



TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COMPLETE STREETS AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MEETING DATE: 05/09/24

ITEM NO.: 6.

DATE: May 9, 2024
TO: Complete Streets and Transportation Commission
FROM: Nicolle Burnham, Parks and Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Update on Highway 17 Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing Project and
Discussion of Connections at Roberts Road East and Roberts Road West

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update from staff, provide input, and consider the eastern and western connections to the Highway 17 Bicycle/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 (Plan) most recently 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. Blossom Hill Road is a high-volume transportation corridor and route to school for the Town.

The project is being led by the Town with significant funding support for project design from the 2016 Santa Clara Countywide Measure B Program and design oversight by Caltrans for the portion of the project within Caltrans' Highway 17 right of way.

A verbal update was provided to the Commission on January 11, 2024. The update included a review and discussion of the concept design, visual simulations, and various features of the design including the class 2 bike lane limits, and design and layout of the overcrossing structure.

Staff prepared a written report on April 11, 2024 providing a brief update and requesting the Commission consider a Motion authorizing the Chair to sign a letter of support for the project's SS4A and ATP grant applications. The Motion in support was passed and the Chair subsequently

PREPARED BY: Nicolle Burnham
Director, Parks and Public Works

signed the letters of support which will be included in our applications. Staff is in the process of preparing the applications for submittal on May 16, 2024 and June 17, 2024, respectively.

The project schedule currently calls for completion of preliminary engineering and environmental clearance in September 2024, after which work on final design will commence. Final design is anticipated to be complete by mid 2025. The schedule was recently pushed back a few months due to design revisions to the trail alignment and retaining wall east of the overcrossing that have necessitated additional scope and fee for environmental clearance.

DISCUSSION:

At this meeting, staff would like to discuss and obtain the Commission's input on the overcrossing's eastern and western approach paths and corresponding connections to existing facilities. The attached Project Location Map shows the overcrossing and eastern and western approach paths. The attached Concept Maps show the proposed improvements at the connection points at Roberts Road East and Roberts Road West, respectively.

The eastern approach path will maintain a 20' wide facility (two 7' bike paths plus one 6' sidewalk) from the overcrossing all the way to the Roberts Road East intersection. The path will be separated from the vehicle lanes by either a short retaining wall or, as you get closer to Roberts Road East, a curb. At Roberts Road East new bike lane striping will be provided across the intersection connecting to the existing class 2 bike lanes and connectivity will be maintained to the existing bike Class 2 and Class 3 bike lanes on Roberts Road East. Pedestrian connectivity will be maintained in all directions at the intersection.

The western approach path will also maintain a 20' wide facility, separated from the vehicle lanes by either a guardrail or a curb. At the Roberts Road West intersection class 2 bike lane connections to the existing bike lanes on Blossom Hill Road will be provided. New bike lanes will be provided across Blossom Hill at the crosswalk for cyclists wanting to proceed in the bike lane on the west side of Blossom Hill Road. On Roberts Road West bikes would merge from a Class 2 bike lane onto the existing Class 3 bike lanes on Roberts Road West. New crosswalk striping and signal modifications will be made for bicycles and pedestrians crossing Blossom Hill Road. Pedestrian connectivity from Blossom Hill Road down Roberts Road West would be maintained on the east side of the road.

On Roberts Road West between Blossom Hill Road and the existing entrance to the Los Gatos Creek Trail near Ohlone Court, bicycles share the roadway with vehicles in both directions. There is a sidewalk on the east side of the road that is used to access the trail via a crosswalk that leads to the trail entrance between Ohlone Court and the 90-degree curve. Photos of the existing conditions in the project area are attached to this report.

The Town has heard concerns from residents regarding the steepness of the entrance, the orientation of the entrance to the main trail and resulting sudden merge, and the proximity of the crosswalk and trail entrance to the 90-degree curve. The community has expressed that there is a greater need to improve conditions for cyclists on Roberts Road West and relocate and improve the connection to the Trail, with the anticipated completion of the Overcrossing Project.

The attached concept map of Roberts Road West shows the area in plan view and the existing and proposed cross sections of between Blossom Hill Road and the trail entrance. The proposed cross section represents one potential solution to improve connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians. Should the project be approved to proceed further into design, the project objectives could include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- Provide dedicated (class 2) bike lanes both directions of Roberts Road West from Blossom Hill Road to the trail entrance.
- Relocate the crosswalk and trail entrance closer to Ohlone Court and further away from the 90-degree curve.
- Improve the trail entrance to provide ADA compliance and a smoother merge onto the existing trail.
- Site the new trail entrance to minimize the need for grading and impacts to trees and other vegetation.
- Connect the new bike facilities on Roberts Rd West to the new facilities being constructed as part of the Highway 17 Bike/Ped Overcrossing Project.

Staff is seeking the Commission's input on the trail approaches and the surrounding eastern and western connections for further consideration and project development.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The design and construction cost of the Roberts Road West improvements described above is estimated to be approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000. The funding would likely come from a combination of grants and Town funds.

Attachments:

1. Project Location Map
2. Concept Plans
3. Photos of project area
4. Concept map-Roberts Rd West



HIGHWAY 17 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN OVERCROSSING

LOCATION MAP



CURVE DATA				
No.	R	Δ	T	L
⑧	274'	10°56'87"	25.34'	50.54'
⑨	344'	19°29'45"	58.48'	115.84'
⑩	394'	10°58'82"	36.51'	72.81'
⑪	56'	24°40'15"	12.11'	23.85'
⑫	58'	17°38'43"	8.87'	17.60'



HIGHWAY 17 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
OVERCROSSING PROJECT
GEOMETRIC APPROVAL DRAWINGS

CA

LOS GATOS

Revisions		No.	
Date: 7/21/2023	Scale: 1"=20'		
Design: TCHAN	Drawn: JQUACH		
Approved: JBHANDAL	Job No: 20202120		

Drawing Number:
L - 3
5 OF **6**



1730 N. FIRST STREET
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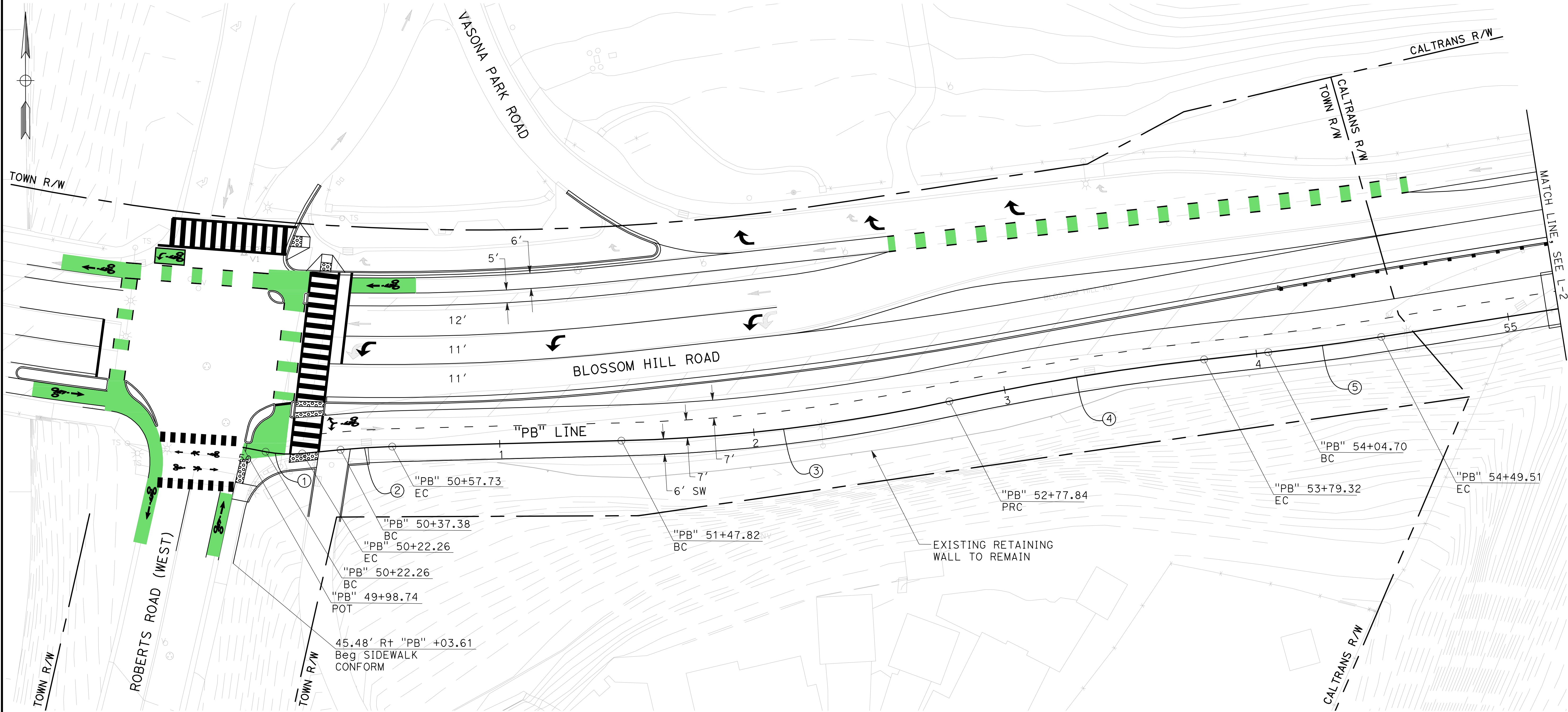
NOTES:

1. FOR ACCURATE RIGHT OF WAY DATA, CONTACT RIGHT OF WAY ENGINEERING AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

LEGEND:

- (No.) CURVE DATA
RETAINING WALL
MIDWEST GUARDRAIL SYSTEM
CALTRANS RIGHT OF WAY
TOWN RIGHT OF WAY

CURVE DATA				
No.	R	Δ	T	L
①	50'	16°56'60"	7.28'	14.46'
②	286'	4°07'53"	10.18'	20.34'
③	694'	10°73'44"	65.20'	130.02'
④	1006'	5°78'00"	50.79'	101.49'
⑤	994'	2°58'28"	22.41'	44.81'



HIGHWAY 17 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
OVERCROSSING PROJECT
GEOMETRIC APPROVAL DRAWINGS

CA

LOS GATOS

Revisions		No.	
Date: 7/31/2023	Scale: 1"=20'		
Design: T.CHAN			
Drawn: J.QUACH			
Approved: J.BHANDAL			
Job No: 20202120			

Drawing Number:

L-1
3 OF **6**

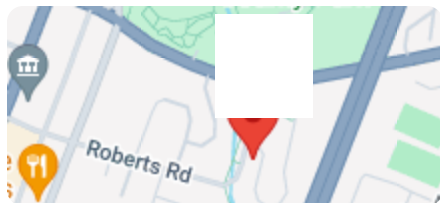
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Google Maps 17330 Roberts Rd



Image capture: May 2023 © 2024 Google



Google Maps 15 Roberts Rd



Image capture: May 2023 © 2024 Google



Google Maps 2 Ohlone Ct



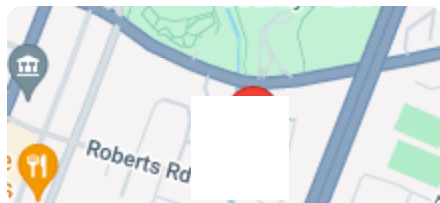
Image capture: Dec 2020 © 2024 Google



Google Maps 2 Roberts Rd



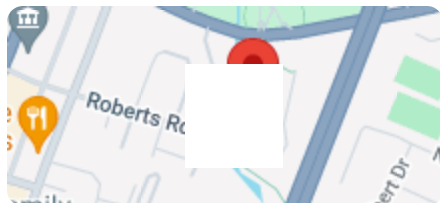
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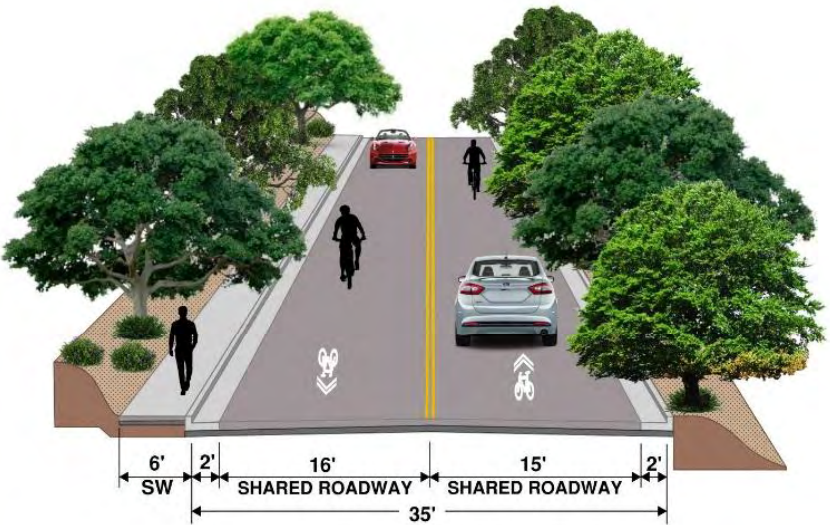
Google Maps 4 Roberts Rd



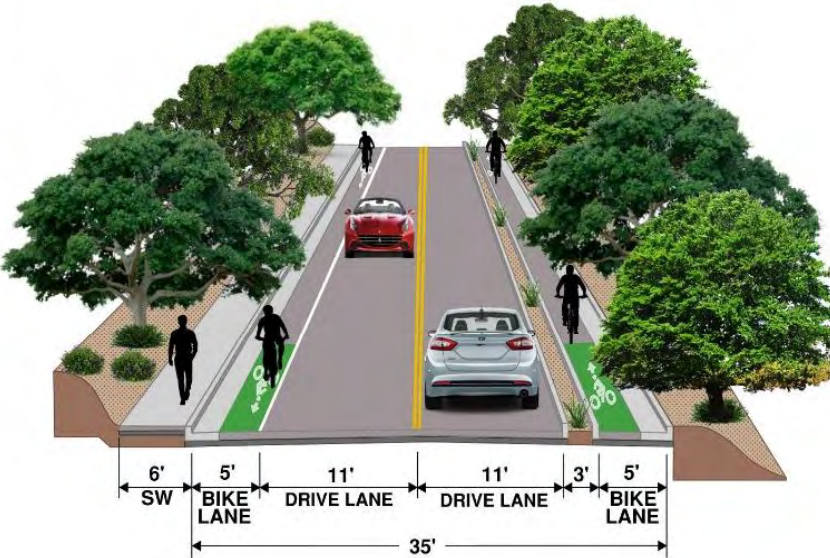
Image capture: May 2023 © 2024 Google



BIKE/PED CONNECTIONS



SECTION A-A
EXISTING



SECTION A-A
PROPOSED