



TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COMPLETE STREETS AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MEETING DATE: 09/12/2024

ITEM NO.: 3.

DATE: September 3, 2024
TO: Complete Streets and Transportation Commission
FROM: Nicolle Burnham, Parks and Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Update on Highway 17 Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing Federal Grants –
Complete Streets Checklist

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and comment on the MTC Complete Streets Checklist (Attachment 1) for the Highway 17 Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project.

BACKGROUND:

The Highway 17 Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project is a high priority project in the Town's adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan that was recommended by the CSTC and adopted by Council in 2020. As identified in the Plan, the project will improve bicycle and pedestrian mobility, encourage active transportation, close a gap in the Town's bicycle network, and enhance safety for all modes of travel on Blossom Hill Road between Roberts Road West and Roberts Road East.

The project's design and environmental clearance are fully funded. The Town is actively seeking construction funding in order to complete the project. On April 11, 2024, the Commission passed a Motion in support of the Town's Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant applications and the Chair subsequently signed the letters of support which for the applications, which were submitted on May 16, 2024 and June 17, 2024, respectively.

DISCUSSION:

The ATP has a Statewide and Regional component, the latter of which is administered by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). MTC's Complete Streets Policy requires that all projects in the public right of way (with a total project cost of \$250,000 or more) applying for regional discretionary transportation funding – or requesting regional endorsement or approval through MTC – submit a Complete Streets Checklist (Checklist) to MTC. The Town submitted

PREPARED BY: Sean Rose
Special Projects Manager, Parks and Public Works

PAGE 2 OF 2

SUBJECT: Parks and Public Works Department Report

DATE: September 12, 2024

the MTC Complete Streets Checklist for the project (attached) as part of its Regional ATP application.

One of the requirements of the checklist is that the applicant's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (for Los Gatos, the CSTC) review and comment on the checklist at a public meeting. Any comments received are required to be submitted to MTC after the meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the recommended action.

Attachments:

1. MTC Complete Streets Checklist for the Highway 17 Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project.

Contact Name	Sean Rose
Email Address	srose@losgatosca.gov
Contact Phone Number	408-827-3552
City/Jurisdiction/Agency (If your option is not listed, select "Other")	Los Gatos
County	Santa Clara
Is your project seeking regional discretionary funds or an endorsement?	Regional discretionary funding
Please include the name of the regional discretionary funding program that this project is seeking.	Active Transportation Program Cycle 7
Project Name/Title	Highway 17 Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing
Project Area/ Location	Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos, CA
Project Area Map (Attach if applicable) Please save the file with the project name and the jurisdiction submitting checklist. Add the name of the file being uploaded below. Then Click Here to upload your file.	Highway_17_Bicycle_&_Pedestrian_Overcrossing-Town_of_Los_Gatos-Project_Area_Map.pdf
Project Description (2000 character limit). You may also attach additional project documents, cross sections, plan views or other supporting materials.	The Highway 17 Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project proposed to build a separate bicycle and pedestrian bridge over Highway 17, just south of the existing Blossom Hill Overcrossing in the Town of Los Gatos. The bridge will improve connectivity, provide safe public access, and promote active transportation by moving bicyclists and pedestrians off the existing narrow Blossom Hill Overcrossing onto a separated pathway. The proposed bridge will be approximately 200 feet long and connect to an approximately 1,260-foot long Class I multi-use bicycle and pedestrian pathway that will connect the bridge to existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities along Blossom Hill Road at the intersections of Roberts Road (West) and Roberts Road (East), located on the western and eastern sides of Highway 17.

Please choose the project phase(s).

ENV

Project Supporting Material (Upload if applicable) Please save the file with the project name and the jurisdiction submitting checklist. Add the name of the file being uploaded below. Then Click Here to upload your file.

Highway_17_Bicycle_&_Pedestrian_Overcrossing-Town_of_Los_Gatos-Geometric_Approval_Drawings.pdf

Do you think your project qualifies for a Statement of Exception?

No

Topic: Bicycle, Pedestrian and Transit Planning

Does the project implement relevant plans, or other locally adopted recommendations?

Yes

Please provide details on plan recommendations affecting the project area, if any, with Plan adoption date. If the project is inconsistent with adopted plans, please provide explanation.

The 2021 Caltrans District 4 Pedestrian Plan identifies and prioritize pedestrian needs on and across the Bay Area's State Transportation Network. This Plan furthers the 2017 California State Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, toward an Active California, and will guide District 4 and its partners to develop an integrated pedestrian network that supports walking and improves connectivity. The Pedestrian Plan Identified bicycle and/or pedestrian crossing needs across State Route 17 within the Town of Los Gatos.

The Pedestrian Master Plan was adopted in February 2017 and approved by the Town's Complete Streets and Transportation Commission in August 2020. The plan identifies goals in the area of activity, safety, infrastructure and design, connectivity and accessibility. The Master Plan identifies Blossom Hill Road as an important route on the Town's Backbone Bikeway Network and is located on a designated School Walking Route. The plan highlighted the development of a protected bicycle lane network encompassing portions of Blossom Hill Road and Roberts Road and the construction of a new bike/pedestrian bridge across Highway 17 to connect East and West Los Gatos as "high priority bike recommendations."

Does the project area contain segments of the regional Active Transportation (AT)

Yes

Network? [See MTC's AT Network map here]

If yes, describe the how project adheres to the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NATCO's) "Designing for All Ages & Abilities Contextual Guidance for High-Comfort Bicycle Facilities" and/or the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board's "Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way."

The existing Blossom Hill Road Overcrossing has inadequate sidewalk width and discontinuous bicycle facilities, creating an unsafe environment for both bicyclists and pedestrians. Students and residents frequently use these facilities due to the project's proximity to Vasona County Park and Raymond J. Fisher Middle School. During peak hours, bicyclists and pedestrians are forced to share the limited space and often resort to using the roadway to travel along Blossom Hill Road. The project aims to enhance accessibility and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians by constructing a separate bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing that connects to a new Class I pathway along Blossom Hill Road.

Is the the project on a known High Injury Network (HIN) or has a local traffic safety analysis found a high incidence of bicyclist/pedestrian-involved crashes within the project area?

Yes

Please summarize the traffic safety conditions and describe the project's traffic safety measures. The Bay Area Vision Zero System may be a helpful resource.

The current traffic safety conditions on the Blossom Hill Overcrossing are poor due to the lack of bike lanes and narrow sidewalks. These deficiencies create hazardous conditions, forcing non-motorized users to share the narrow sidewalks with high volumes of accelerating vehicular traffic. The project will foster safer streets through protected intersection improvements and creating connectivity within the Town's bicycle and pedestrian facilities. These enhancements will support the Bay Area Vision Zero System plan by reducing the risk of incidents between vehicles and non-motorized users.

Does the the project seek to improve conditions for people biking, walking and/or rolling? If the project includes a bikeway, was a Level of Traffic Stress (LTS), or similar user experience analysis conducted?

Yes

Describe how project seeks to provide low-

The project will provide a low-stress transportation facility by moving bicyclists and pedestrians off of the roadway and onto

stress transportation facilities or reduce a facility's LTS.

a new overcrossing structure and Class I pathway. Furthermore, the protected intersection improvements at the intersections of Roberts Road (West) and Roberts Road (East) will promote a low-stress riding and walking environment for both bicyclists and pedestrians navigating through these intersections.

A. Are there existing public transit facilities (stop or station) in the project area?

No

B. Have all potentially affected transit agencies had the opportunity to review this project? If yes, please save the email from transit operator(s) below.

No

Please save the file with the project name and the jurisdiction submitting checklist. Add the name of the file being uploaded below. Then Click Here to upload your file.

N/A

C: Is there a MTC Mobility Hub (map) within the project area?

No

If yes, please describe outreach to mobility providers, and the project's Hub-supportive elements. Please view the Mobility Hubs Playbook Play 1.

N/A

If applicable, please describe the pedestrian focused improvements and cite the design standards used (links to standards are not needed).

Pedestrian focused improvements include a new overcrossing structure, raised sidewalks, protected intersections, curb extensions, high visibility crosswalks, ADA curb ramps, and leading pedestrian intervals. The design standards used include the Caltrans Highway Design Manual, 2023 Caltrans Standard Plans and Specifications, California MUTCD, ADA Design Standards, NACTO Design Guidelines, Town of Los Gatos Street Design Standards, and AASTHO Planning, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities.

If applicable, please provide the class designation for

The project proposes a Class I bikeway from the intersection of Roberts Road (West) & Blossom Hill Road to the intersection of Roberts Road (East) & Blossom Hill Road. The design

bikeways included in the project and cite the design standards used.

standards and guidelines used include the Caltrans Highway Design Manual, 2023 Caltrans Standard Plans and Specifications, California MUTCD, ADA Design Standards, NACTO Design Guidelines, Town of Los Gatos Street Design Standards, and AASTHO Guide for Development of Bicycle Facilities.

Will the project improve active transportation in an Equity Priority Community (EPC)?

No

Please list census tracts that are designated as EPCs and affected by this project.

N/A

Has a local (city is preferred and county is an option) Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) reviewed this Checklist? The Checklist will begin MTC review once the BPAC meeting has occurred.

The submission of this checklist will be reviewed by the BPAC. This option exists to use this CS Checklist submission (pdf emailed to you) for the BPAC review.

Please provide the meeting date(s). BPAC meeting date should occur before the grant funding request application or endorsement is submitted.

August 12, 2021

Please provide a summary of meeting comments. If meeting date hasn't occurred yet, please share BPAC meeting comments here.

The Complete Streets and Transportation Commission has reviewed and is in support of the project's improvements. As the project moves forwards into the final engineering stages, updates will be provided to the CSTC.

Compliance and Exemption

Please check below if Yes. If no, complete the Statement of Exception. If Yes, this Checklist is complete and the rest of the form can be skipped. If No, please fill

Yes

out the Statement of
Exception section.

**Has a local (city or
county) Bicycle and
Pedestrian Advisory
Commission (BPAC)
reviewed this Checklist?
The CS Checklist will
begin review once the
BPAC meeting notes are
included in this form.**

The Checklist is being submitted to send to the BPAC for
review.

This PDF is generated with the [Google Forms Notification](#) add-on.

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