Presentations for the
June 1, 2020
City Council Meeting
Newell Road Bridge Replacement
City Council

June 1, 2020
LOCATION MAP

Newell Road Bridge
PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Replacement of an existing two-lane bridge with a two-lane bridge along the same alignment:
  - Sharrows (shared vehicle/bicycle lanes) with 4-foot shoulder for bicycles
  - Sidewalk on each side of the bridge
- Raises the existing bridge to increase flow capacity beneath
- Raises a portion of Woodland Avenue (EPA) and Newell Road; includes retaining walls in some locations to support the raised road
STRIPING OPTIONS

**OPTION A**
Raised 5-foot wide sidewalk; 4-foot wide striped shoulder for bicycle use and 10-foot wide sharrows (shared vehicle/bicycle use)

**OPTION B**
Raised 9-foot wide shared pedestrian/bicycle path; 10-foot wide vehicle lanes
PROPOSED PROJECT: VIEW FROM PALO ALTO
PROPOSED PROJECT: VIEW FROM EAST PALO ALTO
PROJECT BACKGROUND

• Existing Bridge deemed functionally obsolete (does not meet Caltrans design standards); City works with Caltrans/SCVWD to secure funding for replacement: 2011-2012 (88.5% Caltrans Highway Bridge Program grant, 11.5% Santa Clara Valley Water District)
• Community Outreach Meetings: 2012-2015
• Informational Report to Council: May 6, 2019
• Notice of Preparation Released; EIR/EA Scoping began: Fall 2015
• Preparation of Technical Reports and DEIR/EA: Fall 2015-Spring 2019
• DEIR Published: May 31, 2019
• PTC Study Session: June 12, 2019
• ARB Public Hearings: July 18, 2019; May 7, 2020
• FEIR Published: April 24, 2020
PUBLIC OUTREACH

• Nine early community engagement meetings
• EIR/EA 30-Day Scoping Public Comment Period and Scoping Meeting
• Draft EIR/EA Extended Circulation Period (60 days)
• Six Public Meetings
  • Palo Alto: PTC, ARB and Community Meeting
  • East Palo Alto: PWTC and City Council
  • SFCJPA Board
• Meetings with adjacent neighbors
• Newspaper advertisements and postcard noticing
• Additional outreach: e-mail, news details, nextdoor
• Signs posted near project site
KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Approved Funding: Environmental Documents, Design and Right-of-Way
- Contract Amendment: Current and Future
- Encroachment Permits and Access Easements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Approved Funding Amount</th>
<th>Construction Project Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caltrans (Highway Bridge Program grant)</td>
<td>88.53% of the Bridge ($1.04M)</td>
<td>$8.1 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Water (Local Match)</td>
<td>11.47% of the Bridge ($314K)</td>
<td>$1.0 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Capital Improvement Fund</td>
<td>Staff Oversight</td>
<td>Continued Staff Oversight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- Flood Hazard Mitigation

![Map showing approximate flow capacities in cubic feet per second]

Current Conditions:
- Max flow that can reach Pope-Chaucer = 7,500
- < 5,800 should not flood anywhere
- > 5,800 floods at Pope-Chaucer Bridge
- > 7,200 floods also at Middlefield Road Bridge
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS (CONT)

• Safety
• Multi-modal Transportation
EIR CONCLUSIONS

- Impacts on most resources (e.g. Air Quality, Aesthetics, Noise, Biology, Water Quality, Geology, etc.) were found to be less than significant or less than significant with mitigation

- Temporary significant and unavoidable impact on traffic at the East Crescent Drive/University Avenue intersection in East Palo Alto during construction

- To certify the EIR, Council must adopt overriding considerations
RECOMMENDED MOTION

Staff recommends Council take the following actions:

• Adopt the Resolution certifying an Environmental Impact Report for the Newell Road/San Francisquito Creek Bridge Replacement Project, making the required findings, and adopting a statement of overriding considerations and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan, all in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);

• Approve the Record of Land Use Action approving the proposed Architectural Review application based on the findings and subject to conditions of approval; and

• Approve and authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute Amendment No. 3 to Contract No. C12142825 with NV5, Inc. to update the Schedule of Performance and extend the contract time to December 2021 to complete the design phase of the Project.
NEXT STEPS

• Caltrans NEPA Certification
• Coordination with wildlife/water resource agencies for applicable permits
• Continue coordination with East Palo Alto, Caltrans, Valley Water and other SFCJPA members
• Right-of-way/easement procurement
• Construction anticipated to start end of 2021 and take 1.5 years
Alternative 1

- Bi-directional
- One 16-foot wide lane
- Two 5-foot wide sidewalks
- Traffic signal control (15 signals/9 poles)
- Operation and maintenance cost
Alternative 3

- Similar to Alternative 2 but partial realignment (30-foot shift)
- Stop controlled intersection
- Area of site disturbance slightly increases
A message of community and hope from Ed Shikada, Police Chief Robert Jonsen, Reverend Kaloma Smith, and Pastor Paul Bains

In these uncertain and unprecedented times, our unified message is to elevate and uplift the themes of local and national community peaceful protests sharing loss, anger, and a call for change through equity and inclusion. Our prayers and condolences are with George Floyd’s family during this challenging time and as a nation, and we can only imagine the pain that they are enduring. We recognize the calls for systemic change that this and other tragedies demand. We must stand together in response calling for inclusion through peaceful exchange and dialogue.

We condemn the actions and inaction of the police officers in Minnesota and we do not tolerate or condone this type of behavior in Palo Alto at any level. Their actions have had a tremendous impact on all police officers serving communities like Palo Alto all across our great nation. No police department is immune from public scrutiny, nor should it be. Even here in Palo Alto, the actions of a few officers in the past may have caused our community to question their commitment to the law and policy. However, through mutual respect, trust, and a deep regard for the Constitutional rights of all, we remain more steadfast today than ever to continue to support our community through these uncertain times. We are working collaboratively with our regional partners, actively monitoring events on the Peninsula, and continuing to do our best to keep our community safe during this time.

With that said, these issues transcend public safety to how we as individuals respond in times of conflict. We urge our community to unify together to honor George Floyd’s life through equity and respect. We are in this together and through this discourse, we have an opportunity to affect real and lasting change.

Our city has a long proud history of supporting all kinds of demonstrations and allowing people to legally and safely assemble to express their opinions peacefully and respectfully. We’re honored to help do our part, and we fully support the rights of those who are peacefully protesting, and honoring the memory of George Floyd and others. As recently as yesterday, there were two such peaceful demonstrations in Palo Alto, where members of our community turned out to express their views. Peaceful events such as these, and their necessary calls for change, should outshine the acts of violence taking place in several communities. Violence and destruction are not the answer and we urge our community to continue to come together in peaceful conversation.

Be safe and stay well.

Ed Shikada, City of Palo Alto City Manager
Robert Jonsen, City of Palo Alto Police Chief
Reverend Kaloma Smith, City of Palo Alto Human Relations Commission Chair and Pastor of the University AME Zion Church of Palo Alto

Pastor Paul Bains, Palo Alto Police Chaplin and Senior Pastor of Saint Samuel Church in East Palo Alto