



**SAN RAFAEL CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

Department: Public Works

Prepared by: Bill Guerin,  
Director of Public Works

City Manager Approval: 

**TOPIC: THIRD STREET IMPROVEMENTS**

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE THIRD STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT REPORT AND DIRECTING STAFF TO REQUEST CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FROM THE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt a resolution accepting the Third Street Rehabilitation Project report and direct staff to request construction funding from the Transportation Authority of Marin.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2004, the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) established the Measure A Expenditure Plan (Plan), a voter-approved sales tax providing funds for major roadway projects in Marin County. Plan projects were prioritized based on roadway condition, traffic volumes, transit frequency, and existing bicycle and pedestrian access. Approximately \$12.9 million in Measure A funds are available for the Third Street Rehabilitation Project. The City previously requested \$1.3 million of this allocation from TAM to complete all pre-construction phases and approximately \$11.6 million remain available for the construction phase.

Third Street, from Miracle Mile to Union Street will have roadway, pedestrian, and bicycle improvements, including but not limited to, street resurfacing, curb ramps, sidewalk, raised intersections through the downtown core, storm drain, traffic signal upgrades, bulb-outs for improved pedestrian visibility, narrowing travel lanes, adding trees, and reconfiguring the roadway between West Street and Shaver Street to allow room for an eight-foot-wide Class IV cycle track on the south side of Second Street with a dedicated sidewalk for pedestrians.

In addition, the Rehabilitation project will be a joint effort with Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) and San Rafael Sanitation District (SRSD) for pipeline replacement work. Combining these three projects into one will provide a cost savings for all parties by sharing construction management resources, improving coordination among different types of work, reducing construction impacts to the public, and consolidating the overall project timeline for residents and businesses.

More information about the project, including prior meetings, timeline, and design details can be found on the City of San Rafael [website](#). Key prior City Council meetings include the feasibility report, presented to the City Council at the [June 3, 2019](#) meeting and an Informational Report with design updates on [November 2, 2020](#) that reviewed feedback received from the public.

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**FOR CITY CLERK ONLY**

**Council Meeting:**

**Disposition:**

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**ANALYSIS:** After the November 2020 City Council meeting, City staff received several comments from the public. Of concern was staff's recommendation to close the City-owned parking lot driveway that serves the Walgreens and other downtown businesses at the intersection of Third Street and Lindaro Street. In response, the design team developed a second alternative to convert the driveway to an exit only. This alternative was presented to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) at their [February 3, 2021](#) meeting.

After receiving additional feedback from the public and BPAC, staff desires to revise its recommendation made at the November 2, 2020 City Council meeting. Staff now proposes construction of an exit only driveway from the City owned parking lot at Third Street at Lindaro Street and no modifications to the Lootens Street entrance/exit.

Another key comment received from the community was the strong desire to continue the bikeway from West Street to West End Avenue. At the [December 2, 2020](#) BPAC meeting, staff presented an interim solution for the bicycle connection between West End Avenue and West Street. This is a critical connection from the Class IV bikeway and West Marin. Staff received supportive comments from BPAC and community members on the interim design. As part of a separate project, the City will explore possible funding sources to reconfigure the intersection of Second Street and Fourth Street.

On March 24, 2021, City staff hosted a second virtual community meeting of the design phase to discuss, review, and receive feedback on project elements. This presentation included a brief overview of the project, project goals, street lighting, and construction impacts. Approximately 30 participants joined the virtual meeting, the presentation of which is available on the City's [website](#). As a result of public comment, staff updated the Frequently Asked Questions section of the project website to clarify items discussed at the meeting.

Two items of interest to the community are the aesthetic finish to the proposed five-foot tall retaining wall on the south side of Second Street near G Street and concern for graffiti. One option to discourage graffiti includes commissioning an artist to paint a mural in harmony with draft 2040 General Plan language encouraging public art as well as discussion at the [February 16, 2021](#) City Council meeting on this topic.

Upon acceptance of the report by the City Council, the next step for the Third Street Rehabilitation project is for City Staff to present to the TAM Executive Committee and TAM Board of Commissioners in May 2021, requesting construction funding for the construction phase of the project. This phase includes retaining a construction management firm for each of the projects and the solicitation and award of the two construction contracts, one primarily federally funded, and the other funded from local funding sources.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH:** Public Works has engaged the community and key stakeholders over the last three years to receive feedback as summarized below:

- July 2017: Technical Working Group Meeting
- October 2017: Community Working Group Meeting
- November 2017: Community Meeting #1 - Feasibility Study
- February 2018: Community and Technical Working Group Meeting
- March 2018: Community Meeting #2 - Feasibility Study
- June 3, 2019: Feasibility Study Report Presentation at City Council
- July 15, 2020: Technical Working Group Meeting
- August 5, 2020: City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
- August 23, 2020: Community Working Group Meeting
- September 23, 2020: Community Meeting #3
- October 8, 2020: Economic Development Subcommittee Meeting

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- October 21, 2020: Association of Neighborhoods Meeting
- November 2, 2020: City Council Informational Report
- December 2, 2020: City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
- February 3, 2021: City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
- March 24, 2021: Community Meeting #4

In addition to these meetings, Public Works has maintained an updated project website and met with residents and business owners virtually and onsite to discuss key issues.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No fiscal impact is associated with the proposed resolution. Staff anticipates returning to the City Council for award of construction management and construction contracts in summer 2021.

**OPTIONS:** The City Council has the following options to consider relating to this matter:

1. Adopt a resolution to accept the Third Street Rehabilitation Project report and direct staff to request construction funding from the Transportation Authority of Marin.
2. Do not adopt the resolution and provide further direction to staff.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Adopt the resolution.

**ATTACHMENT:**

1. Resolution Accepting the Third Street Rehabilitation Project report and Directing Staff to Request Construction Funding from the Transportation Authority of Marin

**RESOLUTION NO.**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN RAFAEL CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE THIRD STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT REPORT AND DIRECTING STAFF TO REQUEST CONSTRUCTION FUNDING FROM THE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN**

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to implement safety improvements along the Third Street corridor from Miracle Mile to Union Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) allocated Measure A funding to the City for the Third Street Rehabilitation Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has conducted significant public outreach and refined the project design accordingly; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to retain a construction management consultant and subsequently solicit contractor bids requiring construction funding from TAM;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN RAFAEL RESOLVES** as follows:

1. The City Council hereby accepts the Third Street Rehabilitation Project report and directs staff to request construction funding from the Transportation Authority of Marin.
2. The Director of Public Works is hereby authorized to take any and all such actions and make changes as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose of this resolution.

I, **LINDSAY LARA**, Clerk of the City of San Rafael, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of said City on Monday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2021, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

LINDSAY LARA, City Clerk