



DATE: April 28, 2021
TO: Council Infrastructure Committee
FROM: Director of Public Works
SUBJECT: Mission Boulevard Linear Park Landscape - Project Update

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee reviews this report and comments on this update for the Mission Boulevard Linear Park Landscape Project.

SUMMARY

The Mission Boulevard Linear Park Landscape project (Project) will provide improvements to the linear park adjacent to portions of the Mission Boulevard Corridor Improvements Phase 2 project. The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on the progress of the design and to receive comments.

BACKGROUND

The Linear Park is on the east side of Mission Boulevard from approximately 600 feet south of Blanche Street to 500 feet north of Fairway Street, and is approximately 5,000 feet long and varies in width from 50 to 65 feet. The Linear Park currently consists of an asphalt path, grasses, trees and shrubs. Mission Boulevard Corridor Improvements Phase 2 construction project removed trees that were in declining health, replaced the asphalt path, added new pedestrian lighting and installed the main irrigation water line within the Linear Park. The landscape improvements were not included in the Phase 2 project because the cost estimate during the design phase exceeded the project budget for the Phase 2 project. Below is a list of major milestones for the Mission Boulevard Linear Park Landscape project:

- October 2019: Introduction of the project to the Committee for scope options and associated costs.
- June 2020: Council adopted a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with SurfaceDesign, Inc., (SDI) for the design of the Mission Boulevard Linear Park Landscape Project.
- August 2020: SDI began pre-design data collection and field survey.

- September 2020: Staff and SDI held first community meetings both virtual and onsite tent events to gather input for the conceptual design including post meeting survey for additional community input.
- October 2020: Committee meeting for a project update including community input to be considered in the conceptual design.
- December 2020: Staff and SDI held a second virtual community meeting to present the conceptual design and gather input.
- March 2021: Design development level designs completed.

DISCUSSION

The current design includes the following features:

- Reshape the flat landscape areas, using cut and fill to create earth forms that echo the East Bay Hills
- Plant new trees, no-mow grass, native plants, wildflowers and irrigation
- Realign existing path at two locations
- Add decomposed granite shoulder along the existing path for alternative surface for walker/runners as well as making it dog friendly
- Add seating using reclaimed timbers and upcycled accent seating
- Add boulders
- Install trash receptacle and dog stations
- Use recycled concrete for paved spaces and pathways
- Add art crosswalk
- Provide privacy to adjacent properties by planting new shrubs and limbing up existing oleander along existing fencing

Finally, this design does not include new fencing, new exercise equipment and other features due to their cost. During the conceptual design stage, there was an opportunity for the Proposition 68 Statewide Park Program Grant to provide funding. Staff was in the process of applying for the grant; however, this project was not eligible due to the proximity of nearby parks and to the fact that the median household income in the vicinity of the Linear Park exceeded the threshold.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Completion of the landscape improvements will provide the final aspect of the complete streets total project for this portion of Mission Boulevard, provide additional pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreation facilities, resulting in positive economic benefits for nearby businesses and increased property values for residential areas adjacent to the Linear Park.

FISCAL IMPACT

This landscaping project is funded by the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Fund. Currently, the adopted FY20 CIP includes \$2,813,000 for the project.

The estimated project costs are as follows:

| | Estimated Cost |
|---|-----------------------|
| Construction | \$2,200,000 |
| Design | \$400,000 |
| Construction Admin, Inspection, Testing | \$213,000 |
| Project Total | \$2,813,000 |

This estimated project cost is based on the current design outlined in the Discussion section. Input from some community members included requests for new fencing along the existing fencing, additional exercise equipment, artwork, more trees and sound walls. Also, there are requests to equitably distribute City services beyond the limit of the Linear Park in the south end portion before Union City. For these improvements and added scope, additional funding will be needed.

SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES

1. Water: The project will include the installation of drought tolerant plants to reduce water usage.
2. Environment: This project will implement Bay-Friendly Landscaping techniques to use native and climate appropriate plants for the linear park. The project will be reviewed for Bay-Friendly certification after the project design is complete.
3. Bike and Ped: The project will provide a pleasant, safe, and inviting environment for walking, jogging, casual biking and exercise.

STRATEGIC ROADMAP

This agenda item supports the Strategic Priority of Improve Infrastructure. Specifically, this item relates to the implementation of the following project:

Project 7 Improve Mission Boulevard as a key 'Gateway to the City'

PUBLIC CONTACT

As part of the design process, staff and the design consultant held two community meetings on September 25, 2020 and December 10, 2020. Based on the presentation of the conceptual design, the feedback from the community members who provided input was overall positive. Staff will engage the community for a final meeting when the 95% design is completed. There will be opportunities to provide comments through a survey following the final community meeting. Information about the project can also be found in the project webpage: <https://hayward-ca.gov/Linear-Park>

SCHEDULE

The following is the tentative schedule for this project:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Community Meeting No. 3 | July 2021 |
| Complete Construction Documents | September 2021 |
| Begin Construction | January 2022 |
| Complete Construction | Summer 2022 |

NEXT STEPS

Staff will incorporate the Committee's comments into the design, which will be presented to the community during the final community meeting.

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Recommended by: Alex Ameri, Director of Public Works

Approved by:



Kelly McAdoo, City Manager