



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

People serving people.

September 10, 2013

Robert Beaumont

DIRECTOR

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SUBJECT: Report on Preliminary Concept Plan and Public Outreach Schedule
Civic Center Drive Circulation Improvements Project
Project No. CAP 13-001

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: Accept report.

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SUMMARY: On July 24, 2012, your Board approved funding for infrastructure improvements along Civic Center Drive in the vicinity of the Marin Center. These improvements will include accessible pedestrian and bicycle facilities that provide seamless connectivity between the Civic Center Campus, the new SMART Civic Center rail station and the anticipated permanent farmers market site to be located on the 'Christmas Tree' lot. The primary project goals are to integrate pedestrian and bicycle connections, improve Civic Center Drive circulation/traffic safety, and create a sense of scale and welcoming to the Civic Center campus. Staff subsequently solicited design consultant proposals and your Board approved a contract with Harris & Associates on January 24, 2013 to develop preliminary plans. During the past 8 months, preliminary concept plans have been developed through a collaborative process which included numerous meetings with a subcommittee of your Board, various County departments, the City of San Rafael, SMART, Marin Transit and the Agricultural Institute of Marin.

Currently, there are no pedestrian facilities along the west side of Civic Center Drive between the Merrydale overcrossing of Highway 101 and just south of Peter Behr Drive. There are also no bike lanes between McInnis Parkway and Peter Behr Drive/Memorial Drive intersection. A project goal is to provide such facilities in time for the commencement of SMART passenger rail service at the planned Civic Center station (expected sometime in early 2016).

The preliminary concept plans include provisions for new sidewalks, bike lanes, multi-use path and transit stops. In order to create a sense of welcoming for the northern entrance to the Civic Center campus, 'gateway' improvements (such as landscaping, lighting, and signage) are being developed as part of the preliminary design process, based on concepts in the 2005 Marin Center Vision Plan, prepared in conjunction with the Marin Center Renaissance Partnership visioning.

Traffic circulation analyses were conducted to evaluate intersection improvements at the Peter Behr Drive/Memorial Drive and Avenue of the Flags intersections. Based on these analyses, a roundabout is being proposed for the Peter Behr Drive/Memorial Drive intersection. Class 2 bike lanes are also proposed in both

directions along Civic Center Drive. A new multi-use path is proposed to be constructed along the west side of Civic Center Drive, extending from the planned SMART multi-use path at the rail station to the Peter Behr Drive intersection. Landscaping buffers will be provided between the roadway and multi-use path/sidewalks (see attached Exhibits).

Staff is now preparing to implement a public outreach program in the coming weeks which includes several public meetings in late September to October, a joint meeting of the Frank Lloyd Wright Civic Center Conservancy and Cultural Services Commission, and a proposed study session with the San Rafael City Council. Following these presentations, project concept plans will be refined and presented again to the public in mid-November. The final concept plan scope will be presented to your Board for approval in mid-December so that environmental analyses and preparation of an Initial Study, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), can proceed by January 2014.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

REVIEWED BY:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Department of Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	County Counsel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A

Respectfully submitted,



Pat Echols
Principal Civil Engineer

Attachments: Preliminary Concepts Plan, Exhibit 1
Typical Cross-sectional Concept, Exhibit 2

- c: Jim Farley, Cultural Services Director
- David Speer, Facilities Planning & Development Manager
- Linda Dahl, Parks Director
- Nader Mansourian, San Rafael Public Works Director
- David Rzepinski, Marin Transit General Manager
- Farhad Mansourian, SMART General Manager
- Brigitte Moran, Agricultural Institute of Marin

