



Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee Agenda Report

June 28, 2021
Item 4

SUBJECT: NEVADA STREET IMPROVEMENTS SCHEMATIC PLAN REVIEW

SUMMARY

City Staff, and their consultant, Callander Associates Landscape Architecture, have completed the schematic plan for the proposed Nevada Street Improvements between California Avenue and Bernal Avenue and conducted a public meeting to obtain input regarding the concept. Staff is now asking the Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee (BPTC) to review the schematic plans and public input and to provide comments regarding the proposed plan.

RECOMMENDATION

The BPTC review the Nevada Street Improvements Schematic plans and public input and provide comments regarding the proposed plan.

BACKGROUND

The 1993 Pleasanton Community Trails Master Plan identified a future 8-12-foot-wide multi-use trail route to be located along the Arroyo del Valle. The trail was designed to connect downtown Pleasanton to the Arroyo de la Laguna trail to the west and to Shadow Cliffs and beyond to Livermore to the east. Since the approval of the 1993 Trails Master Plan, the City has worked to implement the plan as follows:

- 1994 – as part of Pleasanton’s centennial celebration, the City constructed the Centennial trail that connects downtown from the trailhead at Rotary Park to the Arroyo de la Laguna trail
- 2016 – the City constructed bike lanes and installed sidewalks on both sides of Stanley Boulevard between Main Street and First Street
- 2019 – the Trails Master Plan identified the Arroyo del Valle trail and the connection of the Iron Horse Trail to Shadow Cliffs as 2 of the top 3 trail priorities.
- 2020 – the Irby Ranch development completed the construction of intersection improvements, including safe pedestrian crossings, at the Stanley Boulevard/First Street/Nevada Street intersection. They also completed the construction of a multi-use trail between the Stanley Boulevard/First Street/Nevada Street intersection and California Avenue and extended the bike lanes on Nevada Street from Stanley Boulevard to California Avenue
- 2021 – the City is constructing intersection improvements at Nevada Street and Bernal Avenue, including bicycle and pedestrian friendly traffic lights and a four-way crosswalk.

Currently, the proposed project site is primarily a dirt parking lot used by the auto shops and commercial businesses in the area. In addition, the western portion of the project site is utilized for additional parking and as a storage area for the Valley Humane Society. The eastern portion of the site is directly adjacent to the Fire Station 1 parking lot and has a couple picnic tables that

are not well-used. The site also serves as an access point to the Zone 7 maintenance road that goes south under the Bernal bridge.

DISCUSSION

This proposed project will close the final gap in the Arroyo del Valle trail along Nevada Street between California Avenue and Bernal Avenue providing a safe route for bicyclists and pedestrians to travel from the Arroyo de la Laguna trail to Shadow Cliffs. Improvements would include street widening, bike lanes, on-street parking, ramps, crosswalks, a plaza, landscaping and street lighting.

The 10-foot-wide Class 1 trail from Stanley Boulevard to California Avenue will be extended past Valley Humane Society to the Zone 7 maintenance access road adjacent to Fire Station 1, which travels underneath the Bernal bridge and connects to Shadow Cliffs east of Bernal Avenue. The path at the Zone 7 access road will be closed during the wet season. The all-season path heading east from the maintenance road will utilize the bike lanes on Nevada Street and a new 6-foot-wide sidewalk that will connect with the existing 4-foot-wide sidewalk down to the new traffic signal at Bernal Avenue and Nevada Street.

The existing sidewalk on the east side of Bernal Avenue will be widened to a 10-foot (10') wide Class 1 Trail between the new signal and the existing Zone 7 access road trail entrance at the Bernal bridge.

The design for the Schematic Plan for the improvements was coordinated with the Valley Humane Society, Zone 7, and the Fire Department in Spring of 2021. On Wednesday, June 16, 2021, City staff and their consultant held an on-site public meeting to obtain feedback from the surrounding commercial and residential neighbors.

Notifications for the meeting were mailed out to all tenants and property owners within 500 feet of the project site as well as those who might utilize this road to get to or from their business or residence. The meeting was posted on social media, flyers were also handed out to the surrounding businesses, and signs were posted at the project site regarding the public meeting.

The feedback received from the meeting and through email correspondence included:

1. The project should be part of a larger trail plan
2. This project is an important connection between downtown and Shadow Cliffs, but it would be even better if it included the construction of, and connection with, the Transportation Corridor Trail and the Iron Horse Trail
3. People are excited for the trail connections
4. Work with Zone 7 to improve the trail underneath the Bernal bridge
5. Clean-up the Aufdermaur property to the west of the Valley Humane Society
6. There are a lot of families that ride their bikes and walk along Nevada in the evening so it would be beneficial to have a safe place to walk or ride
7. Concerns with the general maintenance of the Zone 7 property, including fire concerns and undesirable people loitering on the property
8. There are some concerns amongst the auto shops about the project inviting an increased number of pedestrians and cyclists and the potential safety issues/conflicts between the pedestrians/cyclists and vehicles
9. Add as much street parking as possible – there is not enough parking in the area

10. Everyone loves the park idea – it will give the surrounding residences a destination and will provide the commercial property workers with a place to go for lunch or to relax. It will also give the customers a place to go while their cars are getting worked on.
11. There was some concern regarding the development of the Aufdermaur property and making sure that the property owner, the tenant, and surrounding properties are involved in that development conversation with the City
12. The auto and towing companies would like to still be able to afford to stay in the neighborhood
13. The bike lanes are important
14. Do not put too many amenities in the park
15. Limit the curves in the sidewalk east of the Zone 7 maintenance road entrance to no more than they are currently shown
16. Include a bike-ramp from the on-street bike lanes to go to the Zone 7 maintenance road/dry season trail
17. Include private spaces in the linear park, to the extent that it is safe and feasible, to allow people a comfortable private space to read or eat
18. Adjust the bike path as it comes into the plaza, so it goes straight (instead of curving it toward the plaza as it is currently shown)

The City is seeking review and comments from the BPTC on the design of the project. The comments will then be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for their recommendation to City Council.

The City will continue to work on the design into 2022 with project construction expected to occur in summer 2022.

Submitted by:



Matt Gruber
City Landscape Architect

Attachment:

1. Nevada Street Schematic Plan