



Staff Report

June 13, 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.

PROJECTS IN CONSTRUCTION:

Sierra College Boulevard / Taylor Road Intersection Improvements Project

This project was awarded to Western Engineering Contractors at the June 2023 Council Meeting. Work includes the widening of Sierra College Boulevard between Brace Road and Taylor Road from four lanes to six. Construction is scheduled to start Monday July 17th, with the first item of work involving the clearing of vegetation in the areas that will be widened. It will take approximately four months for the bulk of the project to be completed, although we're expecting a suspension of work at some point, while we wait for signal equipment, which we've been told has a 20+ week lead time.

Hunter Oaks Landscaping and Rockery Wall Improvements Project

Following a request submitted by several of the residents in the Hunter Oaks Subdivision, staff has been working with the Homeowner's Association to design and install replacement landscaping along the subdivision's common-area street frontages. Additionally, large rock boulders placed in the back of the subdivision to serve as erosion control will be removed and reshaped into tiered rock walls with landscaping pockets. A construction contract has been awarded, so work should be underway by the end of the month.

PROJECTS IN DESIGN:

Sunrise Loomis Playground Replacement Project

Under a California Park Improvement Grant (Proposition 68), this project will replace both the aged 2-5 and 5-12 playgrounds at Sunrise Loomis Park. The final design is being recommended for authorization to advertise for bids at the July Council Meeting. Work should start by September.

2023 Rubberized Cape Seal Project

Following the Town's success with a competitive grant application that will reduce the cost of resurfacing with a rubber cape seal by about 15%, staff has advertised a project for bids that will be presented to the Council in August for award. Work is anticipated to start in September.

Welcome Sign at Taylor Road and Sierra College Boulevard

This project involves building a billboard structure within the Union Pacific Railroad right of way at Taylor Road and Sierra College Boulevard. The project will be completed under two contracts. The first contract will build the sign structure and is out for bids now. After the structure has been completed, another contract will install the interior lettering and lighting. A presentation on the project is being prepared for the August Council meeting.

Storm Drain Roadway Culvert Crossing Replacements at Various Locations

Town staff has identified approximately two dozen locations around town where 12-inch to 24-inch diameter corrugated metal pipes are at various stages of failure as they cross under the roadway. Many of the pipes have rusted-out bottoms. Over time, if not fixed, they will create sink holes in the roadway, and become blocked with debris, thereby restricting the flow of water. A project is in design now that will remove and replace these pipes with high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic pipe, so as to be resistant to future corrosion. Construction is anticipated to start late summer, to be completed ahead of the rainy season.

Library Parking Lot ADA Improvements Project

Work involves re-grading the handicap parking stalls in the library parking lot and rebuilding the concrete pathway leading to the library's entrance so that the slopes are ADA compliant. Due to workload capacity issues, this project has been on hold for some time, and is now targeting fall for construction, when peak-summer library usage diminishes.

New Taylor/Walnut Signal and Downtown Signal Interconnect

This project will install a new signal at the Taylor Road/Walnut Street intersection, along with a signal interconnect system that will synchronize the adjacent signals at Taylor/Horseshoe Bar, Taylor/King, and King/Switzer. The design of this project has started, and is continuing, with construction anticipated to start in early 2024.

Downtown Baskets and Banners

Fall banners are being designed now. Other workload pressures have delayed the installation of flower baskets, with implementation now targeting next spring.

STBG Paving Project (Brace Road and King Road Resurfacing)

The Town received \$318,000 in federal grant funding to resurface Brace Road from Sierra College Boulevard to I-80 and King Road from Taylor Road to I-80. The design contract for this work is being recommended for award at the July Council meeting. The plan is to have the plans and specifications completed and ready to advertise by the end of the year, so that the work can be completed in the spring of 2024.

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. The next step in launching this program is to seek pricing from local nurseries, which has been delayed due to prioritization of other workload.

2023 Tree Pruning Contract

The Town has completed two rounds of tree pruning contracts, for vehicle clearance along its major arterial and collector streets. One last round remains to be completed with an estimated \$150,000 worth of work. Plans will be prepared for advertisement later this summer, targeting the fall pruning season.

MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS:

Sierra De Montserrat

Staff is working on a project that will regrade portions of the eroded pathway beyond the edge of pavement. The hope is to have this out for bids by the end of summer.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Rule 20A Undergrounding – Sierra College Boulevard (Granite Drive to Brace Road)

With the right of way dedicated and the Costco frontage now graded, PG&E has authorized their contractor to proceed with the Rule 20A undergrounding work. Work has started and should be completed, with poles down, and new lines energized, by mid-September.

Costco Frontage Improvements

As part of the Costco development, there is quite a bit of underground utility work that needs to be done in order to tie-into existing systems, such as storm drain, sewer and water improvements. Costco is looking for opportunities to complete this work concurrently with the Rule 20A contractor, by sharing the right-of-way work zone. After this work has been completed, and the Rule 20A undergrounding work has removed the power poles, Costco can then begin work on the road widening and new intersection improvements.