



DATE: July 28, 2021

TO: Council Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Mission Boulevard Linear Park Landscape - Project Update

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Infrastructure Committee (CIC) 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. Staff and the design consultant presented the design development during the third and final community meeting on June 23, 2021¹, and received comments. The purpose of this report is to provide the CIC 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. The 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 2019²: Introduction of the project to the CIC for scope options and associated costs.

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5A3XmjRGXP8>

² <https://hayward.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4199603&GUID=B7F58DED-4A4C-4A5B-B6FD-64D1060A0B8B&Options=&Search=>

- June 2020³: 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 2020⁴: CIC meeting for a project update including community input 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 completed.
- April 2021⁵: CIC meeting for a project update.
- June 2021: Staff and SDI held the third and final virtual community meeting to present the design development and gather input.

DISCUSSION

The 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;
- Create expanded paving areas and pathways using recycled concrete;
- Add seating using reclaimed timbers and upcycled accent seating;
- Add boulders;
- Install trash receptacles and pet waste stations;
- Add art crosswalk; and
- Provide privacy to adjacent properties by planting new shrubs and limbing up existing oleander along existing fencing.

This design was presented on June 23 during the third and final community meeting. Overall, the design was well received by the attendees who commented. Other comments included:

- Request for sound wall
- Saving of existing magnolia trees

³ <https://hayward.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4576642&GUID=32D41BF8-52CB-4E7C-B048-08B61F8CB28D&Options=&Search=>

⁴ <https://hayward.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4677680&GUID=566B11CB-76A2-467B-A13C-09E61025BF61&Options=&Search=>

⁵ <https://hayward.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4923166&GUID=5BE79211-DAA8-4DDD-965E-B8FEAF48DC1D&Options=&Search=>

- Request for planting for privacy along existing fencing
- Request for bus shelters
- Questions on landscape maintenance and garbage pickup
- Question on street sweeping along bike lane
- Question on speeding

This design does not include new fencing, new exercise equipment, and sound walls due to limited budget constraints. Should additional funding become available, these features can be added in the future.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Completion of the landscape improvements will provide the final aspect of the complete streets total project for this portion of the 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. 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 design outlined in the Discussion section and does not include new fencing along the existing fencing, additional exercise equipment, or sound walls that were requested in community meetings. For these improvements, additional funding will be needed.

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’

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.

PUBLIC CONTACT

As part of the design process, staff and the design consultant held three community meetings on September 25, 2020, December 10, 2020, and June 23, 2021. Based on the presentation of the conceptual design and design development, the feedback from the community members who provided input was overall positive. Information about the project can also be found in the project webpage: <https://hayward-ca.gov/Linear-Park> where there are opportunities to provide comments through the project email and phone number.

NEXT STEPS

The following is the tentative schedule for this project:

Complete Construction Documents	September 2021
Begin Construction	January 2022
Complete Construction	Summer 2022

Staff will incorporate the CIC's comments into the final design, which will then be used to prepare the bid documents for Council approval.

Prepared by: Dave Hung, Senior Civil Engineer
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Recommended by: Alex Ameri, Director of Public Works

Approved by:



Kelly McAdoo, City Manager