



Staff Report

October 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.

PROJECTS IN CONSTRUCTION:

Sierra College Boulevard / Taylor Road Intersection Improvements Project

This project involves the widening of Sierra College Boulevard from Brace Road to Taylor Road from four lanes to six. Clearing and grubbing has been completed, the seasonal creek has been diked, and the contractor is now in the process of extending the large-diameter drainage culvert on each side of the roadway. This work should be completed by the end of October, ahead of the rainy season. After that, work will transition to constructing the additional lanes.

Hunter Oaks Landscaping and Rockery Wall Improvements Project

This project involves the installation of replacement landscaping within the common areas of the Hunter Oaks subdivision. Landscaping work along Brace Road has been completed, with work now focused on completing the rockery wall and landscaping in the cul-de-sac at the back of the subdivision.

Welcome Sign at Taylor Road and Sierra College Boulevard

This project involves building a sign structure within the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) 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. Contracts have been signed, but the project is on hold while we wait for final design approval and permitting from the UPRR.

Sunrise Loomis Playground Replacement Project

This project will replace both play structures in Sunrise Loomis Park. Play equipment was purchased directly by the Town and is expected to arrive the first week of November. The construction contract was awarded, and work involving the removal of existing mulch, grading and other prep-work ahead of the play equipment's arrival is expected to start mid-October.

2023 Rubberized Cape Seal Project

Utilizing a rubberized pavement grant from CalRecycle that cuts about 15% off the cost of the work, the chip seal representing the first phase of the project is now complete. The second phase of work which involves covering the chip seal with a slurry seal is expected to occur from Monday October 16th to Saturday October 21st. After that, replacement striping will be placed, with all work wrapping up in November.

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

PG&E completed the conduit and pull box installation portion of their work last month and is scheduled to energize the new underground power lines the first week of October. AT&T has some remaining work to do, undergrounding their facilities, which should be wrapped up by the end of October. After that, Costco has full control of the right of way and can start building their frontage improvements along Sierra College Boulevard and Brace Road.

PROJECTS OUT FOR BIDS:

On-Call Thermoplastic Striping Contract

This project will address some of the faded striping locations in Town that maintenance crews historically have gone out to repaint annually. Replacing these markings with melted thermoplastic material will make the new markings much more durable, thereby avoiding the need to repaint the lines for another 7-10 years. As part of this project, a three year 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.

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, which over time, if not fixed, will create sink holes in the roadway, and become blocked with debris, thereby restricting the flow of water. A project has been prepared and is ready to advertise for bids that will remove and replace these pipes with high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic pipe, so as to be resistant to future corrosion. Staff is looking into Department of Fish and Wildlife permitting requirements, to see if the work can proceed now, or if it has to wait until spring to begin construction.

Humphrey Road Sidewalks / School Route Improvements

This project will construct curb, gutter and sidewalk to close a sidewalk gap of approximately 250 feet along the east side of Humphrey Road near King Road, along with constructing curb ramps and a rapid rectangular flashing beacon at a crosswalk near H. Clarke Powers Elementary School. The scope of work on this project was included in an unsuccessful Active Transportation Program (ATP), Safe Routes to School grant application, and since it wasn't funded, it is now being pursued with Town funds. Plans and specifications have been prepared, with a bid opening late October that will allow staff to recommend an award of contract at the November Council meeting.

PROJECTS IN DESIGN:

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. Workload pressures have delayed the completion of this project, but the design is nearing completion and should be ready to advertise for bids in time for the December Council meeting.

Downtown Baskets and Banners

Fall banners are being displayed now, spotlighting the Eggplant Festival. Flower basket brackets and drip lines should be installed over the winter, in time for the installation of baskets and flower plantings come 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 the I-80 overpass. The design contract for this work has been awarded and has started. The project should be ready to advertise for bids 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. Staff is also looking into the possibility of including a private-property oak tree pruning grant program with a 50/50 match, that would allow Loomis residents to get assistance on the cost of professional oak tree pruning, as another way of using the tree funds for oak tree preservation. Workload pressures have caused the implementation of this program to slip. Hopefully we can bring this forward to Council for discussion in November.

Depot Shade Structures Project

Design concepts are being developed to implement shade structures at the Depot and Blue Anchor Park. Workload pressures have caused the implementation of this program to slip. Hopefully we can bring this forward to Council for discussion in November.

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. Due to workload capacity issues, this project has had a lower priority, and will probably not be advertised until the end of the year.

Sierra De Montserrat – Decomposed Granite Shoulder Rehabilitation

Staff is working on a project that will regrade portions of the eroded pathway beyond the edge of pavement. This project should be ready to bid and award by the December Council meeting.