

TDA Article 3 Project Application Form

Fiscal Year of this Claim: 2013/14 Applicant: Contra Costa County Public Works Department

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Short Title Description of Project: Walnut Boulevard Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvement Project

Amount of claim: \$100,000

Functional Description of Project:

Install a pedestrian path on the north easterly side of Walnut Boulevard from Walnut Heights Elementary School to Clarkin Court to join the existing sidewalk improvements. Install a class III bike route from Walnut Heights Elementary School to Mountain View Boulevard. The project will install 2400 feet of pedestrian path that will connect to an existing pedestrian facility. The project will also include installation of curb ramps and driveways, utility relocation, minor grading, drainage modifications, and installation of bike route signage. The project is supported by the Walnut Heights School Community.

Financial Plan:

List the project elements for which TDA funding is being requested (e.g., planning, environmental, engineering, right-of-way, construction, inspection, contingency, audit). Use the table below to show the project budget. Include prior and proposed future funding of the project. If the project is a segment of a larger project, include prior and proposed funding sources for the other segments.

Project Elements: Planning, Design, and Construction

Funding Source	All Prior FYs	Application FY	Next FY	Following FYs	Totals
TDA Article 3		\$100,000			\$100,000
list all other sources:					
1. Central County AOB		\$995,000			\$995,000
2.					
3.					
4.					
Totals		\$1,095,000			\$1,095,000

Project Eligibility:	YES?/NO?
A. Has the project been approved by the claimant's governing body? (If "NO," provide the approximate date approval is anticipated).	YES
B. Has this project previously received TDA Article 3 funding? If "YES," provide an explanation on a separate page.	NO
C. For "bikeways," does the project meet Caltrans minimum safety design criteria pursuant to Chapter 1000 of the California Highway Design Manual? (Available on the internet via: http://www.dot.ca.gov).	YES
D. Has the project been reviewed by a Bicycle Advisory Committee? (If "NO," provide an explanation).	YES
E. Has the public availability of the environmental compliance documentation for the project (pursuant to CEQA) been evidenced by the dated stamping of the document by the county clerk or county recorder? (required only for projects that include construction).	YES
F. Will the project be completed before the allocation expires? Enter the anticipated completion date of project (month and year) <u>Fall 2014</u>	YES
G. Have provisions been made by the claimant to maintain the project or facility, or has the claimant arranged for such maintenance by another agency? (If an agency other than the Claimant is to maintain the facility provide its name: _____)	YES

Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to provide a pedestrian path to extend approximately 2,400 feet on the northeasterly side of Walnut Boulevard from Walnut Heights Elementary School to join the existing sidewalk at Clarkin Court. Pedestrian facilities currently do not exist in this area and pedestrians currently walk within the traveled way or within the gravel shoulder or ditch. There is an enthusiastic community of walkers that walk to school as well as for recreation and to improve quality of life. The proposed project will shift pedestrians from the travel lanes to a separate path, safe from motorists. The attached photos demonstrate the project need as it is sometimes difficult to see students on the shoulder amongst shadows and roadside vegetation.

The project also includes signage of a Class III bike route to join the Class III bike route in the City of Walnut Creek on either side of the project limits.

The project was initially suggested by community members at a neighborhood meeting to discuss road safety in 2010. Two additional community meetings were held to discuss the project scope. Installation of pedestrian facilities and bike lanes on both sides of the street was initially considered, but the resulting preferred alternative is to install a path on only the northeasterly side to minimize impact to trees and to stretch funding so that the pedestrian improvements can extend farther and connect to an existing sidewalk. This will complete a 1.5 mile continuous path.

It is anticipated that construction of the project will increase the number of students walking or biking to school in the morning and afternoon commutes and will reduce congestion. In addition, the path will comply with the requirements according to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to make the area accessible for all users.

Support letters are included from the following groups, Districts, officials, and individuals:

- California Senator, Mark DeSaulnier
- California Assemblymember, Joan Buchanan
- Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
- Walnut Creek School Board
- Walnut Heights Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- Walnut Heights Elementary School Principal
- Michelle Panacci, community parent with limited mobility
- Contra Costa Health Services Department
- Petition signed by approximately 120 parents from the Walnut Heights community

Project Description

Project Length = 2,400 feet

This project will consist of constructing approximately 2,400 linear feet of pedestrian path from Walnut Heights Elementary School to Clarkin Court. In addition, the project scope also includes installation of a Class III bike route to extend 3,500 feet from Walnut Heights Elementary School to Mountain View Boulevard. The scope consists of installation of the following: five foot wide asphalt path, asphalt berm to separate motorists from pedestrians, concrete curb, gutter, and/or sidewalk as necessary to match existing improvements, curb ramps, bike route signage, "share the road" signage, minor drainage modifications, curb ramps, two foot high retaining wall where necessary, driveway conform grading, relocate utilities, and remove approximately nine trees to include eucalyptus and native saplings. Preparation for construction will include a nesting bird survey if work occurs between March and July and consultation with a certified arborist to assure proper treatments for any necessary root trimming.

The Construction Process Includes:

- Clear and grubbing
- Minor Grading
- Construct asphalt path
- Install curb and gutter and sidewalk to match existing
- Install separated berm to separate pedestrians from motorists
- Driveways
- Curb ramp
- Construct approximately 2' high timber retaining walls
- Drainage modifications as necessary
- Install bike route and "share the road" signage