pile cap which is supported by CIDH piles. Pier walls at Bents 5 and 8 will support both the steel Pratt trusses of the Principal Span Structure and the end of the West and East Approach concrete slab spans.

Architecturally enhanced safety railings will be provided the full length of the Principal Span Structure. The railings will consist of 8-foot tall safety fencing. Baseline safety fencing includes vinyl clad chain link fabric. Potential upgrades include the use of decorative woven wire fabric in lieu of chain link fabric.

### **WEST APPROACH STRUCTURE**

The alignment of the West Approach Structure consists of an approximately 115 degree curve that directs pedestrian/bicycle traffic from along West Bayshore Road, over the Google parking lot, and to the Principal Span Structure over Highway 101. The alignment closely abuts the adjacent Barron Creek to enable retention of all parking spaces within the Google parking lot and to provide the maximum elevation gain between the adjoining Principal Span Structure and the Adobe Creek Bridge crossing.

The West Approach Structure consists of a four span, 2'-6" deep reinforced concrete slab superstructure supported by 2'-6" x 5'-0" rectangular columns supported on large diameter Type II CIDH pile shafts. The span lengths will vary from 40 to 50 feet long, resulting in a minimum span-to-depth ratio of 0.050. The columns will be architecturally enhanced. The abutment will consist of a reinforced concrete seat-type abutment supported by a large diameter CIDH pile. All spans will accommodate a 12-foot clear width pathway.

Architecturally enhanced safety railings will be provided the full length of the West Approach Structure. The railings consist of 4-foot tall galvanized safety fencing and will include a small concrete curb at the edge of the pathway to collect rain water. Baseline safety fencing includes vinyl clad chain link fabric. Potential upgrades include the use of decorative woven wire fabric in lieu of chain link fabric.

### **EAST APPROACH STRUCTURE**

The alignment of the East Approach Structure consists of an approximate 168-degree compound curve that directs pedestrian/bicycle traffic from the Principal Span Structure, over the Baylands, and back around to conform at the San Francisco Bay Trail.

The East Approach Structure consists of a seven span, 2'-6" deep reinforced concrete slab superstructure supported by 2'-6" x 5'-0" rectangular columns supported on large diameter Type II CIDH pile shafts. The span lengths will vary from 40 to 50 feet long, resulting in a minimum span-to-depth ratio of 0.050. The columns will be architecturally enhanced. The abutment will consist of a reinforced concrete seat-type abutment supported by CIDH piles. All spans will accommodate a 12-foot clear width pathway.

Bent 8 supports both the end of the concrete slab of the East Approach Structure and the end of the steel Pratt truss span of the Principal Span Structure.

Architecturally enhanced safety railings will be provided the full length of the East Approach Structure. The railings will be 4-foot tall galvanized safety fencing and will include a small concrete curb at the edge of the pathway to collect rain water. Baseline safety fencing includes vinyl clad chain link fabric. Potential upgrades include the use of decorative woven wire fabric in lieu of chain link fabric.

An overlook area consisting of an extension of the reinforced concrete slab will be located between Bents 10 and 11 in order to provide the trail users an opportunity to pause, rest and view the adjacent Baylands without impeding pedestrian and bicycle through traffic. The architecture of the overlook will extend from the main bridge structure elements including railings and concrete facing textures and colors. The overlook will be decked with a wood finish to make the area more distinguishable from the main pathway and to give it some warmth in texture and color. Amenities such as benches and informational/educational signage will also be located on the overlook to further enhance the experience for the users. Benches will be located along the overlook to allow users to rest and/or view the surrounding vistas of the Baylands.

### **ADOBE CREEK BRIDGE**

The Adobe Creek Bridge consists of a 140-foot long prefabricated steel Pratt truss, spanning over the confluence of Barron and Adobe Creeks, adjacent to the existing Adobe Creek Bridge (Bridge No. 37C-0060) along West Bayshore Road. The bridge will accommodate a 12-foot clear width pathway allowing for travel in both directions.

The top chord of the steel truss will serve as the top chord of the 4 foot high safety railing for the structure.

The abutments will consist of concrete seat type abutments supported by large diameter CIDH piles.

### **ADDITIONAL PROJECT ELEMENTS:**

#### **WESTERN APPROACH ACCESS**

A pedestrian access ramp has been incorporated into the Western Approach Structure between the Google property (3600 West Bayshore Road) and Adobe Creek Bridge to provide continuous access for pedestrians along West Bayshore and access to the Overcrossing. For northbound pedestrians along West Bayshore Road the access structure can reduce the length of travel by roughly 500 feet. This access structure also provides equal access to mobility impaired trail users and provides a pedestrian bypass allowing the existing bike lane along West Bayshore road to be made continuous across the existing Adobe Creek Bridge. It also provides a functional ADA compliant alternative access which can be used as a primary ingress/egress if and when the SCVWD closes the trail access area for their channel sedimentation maintenance.

#### **STRUCTURE LIGHTING**

Lighting design will be provided for the Overcrossing that contributes to the project goals of providing connectivity while addressing environmental concerns. The Overcrossing paths are to be illuminated during night hours to support pedestrian and bicycling activities, with lighting levels reflecting the transition from higher illuminated urban areas on the western side of Highway 101 to the lower lighting of the Baylands to the east. Photometric levels will conform to standards set by the Illuminating Engineering Society.

The Western Approach Structure will require higher lighting levels for better uniformity ratios to the surrounding environment. Pole mounted luminaires will provide uniform illumination along the pathway and at landscaping areas leading to the Overcrossing. At the Principal Span Structure, lighting will be integrated into the guardrail where possible to create a consistently illuminated pathway. Direct view of any light source is to be shielded from adjacent vehicular vantage points to reduce glare and distraction for drivers. Lighting at the Eastern Approach Structure and Eastern Approach Overlook will be integrated into the urban infrastructure components, such as railings and benches, in order to reduce visual interferences of the Baylands.

Careful consideration will be given to providing appropriate illumination at environmentally sensitive areas such as areas adjacent to Adobe and Barron Creek and the Baylands. Lighting on the Eastern Approach Structure will be minimal in order to reduce potential glare and distraction for wildlife with the Baylands. Step lights will be utilized, meeting photometric requirements, to provide low levels of functional lighting

along the pathway. Warm color lighting techniques will be used to reduce lighting effects to migratory birds and other wildlife.

The lighting system will be designed to be mindful of the surrounding environment. Lighting poles and bollards with full-cutoff capability will be used in order to reduce light emitted above the 90° plane, limiting contribution to light pollution. Lighting controls will be utilized to reduce light output during hours with limited activity. Light levels dim down on a set time schedule synced with the astronomical clock. As people approach, sensors detect their presence, allowing the lighting to change in response to pedestrian and bicycle activity.

## **PROJECT LANDSCAPING AND STORM WATER RETENTION**

Landscaping is limited to restoration of areas disturbed by construction. Primary areas for restoration include: 1. The portion of the Baylands under and adjacent to the Eastern Approach Structure which will be restored with native grasses and planting as well as some hardscape and planting at the east plaza where the East Approach Structure joins the San Francisco Bay Trail. Trail head amenities in the form of trash and recycling receptacles, a bicycle repair station, as well as an optional drinking fountain and bottle filling station. 2. Disturbed areas of the Google Parking Lot under and adjacent to the Western Approach Structure will be landscape to provide screening to the structure and will include accommodation of a bioretention area, replacement of existing landscaping trees affected by construction and reconfiguration of the existing Google Parking lot resulting in no net loss of parking. 3. The west plaza at the Adobe Creek Reach Trail Head will include hardscaping at the plaza and existing aggregate base along the SCVWD maintenance road compatible with the regular SCVWD maintenance operations and materials, as well as proposed trail head amenities including a bicycle repair station. 4. Storm water collection into bioretention systems will include native planting and drainage swales leading into retention basins to filter storm-water. These systems will be located in landscaping areas in the vicinity of the western and eastern approaches.

## **ADOBE CREEK TRAIL**

The proposed Adobe Creek Reach Trail involves designating a 14- to 16-foot wide by approximately 620 linear feet of the existing Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) maintenance road on the east side of Adobe Creek, between West Bayshore Road and East Meadow Drive, as the Adobe Creek Reach Trail. The Adobe Creek Reach Trail will provide a more direct, comfortable, and potentially safer alternative to Fabian Way/West Bayshore Road for pedestrians and recreational bicyclists. The trail will utilize the existing SCVWD maintenance road along Adobe Creek and will include installation of safety railing along the top of bank of Adobe Creek (subject to acceptance by the SCVWD). The project will include trail heads at West Bayshore Road and East Meadow Drive. Trail heads will consist of simple concrete connections to the adjoining streets/sidewalks (no formal plazas), associated pavement delineation and street signage. Paving of the Adobe Creek Reach Trail is included as part of the baseline project.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH CITY'S SITE AND DESIGN OBJECTIVES**

The proposed project would comply with the following Site and Design objectives as described below.

**OBJECTIVE (A): To ensure construction and operation of the use in a manner that will be orderly, harmonious, and compatible with existing or potential uses of adjoining or nearby sites.**

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve pedestrian and cyclist connectivity to the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, East Bayshore Road businesses, and regional Bay Trail network from residential neighborhoods and employment districts in south Palo Alto. The improved connectivity and access would support regional bicycle commuting and encourage greater recreational activity and use of the Baylands and trail system. During the times the existing Benjamin Lefkowitz undercrossing is closed due to flooding, access across U.S. 101 to/from southern Palo Alto and the Baylands Nature Preserve/Bay Trail does not meet community needs because it requires significant out-of-direction travel south to the San Antonio Road overpass, which primarily serves motorized vehicles and lacks sufficient facilities for bicycles and pedestrians. Access across U.S. 101 is also available to the north on the Oregon Expressway Overpass, but that facility is 1.3 miles away and does not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

**OBJECTIVE (B): To ensure the desirability of investment, or the conduct of business, research, or educational activities, or other authorized occupations, in the same or adjacent areas.**

The Project provides improvements to pedestrian and bicycle access to the area including improved connectivity to existing residential and business communities.

**OBJECTIVE (C): To ensure that sound principles of environmental design and ecological balance shall be observed.**

The Project has been scoped and designed to minimize impacts to the surrounding environment including location of the proposed structure to minimize impacts to existing vegetation, and habitats, avoidance of pile driving to minimize construction noise and structure type selection that use of prefabricated elements that are manufactured off-site minimizing potential environmental impacts.

**OBJECTIVE (D): To ensure that the use will be in accord with the Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan. (Ord. 4826 § 121, 2004; Ord. 3048 (part), 1978):**

The following Comprehensive Plan programs, goals and policies relate to the project:

### **Policy T-1: Make land use decisions that encourage walking, biking, public transit use.**

- The purpose of the proposed project is to improve pedestrian and cyclist connectivity to the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, East Bayshore Road businesses, and regional Bay Trail network from residential neighborhoods and employment districts in south Palo Alto. The improved connectivity and access would support regional bicycle commuting and encourage greater recreational activity and use of the Baylands and trail system. During the times the existing Benjamin Lefkowitz undercrossing is closed due to flooding, access across U.S. 101 to/from southern Palo Alto and the Baylands Nature Preserve/Bay Trail does not meet community needs because it requires significant out-of-direction travel south to the San Antonio Road overpass, which primarily serves motorized vehicles and lacks sufficient facilities for bicycles and pedestrians. Access across U.S. 101 is also available to the north on the Oregon Expressway Overpass, but that facility is 1.3 miles away and does not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

### **Goal T-3: Facilities, services and programs that encourage and promote walking and bicycling.**

- See response to Policy T-1 above.

**Goal T-14: Improve pedestrian and bicycle access to and between local destinations, including public facilities, schools, parks, open space, employment districts, shopping centers, and multi-model transit stations.**

- See response to Policy T-1 above.

**Policy T-17: Increase cooperation with surrounding communities and other agencies to establish and maintain off-road bicycle and pedestrian paths and trails utilizing creek, utility, and railroad rights-of-way.**

- See response to Goal T-1 above. Additionally, an approximately 620-foot-long Adobe Creek Reach Trail would be constructed along the east side of Adobe Creek between Highway 101 and East Meadow Drive in order to connect the new bridge overpass to the surrounding bicycle and pedestrian network on the west side of Highway 101.

**Program T-19: Encourages the development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities linking trips to parks, schools, retail, centers, and civic facilities, which enables and encourages residents and visitors to bicycle or walk for discretionary trips.**

- See response to Policy T-1 above.

**Policy T-25: When constructing or modifying roadways, plan for usage of the roadway space by all users, including motor vehicles, transit vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians.**

- The Project will improve existing bicycle and pedestrian service along W. Bayshore Road by providing a through bicycle lane where previous bicycle service was forced to either share with pedestrians via the existing sidewalk or to share with adjacent vehicular traffic.

**Policy T-26: Completed development of the Bay trail and Ridge Trail in Palo Alto**

- The Project connects to the existing San Francisco Bay Trail.

**Policy T-42: Address the needs of people with disabilities and comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) during the planning and implementation of transportation and parking improvements.**

- The project proposes an ADA-accessible bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing over Highway 101 to replace an existing underpass that closes during the rainy season. Existing alternative routes during underpass closure (the Oregon Expressway Overpass, 1.3 miles away) does not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

**Policy C-22: Design and construct new community facilities to have flexible functions to ensure adaptability to the changing needs of the community.**

- The Project has considered proposed future projects within the Project limits and has provide flexibility to accommodate these future facilities such as future utilities and High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Express Lanes along Highway 101.

**Policy L-71: Strengthen the identity of important community gateways, including the entrances to the City at Highway 101.**



- The Project includes architectural enhancements and the City has retained an artist to help strengthen the aesthetic impact of the structure along the Highway 101 gateway to the City.

**Program L-72: Develop a strategy to enhance gateway sites with special landscaping, art, public spaces, and/or public buildings. Emphasize the creek bridges and riparian settings at the entrances to the City over Adobe Creek and San Francisquito Creek.**

- The Project includes architectural enhancements and the City has retained an artist to help strengthen the aesthetic impact of the structure along the Highway 101 gateway to the City. Views and vistas to Adobe Creek and the Palo Alto Baylands have been maintained and promoted as applicable

**Policy N-1: Manage existing public open space areas in a manner that meets habitat protection goals, public safety concerns, and low impact recreation needs.**

- The Project minimizes impacts to and promotes views and vistas into the Adobe Creek corridor and the Palo Alto Baylands.

**OBJECTIVE (E): If the project is located in the Open Space (OS) zone district your letter should also address the 10 Open Space Development Criteria, adopted by the City Council on October 20, 1986. A copy of the development criteria can be obtained at the Planning Division counter.**

The project would comply with the following 12 open space criteria included in City Municipal Code 18.28.070 as described under each criterion:

**(1) The development should not be visually intrusive from public roadways and public parklands. As much as possible, development should be sited so it is hidden from view.**

- The Project has been developed to minimize visual impacts to and promotes views and vistas into the Adobe Creek corridor and the Palo Alto Baylands.

**(2) Development should be located away from hilltops and designed to not extend above the nearest ridge line.**

- The Project structure profile has been kept to a minimum to minimize visual impacts and to keep the top of the structure below the adjacent tree line. The Project is not located near a hilltop.

**(3) Site and structure design should take into consideration impacts on privacy and views of neighboring property.**

- The Project structure profile has been kept to a minimum to minimize visual impacts. Landscaping has been coordinated with the adjacent property owner (Google) to provide screening and separation from the trail facilities.

**(4) Development should be clustered, or closely grouped, in relation to the area surrounding it to make it less conspicuous, minimize access roads, and reduce fragmentation of natural habitats.**

- The Project has been developed to form fit into the existing site constraints including Highway 101 and East and West Bayshore Road corridors, Adobe Creek and Barron Creek corridors, the Google campus at (3600 West Bayshore Road), the San Francisco Bay Trail and the Palo Alto Baylands.

**(5) Built forms and landscape forms should mimic the natural topography. Building lines should follow the lines of the terrain, and trees and bushes should appear natural from a distance.**

- The Project has been developed to conform to and be compatible with the existing uses of the site. The Project would conform to the existing site constraints (including Highway 101 and East and West Bayshore Road corridors, Adobe Creek and Barron Creek corridors, the Google campus (3600 West Bayshore Road), the San Francisco Bay Trail and the Palo Alto Baylands). Replacement vegetation will be similar to the existing native vegetation on-site.

**(6) Existing trees with a circumference of 37.5 inches, measured 4.5 feet above the ground level, should be preserved and integrated into the site design. Existing vegetation should be retained as much as possible.**

- The Project has coordinated closely with the City Urban Forester regarding necessary tree removal and proposed replacement species and locations.

**(7) Cut is encouraged when it is necessary for geotechnical stability and to enable the development to blend into the natural topography. Fill is generally discouraged and should never be distributed within the driplines of existing trees. Locate development to minimize the need for grading.**

- The Project has minimized earthwork where possible including the use of deep foundations to support structures to minimize foundation size and associated earthwork.

**(8) To reduce the need for cut and fill and to reduce potential runoff, large, flat expanses of impervious surfaces should be avoided.**

- The Project has limited impervious surfaces to the footprint of the new trail and the reconstruction of the existing Google parking lot (no addition or loss of parking spacing).

**(9) Buildings should use natural materials and earthtone or subdued colors.**

- There are no buildings proposed as part of the Project.

**(10) Landscaping should be native species that require little or no irrigation. Immediately adjacent to structures, fire retardant plants should be used as a fire prevention technique.**

- The Project has coordinated closely with the City Urban Forester regarding necessary tree removal and proposed replacement species and locations.

**(11) Exterior lighting should be low-intensity and shielded from view so it is not directly visible from off-site.**

- The Project has incorporated lighting fixtures that limit light pollution and light spillage into adjacent facilities and includes cutoff and shields to prevent direct viewing of light sources from adjacent vehicular vantage points to reduce glare and distraction for drivers.

**(12) Access roads should be of a rural rather than urban character. (Standard curb, gutter, and concrete sidewalk are usually inconsistent with the foothills environment.)**

- There are no access roads proposed as part of the Project.

## Attachment J

### **Project Plans**

Hardcopies of project plans are provided to Councilmembers. These plans are available to the public online and by visiting the Planning and Community Environmental Department on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall at 250 Hamilton Avenue.

#### **Directions to review Project plans online:**

1. Go to: [www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln)
2. Click on "Development Proposals"
3. Click on "Development Projects" in the drop down menu
4. Click on "Adobe Creek/101 Overcrossing (3600 West Bayshore)" to view the project plans

#### **Below is a direct link to the project webpage:**

<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/news/displaynews.asp?NewsID=3935&TargetID=319>