AGENDA



### SAN RAFAEL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.

### VIRTUAL MEETING

Watch Online: https://tinyurl.com/BPAC-2021-04-07 Telephone: (669) 900-9128 ID: 873-5858-9818#

- 1. Call to Order
- **2.** Approval of meeting minutes Approval of BPAC Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2021 *Recommended Action: Approve as submitted*
- 3. Public Comments for Items not on Agenda: 2-minutes each
- 4. Remembering Jimmy Geraghty, Memorial attached
- **5. North-South Greenway**, *Materials attached and presentation by Patrick Seidler and Warren Wells*

This item is about a gap closure in the North-South Greenway from Los Ranchitos to the top of the Puerto Suello pathway

Recommended Action:

- 1. Members to vote on submitting a letter of support to City Council, DRAFT letter attached
- 6. San Rafael Transit Center, Brief update from City staff

Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District (GGBHTD) is completing an analysis of three alternative locations of the Transit Center. The alternatives can be found here: https://www.goldengate.org/assets/1/6/srtc-community-meeting-presentation-november-19-2020.pdf

Recommended Action:

- 1. Members to provide input on the bicycle and pedestrian access to each alternative
- 2. Members to vote on submitting a letter encouraging City Council to prioritize pedestrian and bicycle access to the relocated Transit Center, DRAFT letter attached

### 7. Possible Future Agenda Items

a. BPAC Work Plan

https://storage.googleapis.com/proudcity/sanrafaelca/uploads/2019/12/Bicycleand-Pedestrian-Advisory-Committee.pdf

### 8. Adjournment in Honor of Jimmy Geraghty

Any records relating to an agenda item, received by a majority or more of the Committee less than 72 hours before the meeting, shall be available for inspection online. Sign Language interpreters may be requested by calling (415) 485-3066 (voice), emailing <u>Lindsay.lara@cityofsanrafael.org</u> or using the California Telecommunications Relay Service by dialing "711", at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Copies of documents are available in accessible formats upon request.

### City of San Rafael Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Wednesday February 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Chair Powers Member Allison Member Solomon Member Mooney Member Bergman Member Hagerty Member Coyne, Alternate Member Geraghty, Alternate Youth Member Nielsen

### Call to Order

Chair Powers called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

### 1. Public Comments for Items not on Agenda

Craig Murray: Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), Safe Routes to School efforts, US 101 Undercrossing

Jean Severinghaus: Kudos for Second Street to Rice Drive Multi-Use Path (MUP) and for Quick Build at Francisco Boulevard East/Grange Avenue

Patrick Seidler: Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) has money they could put towards the North-South Greenway

Warren Wells: New Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC) Policy and Program Director. Sunny Lee: Requests a study be done on the traffic impacts of the Francisco Blvd West one-way circulation on northbound Lincoln Avenue

### 2. Committee Housekeeping

Staff announced that the City is not currently seeking replacements for former Member Belletto or Youth Member Harlem's vacancies. Members of the committee requested the City consider recruiting for the second youth member position

### 3. Approval of meeting minutes

Minutes for regular December 2, 2020 meeting approved.

### 4. Third Street/Lindaro Street Intersection Improvements

Staff provided a report prior to the meeting and presented at the meeting the alternatives for the design of the Third Street and Lindaro Street intersection. The alternatives are: close the driveway (north leg) to Walgreens or make the driveway (north leg) one-way southbound.

Comments from committee members:

Member Solomon asked how far the driveway is from the nearest intersection (Lootens Street)

Alternate Member Geraghty mentioned the conflict between southbound vehicles making a right turn and not looking for bicycle traffic

Member Allison asked about the collision history and the back-up in lane #3 Youth Member Nielsen asked if improvements can be made to the Lindaro Street driveway Member Mooney asked about the bike lanes on Lindaro that BioMarin was supposed to install

**Speakers:** Don Magdenz, Lisa Merigan, Dave Rhoads, Jean Severinghaus, Sunny Lee, Lori S, Jonathan Toste

There being no further comment, Chair Powers closed the public comment

Member Mooney expressed the need to design for the future and consider BioMarin and Senior Housing going in

Youth Member Nielsen suggested staff consider redesigning the Walgreens driveway Member Bergman mentioned the parking lot can be challenging to drive through and visibility should be checked

Chair Powers asked what the City was satisfied with and indicated she was appreciative of the public process that this project has gone through

Members Allison and Hagerty expressed support for the one-way exit only alternative. Members Mooney and Solomon and Alternate Members Geraghty and Coyne expressed support for the closed alternative.

### 5. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Staff presented how the CIP is created, how projects make it into the CIP, and how the projects are ranked

Alternate Member Geraghty asked if the City monitors e-bike sales Youth Member Nielsen asked how projects can get added mid-cycle

**Speakers:** Patrick Seidler, Craig Murray, Sunny Lee, Dave Rhoads, Lori S, Jean Severinghaus

Member Mooney asked about planning for the increase in e-bikes Chair Powers requested that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) be revisited regularly to reprioritize projects

Member Bergman requested MTC's regional bike and pedestrian plan. He also thinks it would be helpful to have detailed breakdown of funding and the limitations of different funding sources. Youth Member Nielsen requested the process be refined

There being no further comment, Chair Powers closed the public comment

### 6. Request for Future Agenda Items

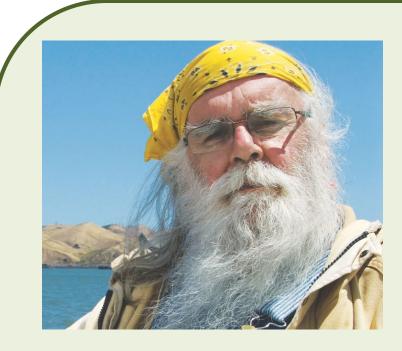
Committee members requested the funding opportunities for the North-South Greenway be discussed

### 7. Adjournment

Chair Powers adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2021

Lauren Davini, Staff Liaison



### **Remembering Jimmy Geraghty**

The City would like to thank Jimmy for his many years of contributions to San Rafael. He will be missed.

Jim grew up on the East Coast before moving to Marin in 1988, settling in the Canal District so he could be close to his boat. By 2003, he had become a stalwart activist known throughout the county.

Garbed in his signature overalls, bandana, and clogs, Jim was a prominent fixture at countless political, environmental, and social justice events over the past two decades. Named one of the "Heroes of Marin" by the Pacific Sun in 2018, he never took credit for his impact on the community.

"I surround myself with people smarter than me, connecting with others and working for change," Jim is quoted as saying. "That's when the real magic happens." -Community Media Center of Marin

Geraghty identifies the three biggest problems facing Marin as housing, traffic and racial disparity. The good news is he sees plenty of solutions for all of these problems. His advice: Get involved. **"Find a group working on your passion or concern. Become aware."** – Pacific Sun "Heroes of Marin"

# SMART San Rafael Connection



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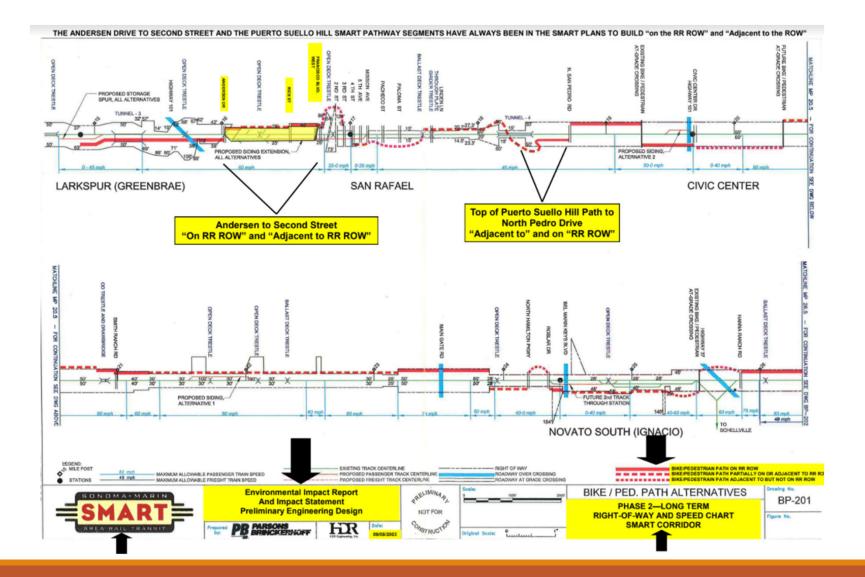
FOR MARIN

MADIN CONDUCT
MARIN COUNTY NORTH-SOUTH
BIKEWAY FEASIBILITY STUDY
A SZ
Marin County Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services
November 1994

# THE NORTH SOUTH **GREENWAY**



Appr	oximate Al	titude	Co	nto	ur	of	Nort	h S	iou	th (	Gree	enw	ay											1		nnels
ķ	300						Cami	ino lto			1	Cal Park Hill			ello Il			Pach	eco	Hill					Hi	lls
Altitud (feet)	200	1	_	_		_		4				4	1			_	4			-	_		_	_		
	Distance (miles)	0 1 Gold				6	7 8 lito	9	10	11	Co			7 18 Raf		21	22 23	24	25 20		28 2 ovat	31 3	2 33	34		6 37 3 aluma



Chapter 2: Project Description

vs Project

#### 2.5.2 Bicy cle/Pedestrian Pathway

The proposed project includes components that would implement portions of the Marin County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (June 2000), as described in Moving Forward: A 25-Year Transportation Vision for Marin County (February 2003); as well as portions of the Sonoma County Bicycle Plan, as described in the 2001 Countywide Transportation Plan for Sonoma County (September 2001). Implementation of the bicycle/pedestrian pathway components of these plans within the SMART and

NWP rights-of-way would be an integral component of the proposed project. The proposed project includes Phase 1 of two phases.

he proposed project would consist of approximately 54 miles of a Class I pathway located on the rail ight-of-way and 17 miles of Class II pathway improvements. In locations where the existing rail rightnfway is not of sufficient width to accommodate a pathway or in environmentally sensitive areas, Class I athways would be implemented outside the right-of-way on existing streets, providing links between the Class I portions of the pathway. These proposed Class I and II improvements represent Phase I of a wophase concept proposed by the BPAG. Phase 2, which is not part of the proposed project, would equire implementation and funding by either the local cities and towns or the counties. Construction of ase 2 would require acquisition of additional right-of-way and further environmental review if and wh

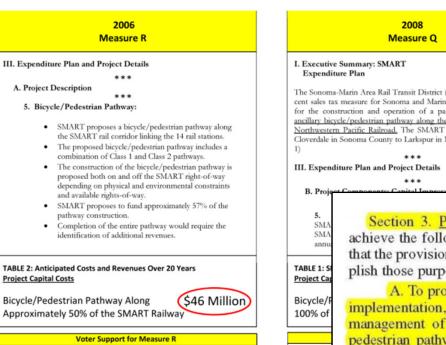
project sponsor is established. Class I and II segments are listed by milepost in Table 2.5-3. This table also indicates segments of the pathway that are existing and segments that are being constructed by other than SMART (e.g., City of Santa Rosa and Town of Windsor). Although other agencies entitie may be responsible for several segments of the pathway, this DEIR is intended to satisfy CEQA requirements for the entire length of proposed pathway.

<b>TABLE 2.5-3 P</b>	ROPOSED BICYCI	LE/PEDESTRIAN PATHW	A
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Pathway Segments By Milepost		Segment Length		Pathwa	ay Class		Im	plementation
From To		Miles	Total Corridor Class 1	Total Corridor Class 2	Proposed Class 1	Proposed Class 2	L	ead Agency
14.8	16	1.2	1.2					Marin County
16	17.2	1.2		1.2		1.2		SMART
17.2	17.5	0.3	0.3				Caltr	ans/Marin Count
17.5	18.2	0.7	0.7				Call	
18.2	18.7	0.5		0.5		0.5		The p
18.7	19.6	0.9	0.9	$\backslash$	0.9			i ne p
19.6	20.4	0.8	0.8				E	right.
20.4	20.8	0.4	0.4		0.4			ingine-
20.8	21.3	0.5	0.5		0.5			ofway
21.3	23.2	1.9	1.9		1.9			on ay
23.2	23.9	0.7	0.7		0.7			pathw
23.9	24.2	0.3		0.3		0.3		-
24.2	24.4	0.2		0.2		0.2		Class
24.4	24.5	0.1	0.1		0.1			the same state
24.5	25.5	1		1	-	1		twopr
25.5	25.8	0.3	0.3				E	re auti
25.8	26	0.2		0.2		0.2		requir
26	26.8	0.8	0.8		0.8		$\neg$	Dhaar
26.8	27	0.2	0.2		0.2			SMART
27	27.3	0.3	0.3				E)	cisting pathway
27.3	28.5	1.2	1.2		1.2			SMART
28.5	36.8	8.3		8.3			Caltra	ns Narrows Proje
36.8	38.8	2		2		2		SMART
38.8	44.9	6.1	6.1		6.1			SMART
44.9	45.6	0.7	0.7		0.7			SMART
45.6	46.3	0.7	0.7		0.7			SMART

e proposed project would consist of approximately 54 miles of a Class I pathway located on the rail ht-of-way and 17 miles of Class II pathway improvements. In locations where the existing rail rightway is not of sufficient width to accommodate a pathway or in environmentally sensitive areas, Class II thways would be implemented outside the right-of-way on existing streets, providing links between the ass I portions of the pathway. These proposed Class I and II improvements represent Phase I of a ophase concept proposed by the BPAG. Phase 2, which is not part of the proposed project, would guire implementation and funding by either the local cities and towns or the counties. Construction of





<b>.</b>	1	/es	No				
County:	Votes	%	Votes	%			
Marin County	59.774	57.51%	44.168	42.49%			
Sonoma County	118.382	70.1%	50.505	29.6%			
Totals:	178.156	65.3%	94.673	34.7%			

### The Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District (SMART) proposes a 1/4cent sales tax measure for Sonoma and Marin Counties in order to pay for the construction and operation of a passenger train system and ancillary bicycle/pedestrian pathway along the existing, publicly owned Northwestern Pacific Railroad. The SMART project will extend from Cloverdale in Sonoma County to Larkspur in Marin County. (See Figure OF MEASURE Q Section 3. PURPOSE. This ordinance is adopted to achieve the following, among other purposes, and directs that the provisions hereof be interpreted in order to accomplish those purposes: A. To provide funding for the design, construction, implementation, operation, financing, maintenance and management of a passenger rail system and a bicycle/

pedestrian pathway connecting the 14 rail stations from Cloverdale to Larkspur.

Marin Coun				
Sonoma County	162.242	73.7%	58.016	26.3%
Totals:	246.047	69.6%	107.681	30.4%



Larkspur, including new passenger train passing sidings.

5. A maintenance facility in either Cloverdale or Windsor.

The tax would be collected in the same manner as sales tax

is currently collected, would begin on April 1, 2009, and

The District is empowered under state law to issue bonds

to fund all or part of the construction of the project, so that

work can begin sooner. The bonds would be repaid over

time from the tax revenue collected. The ordinance also

establishes an appropriations (spending) limit for SMART.

The ordinance must be approved by two-thirds of the voters voting on the question in order for the special tax to go

s/PATRICK K. FAULKNER s/STEVEN WOODSIDE

6. Shuttle service at selected rail stations.

into effect.

SMM-1

Marin County Counsel

would continue in effect for twenty (20) years.

#### **EXCERPTS** OF MEASURE Q ORDINANCE NO. 2008-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE SONOMA-MARIN AREA RAIL TRANSIT DISTRICT IMPOSING A RETAIL TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX TO BE ADMINIS-TERED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION: ADOPTING AN EXPENDITURE PLAN: AND ESTAB-LISHING AN ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT FOR THE SONOMA-MARIN AREA RAIL TRANSIT DISTRICT.

#### BACKGROUND FINDINGS:

The Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District (SMART) was created to provide a passenger rail system along the Northwestern Pacific Railroad within Sonoma and Marin Counties. The entire 75-mile corridor is publicly owned and can be used to provide passenger rail service. SMART will provide passenger rail service and a bicycle/pedestrian athway to 14 rail stations in Sonoma and Marin Counties. SMART is committed to providing service with the most environmentally clean passenger rail vehicle possible.

SMART requires this measure in order to provide matching revenues to existing state and federal transportation grants, to bond for the construction of the project, and to provide funding for the on-going operation and maintenance of the project.

Section 1. TITLE. This ordinance shall be known as the Sonoma-Marin Passenger Rail Act. The Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District hereinafter shall be called "District." This ordinance shall be applicable in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the Counties of Sonoma and Marin, which shall be referred to herein as "District."

Section 2. OPERATIVE DATE. "Operative Date" means the first day of the first calendar quarter commencing more than 110 days after the effective date of this ordinance, as set forth below.

Section 3. PURPOSE. This ordinance is adopted to achieve the following, among other purposes, and directs that the provisions hereof be interpreted in order to accomplish those purposes:

A. To provide funding for the design, construction, mplementation, operation, financing, maintenance and management of a passenger rail system and a bicycle/ edestrian pathway connecting the 14 rail stations from loverdale to Larkspur.

B. To impose a retail transactions and use tax in accordance with the provisions of Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code and Section 105115 of the Public Utilities Code which authorizes the District to adopt this tax ordinance which shall be operative if a two-thirds majority of the electors voting on the measure vote to approve the imposition of the tax at an election called for that purpose.

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[Emphasis Added]

Sonoma County Counsel

Northwest-

verdale to



Final Report

### San Rafael Civic Center Station Area Plan



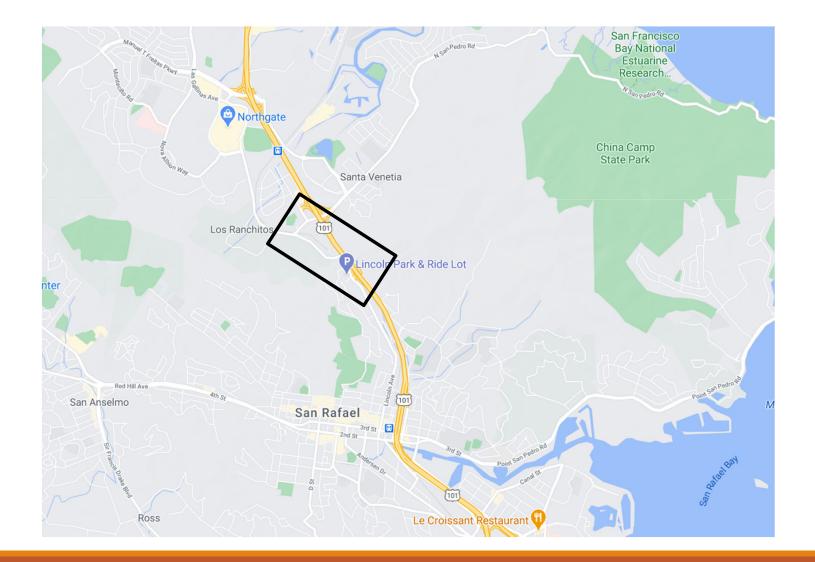
Prepared by:

FEHR \* PEERS

332 Pine Street, Floor 4 San Francisco, CA 94104



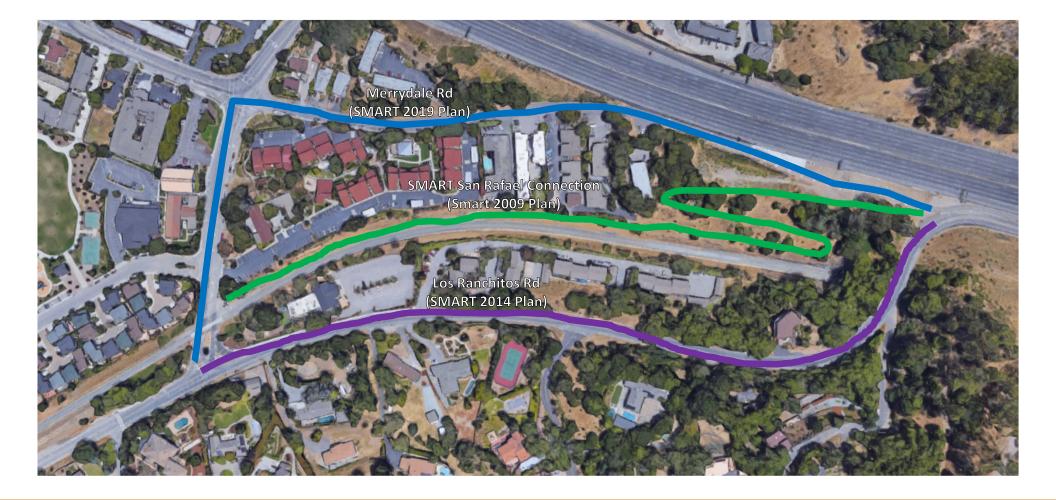
August 2012 / Amended September 2013 (City Council Resolution 13618)











## Merrydale Road



Steep Grade (>9% at points)



High-Stress Intersection w/ N San Pedro Road



No Bike Lanes No Sidewalks Limited ROW

## Los Rachitos Road



Slope Higher than ADA Limit (6%)



No ROW for both Sidewalk and Bike Lanes



Min. Width Bike Lanes



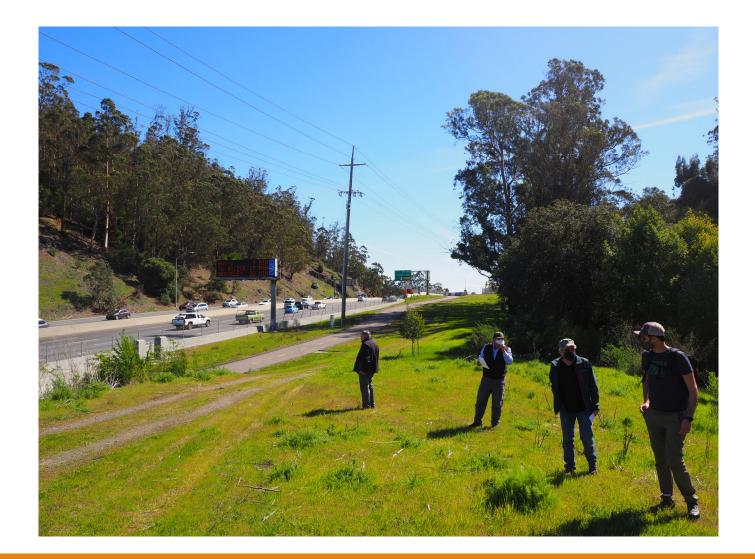








Photo #3

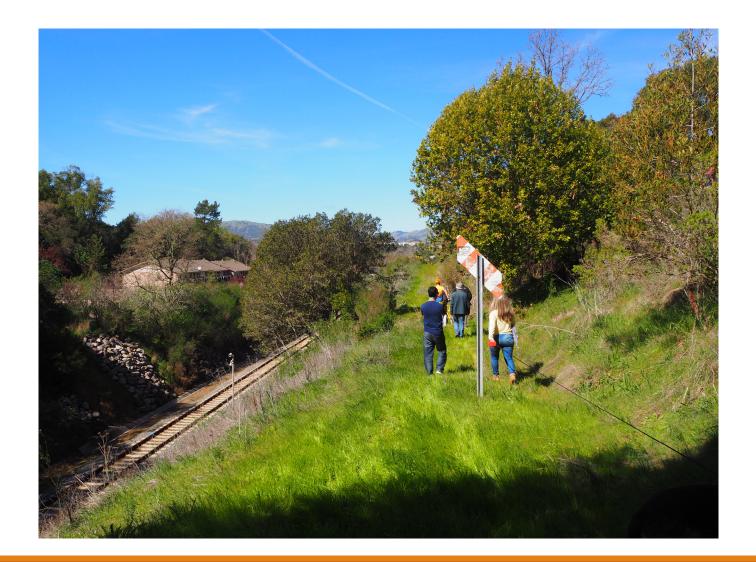
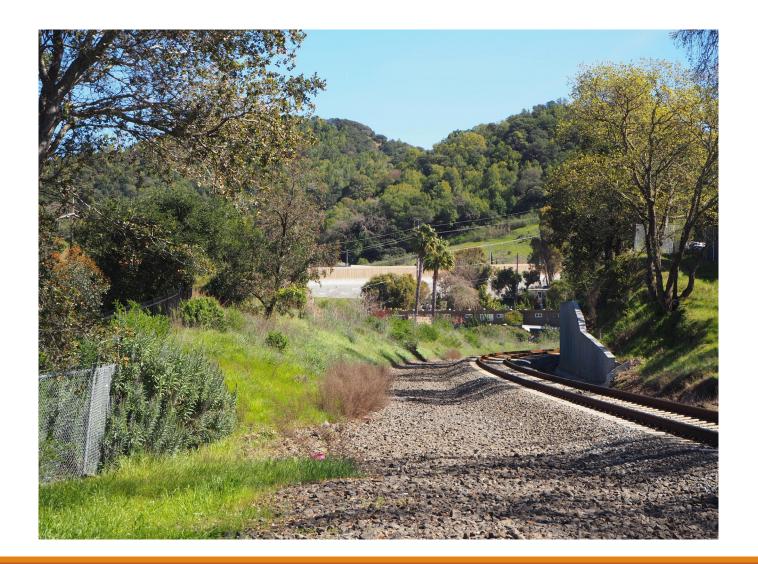


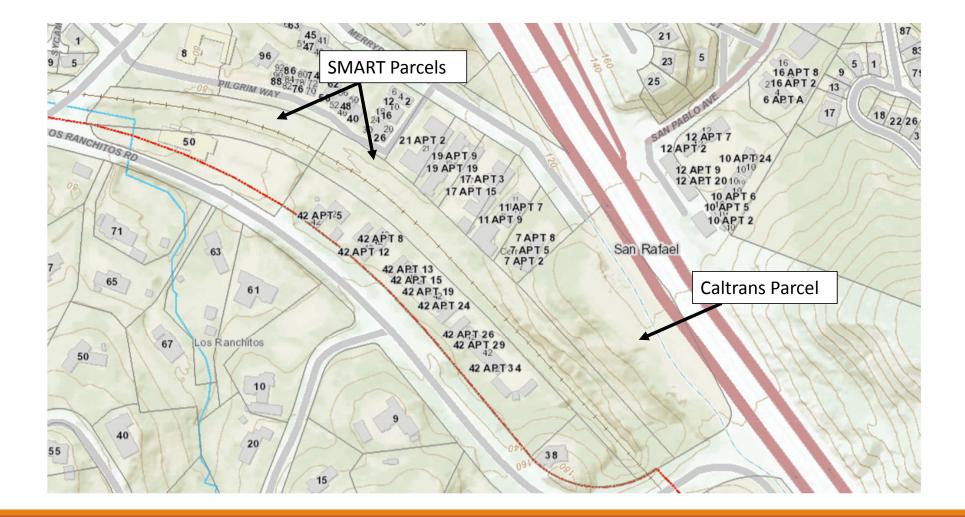


Photo #4

Photo #3







## Benefits vs. Drawbacks

- Safer and separated from traffic
- All ages and abilities
- Allows all users, not just bicycles
- Higher cost
- Requires environmental clearance

## Comparing the Alternatives

Route	Length	Elev. Gain	Max Grade	Bikes	Pedestrians
Merrydale Road	2,590'	139'	9.4%	No	No
Los Ranchitos Road	2,140'	118′	6.6%	Yes	No
SMART San Rafael Connection	3,200'	120'	5%	Yes	Yes

## What the San Rafael BPAC can do

Draft and submit resolution to San Rafael City Council stating that:

- The 'SMART San Rafael Connection' should be the preferred route from Puerto Suello Hill to N San Pedro Road
- Merrydale Road and Los Ranchitos Road cannot serve as 'all ages and abilities' bicycle/pedestrian routes
- The City should request that SMART:
  - Environmentally clear this alignment, both through CEQA and NEPA
  - Develop 30% engineering alternatives for the complete segment
  - Obtain all necessary permits
  - Fund and seek necessary matching funding for construction of segment

# Questions?

San Rafael Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee

April 8, 2021

San Rafael City Council 1400 Fifth Avenue San Rafael, CA 94901

Re: Recommendation for City Council advocacy for SMART Multiuse Path Gap Closure in North San Rafael

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

We encourage the Council to act immediately to urge SMART's Board of Directors to include full funding, or seek grants for the full funding, for the environmental review, permitting and full construction of the segment of the Multiuse Path (MUP) from Puerto Suello Hill to North San Pedro Road in North San Rafael. The SMART Board is currently planning Capital Projects, which include construction and expansion of pathway systems, as part of its goal-setting and budgeting process for 2021.

This gap closure in North San Rafael's portion of the North-South Greenway is an important link to meet the goal of providing safe and comfortable access along the full length of the Greenway for all ages and abilities. It is an important link in the County's and the region's bicycle and pedestrian transportation network. The current alternative routes do not meet the needs of most abilities of bicyclists (1) because there is constrained space and visibility around curves along Los Ranchitos with no room for expansion due to slopes on either side of the roadway, and (2) because an uncomfortably steep slope exists on Merrydale heading down from Puerto Suello Hill toward Point San Pedro Road.

In our advisory capacity, we urge you to use this opportunity, while SMART funding is available, to move environmental review and time-sensitive construction preparation forward in a cost effective and timely way.

Thank you for your consideration,

San Rafael BPAC Members

San Rafael Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee

April 8, 2021

San Rafael City Council 1400 Fifth Avenue San Rafael, CA 94901

Re: Recommendations regarding Site Alternatives for San Rafael Transit Center's Relocation

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

San Rafael completed and adopted its most recent update of San Rafael's Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) in 2018. During that planning process, the City considered hundreds of comments through its survey and public outreach efforts. The relocation of San Rafael's Transit Center creates an important opportunity for the City to address the top two goals in the 2018 BPMP update: 1) safety and 2) connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians.

According to the BPMP, between 2009 and 2016, 65% of all pedestrian-involved collisions (averaging 36/year) occured downtown. The corridors with the greatest occurrence of both bicycle and pedestrian-involved collisions per mile were along Second, Third, and Fourth Streets and collisions were particularly high at intersections with Hetherton Street and Tamalpais Avenue. As these intersections are within the footprints of the alternatives being considered for the relocation of the Transit Center, this is a critical time to prioritize and invest in safety countermeasures at pedestrian crossings and bicycle intersections such as those listed in the BPMP and to work with the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (GGBHTD) to do so.

The BPMP recognizes that tracking progress towards its goals is crucial to its success. One of the first strategies in prioritizing and implementing the safety improvements in the plan was to adopt a "Vision Zero" policy for eliminating all bicycle- and pedestrian-involved severe injuries and fatalities and establish a baseline for comparison by 2020. As this milestone has not yet been accomplished, now would be a good time to prioritize them especially in this area.

According to the 2018 BPMP, the most heavily used bus routes are in the Canal neighborhood and include Marin Transit Routes 20 and 35. Creating direct bike and pedestrian routes to stops along those routes, including at the Transit Center, will help improve access for high-frequency bus system users. Part of prioritizing safety could be to develop a "Safe Routes to Transit" approach for all ages and abilities to the new Transit Center location.

In its very first BPMP, adopted in 2001, the City identified the need for N-S bicycle routes. The 2011 BPMP update called for a series of projects identifying the need for the North-South

Greenway through San Rafael. The 2018 BPMP identified gaps that exist in the bike network downtown and at connections to the existing Transit Center and rated the segment between Second Street and Mission Avenue along West Tamalpais one of its highest priority projects. That is to say that over the past 20 years, completion of a North-South Greenway through downtown has been a priority in all BPMP plans. Significant segments towards this goal have been completed, the most recent being the multiuse path along West Francisco from Irwin to Second. The Transit Center relocation creates an opportunity for ultimately completing the connection from Second Street to Mission Avenue. Improving regional bicycle and pedestrian networks is included in the first policy in San Rafael's Draft 2040 General Plan update Mobility Element.

In our advisory capacity, we urge you to use this opportunity to work with GGBHTD to create a safer and more connected downtown, identifying safe pathways to transit for all users, prioritizing safe intersections, and completing the North South Greenway from Second Street to Mission Avenue, through downtown.

Thank you for your consideration,

San Rafael BPAC Members