Highway Corridor: Highway 1 Aux Lanes, BOS (Bay Avenue/Porter Street to State Park Drive), and Mar Vista Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing

Project Description

The project will construct northbound and southbound auxiliary lanes and bus-on-shoulder improvements between the Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive interchanges and replace the existing Capitola Avenue local roadway overcrossing. This section of Highway 1 is one of the busiest in the county, providing access to the City of Capitola, Soquel and Aptos villages, and Cabrillo College. The auxiliary lanes will connect the on-ramps with the next off-ramp, thereby extending the weaving and merging distance between the ramps, improving traffic operations, and reducing cut-through traffic diverting to local streets and neighborhoods.

The new Capitola Avenue overcrossing will include enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities to improve connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians between Soquel Drive to the north and the future Coastal Rail Trail to the south. The overcrossing, soundwalls, and retaining walls will incorporate aesthetic treatments consistent with the visual character of the corridor and the adjacent community.

The project also includes a new bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing (POC) at Mar Vista Drive to provide a safe link between schools, the beach, residential neighborhoods and retail centers on each side of Highway 1. This POC was one of three bicycle and pedestrian overcrossings identified in the Highway 1 Corridor Investment

Project Highlights

- Improves traffic and safety operations on Highway 1
- Reduces cut-through traffic diverting to local streets and neighborhoods by adding auxiliary lanes between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive
- Improves bicycle and pedestrian connectivity to regional destinations and transit by providing enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities for active transportation users at Capitola Avenue
- Adds infrastructure for buses to travel in the auxiliary lanes between interchanges and on the outside shoulder through interchanges
- Improves bicycle and pedestrian connectivity to regional destinations and transit by providing a dedicated crossing for active transportation users
- Connects neighborhoods, schools, parks/beaches and commercial centers

Project Delivery Strategy

The RTC is leading the delivery of this project. Measure D-Highway Corridor funds and other RTC discretionary funds are being used to complete the work necessary to ready the project for construction. RTC was successful in securing Cycle 2 SB1 Solutions to Congested Corridors and Local Partnership Program competitive funds in 2020, which fully funds construction of this project.
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Project Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Total Cost</th>
<th>$94.2M</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Sources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measure D (Highway)</td>
<td>$22.5M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Secured*</td>
<td>$76.3M</td>
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</tbody>
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*Includes STIP and SB1 (SCCP and LPP programs) funds.

Project Status/Schedule

Environmental review was completed in 2021. Final design was completed in 2022. The project is expected to go to construction in 2023.