



## REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Helmuth".

Keith Helmuth, City Engineer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Arnaldo Rodriguez".

Arnaldo Rodriguez, City Manager

Council Meeting of: June 2, 2021

Agenda Number:         A-1        

### SUBJECT:

Workshop on a planned Caltrans project on State Route 145 (SR 145)

### RECOMMENDATION:

Consider workshop presentation and provide direction to staff

### SUMMARY:

Caltrans is working on a project on SR 145 within the City of Madera. The project limits are from Pecan Avenue to Tozer Street. Caltrans is considering complete streets elements within this project in the Downtown Area. This workshop has been scheduled as Caltrans is seeking confirmation that City accepts their proposed improvements.

### DISCUSSION:

Caltrans has a project to rehabilitate the roadway surface of SR 145 from Pecan Avenue to Tozer Street. Staff has been working with Caltrans on their project scoping and they have agreed to include "Complete Streets" elements on a portion of their project. The portion in which they will consider Complete Streets elements will be on Yosemite Avenue between E Street and Fig Street in the Downtown Area. The configuration of the remainder of their project, which includes Madera Avenue, Gateway Drive, and the eastern portion of Yosemite Avenue, is expected to remain much as it is today.

A complete street is a transportation facility that is planned, designed, operated, and maintained to provide safe and inclusive mobility for all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, transit vehicles, truckers, and motorists, appropriate to the function and context of the facility. Every complete street looks different, according to its context, community preferences, the types of road users, and their needs.

For this project, Caltrans is proposing a road diet that will reduce the number of lanes in both directions from two to one. This will allow for the addition of bike lanes, a continuous left turn lane and on-street parking. Bulb-outs are proposed from E Street to A Street. The addition of bulb-outs will reduce the number of available on-street parking along this section of Yosemite but will make pedestrians more visible as they cross the street. Additional parking will, as proposed by Caltrans, also be removed to allowed for proposed turn lane improvements.

In 2020, Council adopted the State Route 145 (Yosemite Avenue) as the Downtown Main Street Plan (Plan). Within this Plan, Yosemite Avenue was envisioned to be more pedestrian friendly. This included high visibility crosswalks and bulb-outs at intersections, a raised center median with trees, improved street lighting, and flashing beacons at uncontrolled intersections. This Plan considered two options for Yosemite Avenue. One option kept the lane configuration as it is today, with four travel lanes, two in each direction and parallel street parking. The second option provided a road diet with one lane in each direction, parking along the northern side (westbound) and a separated bikeway along the southern side (eastbound) of Yosemite Avenue. The second option was not fully supported at the time the Plan was adopted due to its significant impact to parking.

The purpose of this workshop is to solicit Council feedback on Caltrans proposed improvements on Yosemite Avenue in the downtown area.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There will not be a fiscal impact to the City general Fund associated directly with this workshop nor is it anticipated the project itself will have an impact as the project is managed and funded by Caltrans.

**CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN:**

While not specifically addressed, this item is consistent with the Vision Madera 2025 Plan Strategy 121 – Develop a city-wide multi-modal transportation plan to ensure safe, affordable and convenient transportation modes for residents and businesses within Madera.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

This is a discussion item and Council may consider other alternatives for this project.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

No attachments.