
MEMO

To:

From: Nicholas Calderon

Re: Parallel Trail

Date: December 2, 2013

Background

The Parallel Trail is a conceptual multi-modal commuter trail adjacent to Highway 1 throughout the Midcoast. The goal is to connect the Parallel Trail with Half Moon Bay's commuter trail, the Naomi Patridge Trail, to provide seamless regional pedestrian connectivity. Once completed, an individual will be able to safely walk, ride their bike, rollerblade or take other forms of non-motorized transportation from Montara to Half Moon Bay without having to wait in highway traffic or travel on the highway shoulder. People who live and work on the coastside will have the option to use the trail to safely get to and from work or run errands. Midcoast children will finally have a safe route for riding bikes and walking to and from school and recreational activities.

The conceptual route for the Parallel Trail can be found in the Highway 1 Safety and Mobility Study. Even though the trail was discussed in detail during Phase 1 of the Highway 1 Safety and Mobility Study, there are no conceptual drawings for the southern segment of the trail in Miramar and El Granada. The generally accepted definition of the Parallel Trail in Miramar and El Granada is a commuter trail in Highway 1's eastern right-of-way from Mirada Road to Capistrano Street (see map). Once completed, Half Moon Bay's trail and the County's trail will meet at Mirada Road, the City-County line, providing safe continuous recreational and non-motorized commuter opportunities for coastal residents.

Segments

The Parallel Trail has been divided into 4 segments based on geographic constrains. Given the high cost of conducting the planning, environmental, and design phases- dividing the trail into segments will allow the County to utilize each grant to its fullest funding potential. The current segments are:

1. Mirada Road to Coronado Street
2. Coronado Street to Capistrano Road
3. Capistrano Road alongside the Airport to Carlos Street (Subject to change)
4. Carlos Street to Main Street

Transportation Authority Measure A Bike and Pedestrian Program

The Transportation Authority's Measure A Bike and Pedestrian Program is expected to have between \$2.6 and \$3 million available in the upcoming cycle (Early 2014). The county will apply for \$500,000 (subject to change) to conduct the planning, environmental, and design phases for Segment 1: Mirada Road to Coronado Street. Based on prior experiences, it can take roughly 24 months from the time funding is awarded to complete the planning, environmental, and design phase of the project.

First Segment

The first trail segment we are pursuing will start at Mirada Road in Miramar, the City-County line, and travel north, in Highway 1's eastern right-of-way, to Coronado Street in El Granada (portrayed in Red on the map). Our intention for this segment is to have a path connecting the El Granada Elementary School campus and trail (portrayed in Blue on the map) so students and faculty can safely and conveniently access the school.

This segment will also provide safe pedestrian access to the communities of El Granada and Princeton for residents of Miramar and Half Moon Bay while allowing residents of El Granada and Miramar to safely travel to the City of Half Moon Bay without traveling on the highway. Coastside residents will be able to travel throughout the southern Midcoast and City of Half Moon Bay without having to wait in or contribute to existing highway traffic. Additionally, in a separate project, the County is pursuing a designated pedestrian crossing at Mirada Road and Highway 1 (part of the Highway 1 Congestion Management Project) which would provide a safe crossing point for pedestrians using this trail segment.

Engagement

A regional commuter trail has the potential to benefit all community organizations and stakeholders. In order to ensure that consideration is given to everyone's needs, the County will be engaging as many community organizations as possible.

