

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Highway 1 Mar Vista Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge

Fact Sheet

(April 2012)

Project Description

- Pedestrian and bicycle overcrossing of Highway 1 near Mar Vista Drive, connecting Seacliff and Aptos.
- Provides new opportunities for safe and convenient transportation options
- Part of the Highway 1 Corridor Improvement Program
- Connects neighborhoods, schools, parks/beaches, and commercial centers

Project Cost/Schedule

Costs and schedule for the project include environmental review, project design, right-of-way and construction.



Project Component	Schedule	Estimated Cost*
 Environmental Review 	FY13/14	\$500,000
Design Engineering	FY14/15	\$650,000
 Right-of-Way Acquisition 	FY14/15	\$1,200,000
Construction	FY15/16	\$5,181,000

*RSTP and STIP funds programmed by the RTC in 2007

Background

The Highway 1 Mar Vista Bicycle/ Pedestrian Bridge is one of three new bicycle/pedestrian bridges that have been identified as part of the Highway 1 Corridor Improvement Program. Other crossings planned for the Highway 1 corridor are located at Chanticleer Avenue in Live Oak and at Trevethan in the City of Santa Cruz. Locations of the new crossings were selected based on providing greater community connectivity to schools and other activity centers, and were identified in consultation with the RTC's Bicycle Committee and members of the public in 2005. The Mar Vista crossing will reduce travel distances for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling between Mar Vista Drive at McGregor Drive in Seacliff to Mar Vista Elementary School by up to 1.6 miles and minimize travel through the busy State Park Drive interchange. The bridge will also improve access to residential, educational, recreational, and commercial destinations, including Seacliff State Beach, Cabrillo College, Aptos and Seacliff Villages.

Funding

The RTC approved \$7.5 million in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds for the project in April 2007. Environmental analysis of the bridge was initially being done as part of the Highway 1 HOV Lanes Environmental Impact Report (EIR). However, in 2011 due to new Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements, the environmental review of the HOV project transitioned from a project-level analysis to a program-level evaluation of the Highway 1 Corridor Improvement Program. As such, funding for the Mar Vista project was modified in 2011 to split out \$500,000 for the project-level environmental documentation required for the Mar Vista project. This analysis will begin in fiscal year 2013/14 after the release of the Highway 1 Corridor Improvement Program level environment document, which will contain a significant amount of relevant environmental information.

Public Input

Public engagement and input is an integral part of all community transportation projects, including the development of this project. Like all public works projects, upon initiation of the preliminary design and environmental analysis, , the RTC will seek public input on the project's design, aesthetic treatment and operational considerations to insure the project serves the community well.

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