



Staff Report

August 8, 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 has had a slow start given the necessary environmental clearances that needed to be finalized with the regulatory agencies involved. The good news is that having completed a site survey, biological monitoring has determined that no species of significance or nesting birds are present. Clearing and grubbing of vegetation should therefore begin shortly, as the first item of work.

Hunter Oaks Landscaping and Rockery Wall Improvements Project

This project involves the installation of replacement landscaping along the Hunter Oaks subdivision's common-area Brace Road street frontage. Additionally, large rock boulders placed in the back of the subdivision to serve as erosion control will be removed and reshaped into a tiered rockery wall with landscaping pockets. The preconstruction meeting for this project has been held, with work to start this month.

PROJECTS OUT FOR BIDS:

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, one for the sign structure and another to install the interior lettering and lighting. Bids for this work have been received, and a presentation on the Welcome Sign's design, along with a funding recommendation is scheduled for the August Council meeting.

Sunrise Loomis Playground Replacement Project

The project has been advertised for construction bids, which are due at the end of August. Play equipment has been ordered and is expected mid-October. A church in Newcastle expressed an interest in taking the old play equipment. To accommodate this, in accordance with Town disposal of surplus equipment policy, a notice to the Building Exchanges was posted, offering the equipment to any interested party. Nobody else expressed an interest, so we're now working with the church on the logistics of having the equipment removed. A win-win, as the

church said the equipment is better than what they have currently, and the Town can avoid the full cost of demolition and disposal of the old play equipment.

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 prepared plans and specifications and advertised a project for bids that proposes to spend approximately \$1.5 million in Transportation funding that has built up over time from General Fund surpluses. The scope of work includes resurfacing approximately 6.5 miles of residential streets, with additive bid items that will resurface an additional 2 miles of collector streets, up to the budget amount, depending upon the pricing received. Bids are due mid-August. With Council's funding approval of the project, work should begin by early September.

On-Call Thermoplastic Striping Contract

Plans and specification have been prepared, and a project has been advertised, that will address some of the faded paint locations in Town, that Town Maintenance crews historically have gone out annually to repaint. Placing these markings with melted-thermoplastic material will make the new markings much more durable, and avoid the need to repaint the lines for 7-10 years. As part of this project, an on-call contract will be established that will allow the Town to paint other locations in Town, on an as-needed basis, under individual task orders.

PROJECTS IN DESIGN:

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. Design is nearly complete. The project should be ready to award at the September Council meeting.

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, but the design is now moving forward. Construction is targeting late fall, when peak-summer library usage diminishes.

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 the I-80 overpass, and King Road from Taylor Road to I-80 overpass. The design contract for this work has been awarded and a kick-off meeting has been held. 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. This program is about ready to launch, and a presentation with other program ideas is being prepared for the September meeting.

Depot Shade Structures Project

Design concepts are being developed to implement shade structures at the Depot and Blue Anchor Park. Staff should be ready to make a presented to Council on this at the September meeting.

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 fall.

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)

PG&E has started work on their Rule 20A undergrounding work and expects to finish by the end of 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. Current schedule calls for frontage improvements to be completed by October, although the warehouse won't be open until early next year.