



FAIRFAX TOWN COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE September 6, 2023
PREPARED FOR Mayor and Town Council
PREPARED BY Loren Umbertis, Director of Public Works
SUBJECT Receive Status Update on the Fairfax bridge projects

RECOMMENDATION

Receive report on status of Fairfax Bridge projects.

DISCUSSION

The Town of Fairfax is currently working on multiple bridge projects of varied sizes and complexity. The projects include:

- a. Meadow Way Bridge Replacement
- b. Azalea Ave Bridge Replacement
- c. Creek Road Seismic Retrofit and Repaving
- d. Bridge Preventative Maintenance Program (BPMP) which includes the following bridges:
 - i. Canyon Road
 - ii. Marin Road
 - iii. Spruce Road

Town of Fairfax has worked with California Infrastructure Consultancy, Inc to assist in managing the projects and to coordinate the specific steps required by regulatory agencies and other groups in order to perform the needed maintenance and repair work that has been identified to ensure the on-going stability and functionality of Fairfax's bridges.

Due to the locations of the bridges along waterways, a number of conditions must be met before subsequent steps may be addressed. These include among many other things, determination of parcel ownership and property acquisition or easements when required, consultation with Federal Agencies and Tribal Communities regarding potential cultural resources that may be present, coordinate work with Utility agencies including PG&E, MMWD, Ross Valley Sanitary District, telecommunications for the removal and relocation of their assets, and address National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regulations and conditions.

Beneficially to the Town of Fairfax, the cost of the projects is being funded predominantly by Caltrans, however, this also requires the Town to meet all of the conditions as required by Caltrans and associated agencies, all of which requires a systematic, thorough, and time-consuming process.

Attached is a table outlining the various stages of progress for all of the projects. Due to changes in requirements placed upon the Town by Caltrans and other agencies, changes in scope and allowable times of construction, unavoidable delays may result in extending schedules out an additional year or more.

FISCAL IMPACT

Caltrans has committed to paying substantial portions of funds for the projects, some 100% and others up to 88% of the total construction, consultancy, and design costs, which is described in the attached table. A rough order of magnitude of construction costs for all projects is currently anticipated to be approximately \$10M in today's dollars. The option of Fairfax to assume full responsibility for the projects in an attempt to accelerate schedule may not be possible or viable as regulatory requirements may still be necessary regardless of whether Caltrans or Town of Fairfax funds/manages the projects.

ATTACHMENT

Status of Fairfax Bridges Table

Status of Fairfax Bridges:

Fairfax Project	Bridge Project Type	HBP Funding Level - Design	HBP Funding Level - ROW & Construction	Environmental Status	Anticipated Year of Construction	Upcoming Tasks	Date of Initial Request Submitted to Caltrans for Additional Dollars	Funds Availability for Federal FY (Beginning September 1 ea. Year)
Meadow Way Br.	Replacement	88.53%	100%	NEPA & CEQA Cleared already. Update the project's Area of Potential Effect (APE) map	Summer 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Begin negotiations with five Home-owners and approve easement agreements 2. Begin the Eminent Domain process for two nonresidential properties 3. Prepare Agreements for five Utility Owners 4. Submit updated request for ROW and design dollars to Caltrans 5. Give the last design phase workshop & neighborhood meeting 	August 3, 2022	U/K - Caltrans has not responded for date of Funding; Addtl requests for Meetings have been issued
Azalea Ave Br.	Replacement	100%	100%	NEPA & CEQA Proceeding. Based upon resident concerns, working through details of scope of work	2026	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Town & CIC to meet with two new Homeowners at project site 2. Town and CIC to meet again with two other homeowners previously met with 3. Submit updated request for design dollars. 4. Town to host first design phase workshop & neighborhood meeting 	June 14, 2021	23/24
Creek Rd Br.	Seismic Retrofit	100%	100%	NEPA & CEQA Documents Imminent (review and approval by regulatory agencies expected within 6 mos.)	Summer 2026	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalizing most recent site cultural resource investigations & study to complete NEPA/CEQA requirements 2. Launch into ROW and utility phase after NEPA & CEQA certifications 3. ROW Coordination between Town & two Homeowners 4. Submit updated request for design dollars. 	September 18, 2019	23/24
Three Bridges (one project) on: - Marin Road - Canyon Road - Spruce Road	Bridge Preventive Maintenance Program (BPMP)	88.53%	88.53%	NEPA & CEQA Documents Imminent (review and approval by regulatory agencies expected within 6 mos.)	Summer 2025 (potential to stagger projects for construction management efficiencies)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalizing most recent site cultural investigations & study to complete NEPA/CEQA requirements 2. Launch into ROW and utility phase after NEPA & CEQA certifications 3. Submit updated request for design dollars. 	June 21, 2021	24/25