



## Staff Report

### January 10, 2023

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council  
**FROM:** Merrill Buck, Town Engineer  
**RE:** Engineering Division Status Update (Information only)

Update on noteworthy items in the Engineering Division.

#### **EFFORTS COMPLETED OR ON HOLD:**

- ***CalRecycle Rubberized Pavement Grant*** – The Town was successful with this competitive grant application that will reduce the cost of resurfacing with a rubber cape seal by about 15%. Maximum grant amount is \$250,000. Projects can be delivered over the next two years.
- ***Highway Safety Improvement Grant (HSIP)*** – An application was submitted for competitive grant funding that would provide safety improvements in the form of raised medians and lighting at the Sierra College/Taylor intersection, along with miscellaneous striping improvements consisting of high-visibility crosswalks and edge striping throughout town. Results are expected in February.
- ***Regional Active Transportation Program (ATP) Grant*** – An application was submitted for competitive grant funding that would complete sidewalk and bike lanes, as gap closures, along school routes on Humphrey Road and King Road. Results are expected by the end of February.
- ***Solid Waste (SB 1383) Coordination Services*** – Following the release of a Request for Qualifications, R3 Consulting Group was selected, and is being recommended for a program management contract award over a two-year term.

#### **PROJECTS IN CONSTRUCTION:**

##### ***Downtown Baskets and Banners***

Christmas banners were designed and installed along the downtown corridors of Taylor Road and Horseshoe Bar Road. Since they were installed on both sides of the street light poles, new brackets were used that are designed to reduce wind loads and flex with high winds. Replacement banners are being designed for other seasons, and an RFP for flower baskets will be released shortly, with an anticipated spring installation.

##### ***2022 Slurry Seal Project***

All of the slurry seal work has been completed, along with some of the striping. Cold weather and rain are hindering completion. Layout paint known as cat-tracks has been placed and approved. Work should wrap up by the end of January.

### ***Concrete Repair Project***

Work is underway and continuing. Project involves a section of sidewalk at the corner of Webb Street and Taylor Road, sidewalk at Horseshoe Bar Road and Taylor Road, and miscellaneous removal and replacement of damaged curb, gutter and sidewalk at various spot locations throughout Town.

### **PROJECTS IN DESIGN:**

#### ***Signal Interconnect (Taylor/Horseshoe Bar – Taylor/King - King/Swetzer) with Scope Modification to Include a New Signal at Taylor Road and Walnut Street***

A design contract is being proposed for award at the January Council meeting. Work scope has been modified to include a new signal at Taylor Road and Walnut Street that will interconnect to the other signals at Taylor/Horseshoe Bar, Taylor/King and King/Swetzer. Nearly half of the project's funding involves a federal grant that becomes available in October 2023.

#### ***Sunrise Loomis Playground Replacement Project***

Some of this work scope involved the replacement of broken or displaced sidewalk in Sunrise Loomis Park. This work is being batched for completion as a change order using the bid unit prices from the Concrete Repair Project currently in construction. This leaves the replacement of one of the playgrounds, along with bench and table replacements, to be bid as a project this spring. The grant requires that all work be completed by December 31, 2023.

#### ***Sierra College Boulevard Widening (Brace to Taylor)***

The project's Initial Environmental Study - Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) was circulated for public comment and is now scheduled for the January 24<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting to discuss findings and make a CEQA determination of no significance. After that, the IS-MND will be proposed for adoption at the February Council meeting. In conjunction with this, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Army Corps of Engineers, and Department of Fish and Wildlife are completing their project reviews to determine the extent of mitigation measures necessary due to impacts on adjacent waterways, trees and riparian habitat. Construction drawings will be presented to the Council for authorization to bid at the February Council meeting so that work can start in May. The selection process for construction management and inspection services has been completed and an award of contract is being recommended for award at the January Council meeting.

#### ***Library Parking Lot ADA Improvements Project***

Because this work involves paving, the project is targeting a spring 2023 construction. Design work is nearly complete and will be bid in January for a March Council meeting award. Work involves regrading the handicap parking stalls in the library parking lot and rebuilding the concrete pathway leading to the library's entrance so that they are ADA compliant.

#### ***Adopt an Oak Tree Program***

Utilizing funding from the Town's Tree Fund, collected as mitigation due to oak tree loss, a program is being developed that will allow Loomis residents to "adopt" an oak tree for planting on their property. An initial funding level of \$30,000 was approved under the FY 2022-23 Capital Improvements Program. Outreach and program information materials have been developed. The next step is to seek pricing from local nurseries. Staff is targeting April 28, 2023 (Arbor Day) for the launch of the program, to coincide with spring planting.

## **MAINTENANCE DISTRICT ITEMS:**

### ***Sierra De Montserrat***

Staff has been working with the Homeowner's Association to address speeding concerns. Speed Indication signs were installed about a year ago, to let drivers know how fast they are going, but vehicles still drive fast. Speeding is typically controlled by police enforcement, however a speed study was never completed along Rutherford Canyon, and without one, the Sheriff's Department cannot use radar for enforcement. Completing a speed study will most likely show that the 85% percentile speed, used in establishing speed limits, is much higher than the 25 MPH posted now. Rutherford Canyon is a collector street, where speeds are typically posted around 35 MPH. The homeowner's association was also requesting consideration of speed humps to control speed, however, the implementation of speed humps is probably inappropriate on a collector street.

One speed control measure implemented recently was the reduction of lane widths from 12-feet to 10-feet along. This was done by creating a striped buffer, adjacent to the edge line, in conjunction with the slurry seal project's restriping. The reduction in lane width "channelizes" drivers and encourages slower speeds, as a way of staying within the narrower, 10-foot painted lane.

### ***Hunter Oaks***

Following a request submitted by several of the residents in Hunter Oaks, staff has been working with the Homeowner's Association to design and install replacement landscaping along the subdivision's Brace Road frontage. The large rock boulders placed in the back of the subdivision to serve as erosion control are not really performing to their intended purpose and will be removed and reshaped into tiered rock walls with landscaping pockets. Two meetings have been held with the Homeowner's Association to discuss concept-level design and plant selection. The Town is working with a landscape architect to finalize the plans and specifications, which should be ready to bid this spring.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

### ***Scanning Services***

A request for qualifications has been released soliciting proposals from scanning firms to convert all of the various large sized drawings in the Engineering Division to a digital format for archiving. Following a review of proposals received, a contract is anticipated for award in February.

### ***Costco Frontage Improvements***

Frontage improvements to support the Costco development have been circulated for a final round of review comments and will be authorized under an encroachment permit. Work includes the widening of Sierra College Boulevard to accommodate additional right turn lanes along with the addition of a new signalized intersection, mid-block on Sierra College Boulevard between the Town Limits at Granite Drive and Brace Road. Costco has indicated that they would like to start with rough grading in February and have the warehouse open for business by the end of August.

### ***Rule 20A Undergrounding – Sierra College Boulevard (I-80 to Brace Road)***

Staff has been working diligently with PG&E on the necessary logistics behind undergrounding the power lines along Sierra College Boulevard adjacent to Costco. Before PG&E can start work, Costco needs to dedicate right of way and grade their frontage. Right of way is proposed for acceptance at the January Council meeting. And grading, by Costco, is anticipated to start in February. Once initiated, the undergrounding work is estimated to take approximately 10 weeks to complete.