Airport Road Shared Use Path Project Report

Adopted November 2023 Resolution 2023-0354

Project Background and Description

The City of Sacramento, in partnership with North Natomas Jibe, has identified a conceptual design to accommodate bicycle facilities along Airport Road that are included in the Bicycle Master Plan adopted by City Council in August 2016. See Figure 1 for the project area.

Transportation accounts for 57% of Sacramento's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. To reach State and City climate goals, Sacramento must reduce GHG emissions by reducing vehicle trips. Critical to reducing vehicle trips is ensuring that residents have comfortable and convenient active transportation options for all ages and abilities. The City of Sacramento Mayor's Commission on Climate Change recommended the City expand and enhance accessibility to low-stress, connected infrastructure for walking and bicycling to increase active transportation to 30% of all trips by 2030. The Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan sets forth the following goals:

- Achieve 6% active transportation mode share by 2030 and 12% by 2045
- Deploy 30 miles of new bikeways by 2030
- Deploy 20,000 feet of new/repaired pedestrian infrastructure by 2030
- Install or improve at least 70 new pedestrian crossings by 2030
- Implement the 2016 Bicycle Master Plan by constructing 40 miles of bike lanes, 48 miles of bike routes, 40 miles of buffered bike lanes, 18 miles of separated bikeways, and 127 miles of shared-use paths, by 2045

The Airport Road Shared Use Path will provide connectivity that will encourage active transportation trips that help reach City climate goals.

The Class I path along Airport Road will help achieve the City's climate goals by closing a gap in the region's bikeway network and provide a critical connection to parks, retail and over I-80 and the Sacramento River to the Central City.



Figure 1: Project Area

Project Objectives

The purpose of this project is to identify an implementable design concept and cost estimate for a Class I Shared-Use Path along Airport Road consistent with the Bicycle Master Plan.

Existing Conditions

A Class I Shared-Use Path was built north of Natomas Crossing Drive with new residential development in 2021 that terminates at the site of the Natomas Field hangar. The Tanzanite Neighborhood is under construction and will bring 138 new housing units west of Airport Road, and East Commerce Way is designed to extend to San Juan Boulevard with a new traffic signal at East Commerce Way and San Juan Boulevard.

The Jackrabbit Trail currently terminates at Airport Road at the south side of Tanzanite Park. No bicycle facilities exist along Airport Road connecting to the exiting Class I path to the north, or the highway overcrossing south of San Juan Boulevard.

There are currently four residential driveways facing Airport Road, near the intersection of Tanzanite Avenue and five commercial driveways south of Tanzanite Park.

Between Natomas Crossing Drive and Tanzanite Avenue there are no existing or planned driveways facing Airport Road.

Process

The project team analyzed property titles for all properties adjacent to Airport Road and found that the public right of way is continuous for the entire length of the project and varies in width. North of Tanzanite Avenue, the public right of way is 35 feet wide, approximately the width of the existing road. South of Tanzanite Avenue, the public right of way is 80 feet wide, extending east of the existing road.

The Department of Public Works Construction Inspection and Survey team mapped the right of way, including utility pole locations and cross slopes and found that in the 80 foot wide segment of Airport Road there are 38-48 feet of public right of way east of the exiting roadway and utility poles.

A portion of the public right of way south of Tanzanite Avenue has been included in Tanzanite Park. The Department of Public Works collaborated with the Department of Youth Parks and Community Enrichment to identity space for a class I shared use path on the west side of the park that will include



Figure 2: ROW Analysis

relocating the existing fence and irrigation without removing the existing trees.

At the southernmost portion of Airport Road the cross section remains 80 feet wide and the public right of way surrounds a small parcel near San Juan Road. The existing roadway slopes approximately 300 feet north of San Juan Road.

Design Concept

Following the right of way analysis, several sight visits, and close collaboration with North Natomas Jibe, the project team developed a design concept (Attachment B) that includes a full closure of the existing Airport Road from north of Tanzanite Road. There are no driveways facing this segment of Airport Road and Firestar Way provides a parallel route for people driving north/south. The existing roadway will be repurposed as a Class I Shared-Use Path.

At the intersection of Tanzanite Road, the design concept includes a transition to a class I path on the east side of Airport Road, east of the existing utility poles. In order to facilitate a connection to the new traffic signal at East Commerce Way and San Juan Road the class I path transitions to the west side of Airport Road approximately 500 feet north of San Juan Boulevard. The location was identified to maximize visibility of the crossing and eliminate potential conflicts at the intersection of Airport Road and San Juan Boulevard.

In addition to the placement of the class I path, the design concept details crossing treatments at Natomas Crossing Drive, Buzz Aldrin/Naturita Way, and Tanzanite Avenue.

Cost Estimate

Based on the analysis and conceptual design, the project team estimates that the total cost for implementation will be approximately \$3,205,000, including environmental clearance, final design and construction including estimated cost escalation over time.

Implementation

The Airport Road Project will be incorporated into the Transportation Priorities Plan and will rely on grants from the regional, state and federal government competitive funding programs to take this concept further. Most grants require matching local funds and local funding will need to be identified.

Implementation will also require coordination with property owners who have been using the public right of way and with the Youth Parks and Community Engagement Department to incorporate the shared use path into the east side of Tanzanite Park.



LEGEND

CONCRETE



ASPHALT



ADA CURB RAMP / DETECTABLE SURFACE



BICYCLE CONFLICT ZONE



DEMO AREA



PROHIBIT PARKING



EXISTING UTILITY POLE



NEW STOP SIGN TO BE INSTALLED (UNLESS OTHER TYPE SPECIFIED)



STREET LIGHTING

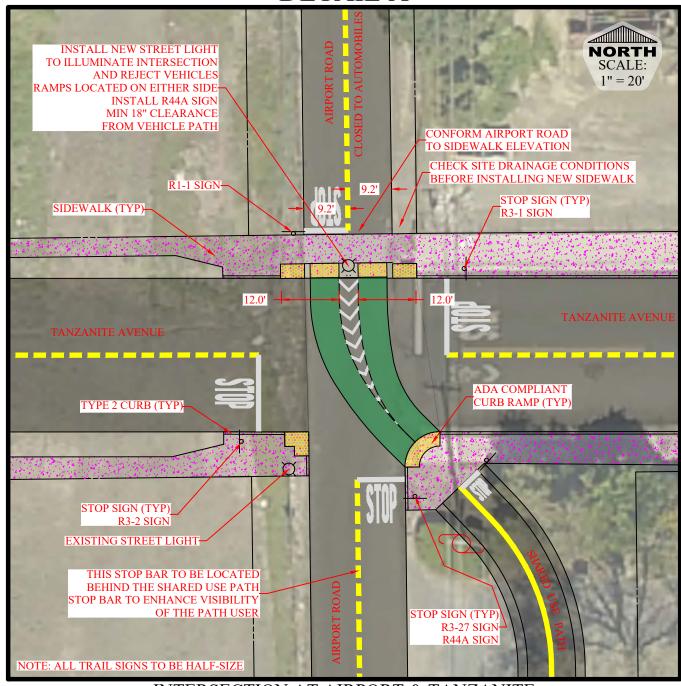
EXHIBIT

AIRPORT ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
SAN JUAN RD TO

EXISTING CLASS I BIKE FACILITY

CITY OF SACRAMENTO MAY 2023

DETAIL A



INTERSECTION AT AIRPORT & TANZANITE

LEGEND

CONCRETE



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BICYCLE CONFLICT ZONE



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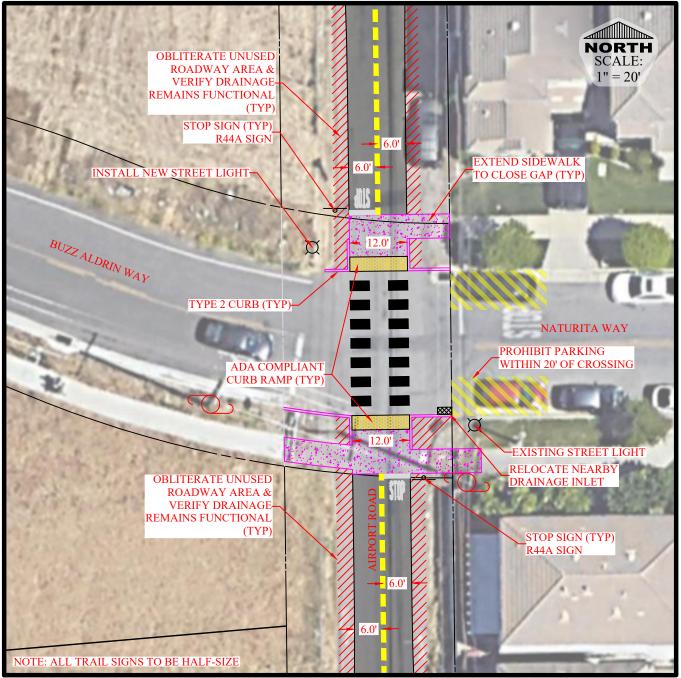
EXHIBIT

AIRPORT ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
SAN JUAN RD TO
EXISTING CLASS I BIKE FACILITY

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

MAY 2023

DETAIL B



TRAIL CROSSING AT AIRPORT & NATURITA WAY

LEGEND

CONCRETE



ASPHALT



ADA CURB RAMP / DETECTABLE SURFACE



BICYCLE CONFLICT ZONE



DEMO AREA



PROHIBIT PARKING



EXISTING UTILITY POLE



NEW STOP SIGN TO BE INSTALLED (UNLESS OTHER TYPE SPECIFIED)



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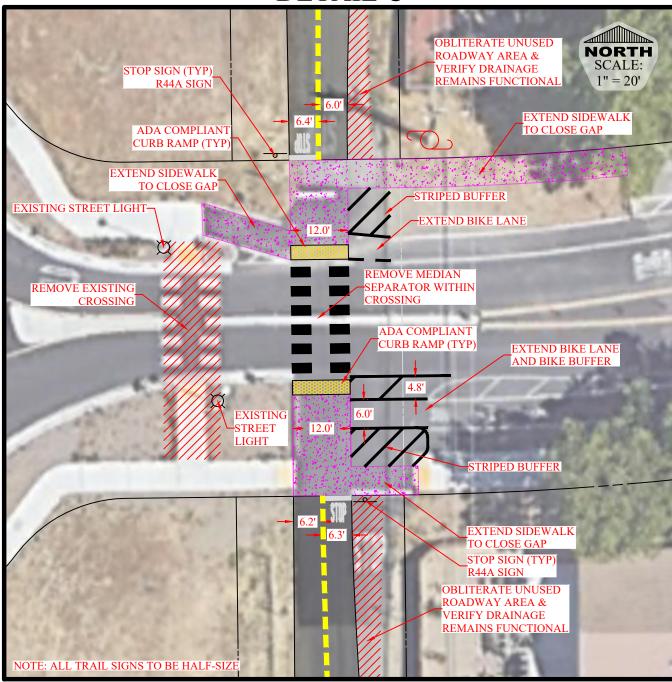
EXHIBIT

AIRPORT ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
SAN JUAN RD TO
EXISTING CLASS I BIKE FACILITY

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

MAY 2023

DETAIL C



TRAIL CROSSING AT NATOMAS CROSSING