



Staff Report

January 11, 2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council
FROM: Merrill Buck, Town Engineer
DATE: January 5, 2022
RE: Engineering Report (Information only, no action required)

Update on noteworthy items in the Engineering Division.

Projects:

The following projects are active, but on hold:

- ***Laird Road Rubberized Chip Seal*** – waiting until spring for better weather.
- ***Rule 20A Undergrounding on Sierra College Blvd.*** – waiting for right of way from Costco
- ***Sierra College Boulevard Widening*** – Project timeline is tied to Costco breaking ground.

The following projects are active and moving forward:

Tree Pruning Project

This project will trim overgrowth along the Town's arterial and collector streets with a focus on reestablishing proper vehicle clearance 16-feet above the street's surface and 3-feet beyond the edge of roadway. A request for bids has been advertised with responses due January 21, 2022. Award of contract is anticipated at the February Council meeting with work beginning shortly thereafter.

Town Hall Building Repairs

Repairs to the Town Manager's office caused by the big October storm have begun and should be completed by the end of the month. Work includes replacement windows, replacement awnings and a new roof drain with scupper to better direct rain water.

Concrete Repair Project

The design has started on a concrete repair project that will close the gap on Webb Street between Taylor Road and the Town's parking lot and resolve the drainage problem at the corner of Taylor Road and Horseshoe Bar Road.

Library ADA Site Improvements Project

The design has started on project that will rebuild the accessible parking stalls in front of the library to meet ADA slope requirements of no more than a 2% slope in all directions. The concrete pathway leading from the parking lot to the library entrance will also need to be rebuilt as the cross slope there is also out of compliance.

Development:

The Grove (Humphrey Road)

Construction Phase – Rough grading and utility work has been completed. The site has been hydroseeded to stabilize the exposed soil over the winter. Street improvements are the next phase of work, weather permitting. Home construction should start this spring.

Taylor Road Mixed Use (Taylor Road)

Construction Phase – Most of the improvement work that will be publicly dedicated is done, with some minor drainage improvements still outstanding. Work on the construction of residential units is continuing.

Hidden Grove (Library Drive extension adjacent to I-80)

Planning Phase - A formal application has been submitted by the developer. Staff is reviewing the application for completeness.

Utility Permits:

PG&E Taylor Road Gas Line Repairs

All work is done except for the final pavement restoration. Steel plates were removed and temporary pavement (cutback) was placed. The final paving should be completed by the end of the month.

PG&E Bankhead Gas Lateral Replacements

All work has been completed including street surface restoration.

Administrative Items:

Recology Rate Increase

Notices have gone out for a public hearing on Recology's requested rate increase. This item will be considered at the February Council meeting.

Senate Bill 1383 – California’s Climate Pollutant Reduction Law

SB 1383, representing the most significant waste reduction mandate to be adopted in California in the last 30 years requires the state to reduce organic waste disposal [food waste, green waste, paper products, etc.] 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025. Regulations went into effect as of January 1, 2022 and are now enforceable by Cal Recycle with significant financial penalties for non-compliance. The law has policy and legal implications for local governments, which are taking up quite a bit of administrative time to understand and manage. A presentation is being planned for the February Council meeting to bring the Council up to speed on what SB 1383 requires and the Town’s path forward for compliance.

Traffic Calming Requests

A petition to install speed bumps on Bankhead Road south of Sierra College Boulevard was received and is awaiting the drafting of a policy that can be presented to Council for approval. Not wanting a proliferation of speed humps throughout town, this can then be used as criteria to assess suitability. Residents in the Sierra de Montserrat subdivision have also approached the town about installing traffic calming devices along Rutherford Canyon Road to control speeding. This is a collector road, which is not suitable for speed bumps. A different traffic calming solution being considered are chicanes (a series of mid-block islands that narrow the roadway and require vehicles to follow an S-shaped, curved path). The March Council meeting is being targeted to discuss both these items.

Capital Improvements Program

Other priorities have unfortunately caused the development and drafting of the Town’s CIP Program to slip. It may be more realistic to try and have this ready in conjunction with the beginning of the new fiscal year, rather than the calendar year.