



DATE: March 6, 2024

TO: Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee

FROM: Bjorn Gripenburg, MCRP, Project Manager
Ken Eichstaedt, PE, TE, Senior Traffic Engineer

SUBJECT: Review and Provide Feedback on the Howard Street Improvements Project (A Street - West Street)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee review and provide feedback on the Howard Street Improvements Project (A Street – West Street).

BACKGROUND

The City is currently working through planning and conceptual design for the Howard Street Improvements Project, a proposed utility and roadway project located between A Street and West Street anticipated for construction in 2025. Howard Street was identified as a priority for several reasons, including:

- Aging and undersized water and wastewater utilities
- Failed pavement
- Poor pedestrian accessibility (i.e., most street corners lack curb ramps or have curb ramps that do not meet current accessibility standards)
- Status as a “collector” roadway serving a high volume of road users
- Proximity to schools, parks, downtown, and other activity-generating uses
- Identification in the Sonoma County Vision Zero Data Dashboard as a High-Injury Corridor
- Inclusion in the City’s bicycle network (established through the 2008 Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan)

DISCUSSION

Staff will present and seek feedback on proposed active transportation improvements, including:

- Intersection and crosswalk improvements, including curb ramps, bulbouts, flashing beacons, median refuge islands, etc.
- Locations of uncontrolled crosswalks
- Sidewalk improvements and gap closures at the north end of the corridor
- Bike facilities and lane configurations
- Reconfiguration of the Howard/Liberty/A Street intersections

Please see Attachment 1 for more information regarding existing conditions, feedback received thus far, and proposed improvements.

CITYWIDE GOALS & PRIORITIES

This project supports City Council's Safe Mobility and Connectivity / Safe Streets Goal, a top ten priority for fiscal years 2021-23, as well as the following Council Workplan items:

- #15: Identify funds and develop plans to improve Petaluma's streets and roads.
- #18: Establish and improve paths as useful transportation options, and make walking and biking easy, fun, and safe.
- #20: Better integrate multi-modal transportation with street designs.
- #84: Enhance pavement management program to improve the safety and serviceability of our roads and to protect drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.
- #85: Implement City Vision Zero plan with a focus on pedestrian and cyclist safety with improvements to uncontrolled crosswalks, curb ramps, sidewalks, and bicycle infrastructure.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Presentation