



Staff Report

January 9, 2024

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. Current work scope involves median island modification along Sierra College Boulevard and Taylor Road to create longer left turn pockets. After that, the job will complete curb and gutter work along the west side of Sierra College, and then shut down for winter and resume construction in the spring when the signal equipment arrives.

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. The right of entry permit has been submitted to the railroad for approval, which should allow for work to start in January.

Sunrise Loomis Playground Replacement Project

This project will replace both play structures in Sunrise Loomis Park. Play equipment installation has started and all work should be completed by the end of January, weather permitting.

2023 Rubberized Cape Seal Project

Both the rubberized chip seal and slurry seal portions of the resurfacing work have been completed, with replacement striping remaining as outstanding work scope. Layout work for the replacement striping has been completed. The streets need to be completely dry for the permanent striping to be placed, so this work is on hold until we get a good patch of dry weather.

PROJECTS IN DESIGN:

Depot Shade Structures Project

Preliminary design concepts to implement shade structures around the Depot Building and Blue Anchor Park were developed and presented to Council in December. Staff is working on an updated design that will utilize shade trees in conjunction with shade structures to achieve the project objectives. This should be ready to present to the Council in February.

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, become blocked with debris, and restrict the flow of water. This project will remove and replace these pipes with high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic pipe that is resistant to future corrosion. This project has been advertised for bids with a bid opening late January.

2024 Paving Project

Targeting an early 2024 construction, the Town has several street segments that are being programmed for an asphalt overlay. Most notable are Sierra College Boulevard at King Road and Brace Road immediately adjacent to Costco. Design is underway, to be completed in January.

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 along Rutherford Canyon Road. This project should be ready to advertise for bids later this month and is targeting a February or March Council award.

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. The project will be advertised for bids in the spring.

Downtown Baskets and Banners

Christmas banners were displayed in December. Come spring, the Town will be installing spring banners along with flower baskets on eight of the streetlight poles along Taylor Road.

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 funding. Due to workload capacity issues and unsuitability for construction during winter, this project is targeting spring construction.

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 also be established that will allow the Town to paint other locations in Town, on an as-needed basis, under individual task orders. Due to workload capacity issues and unsuitability for construction during winter, this project is targeting spring construction.

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 for this work has started and is under review. As a federally funded project, a NEPA environmental clearances is required, along with the development of much more involved specifications incorporating Federal requirements. Construction is being targeted for late summer 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. The hope is to bring this program forward to Council early this year.

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 be advertised early spring.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

On-Call Engineering Services - Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

A Request for Qualifications for on-call professional engineering services has been issued with proposals due by the end of January. Services being sought include civil engineering design, construction management and inspection, material testing, along with various staff augmentation services including development review, surveying, traffic engineering, CIP management, and inspection for grading permits and right of way improvements.