



TAMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee

June 16, 2021

Mayor Clyde Roberson
City of Monterey
580 Pacific Street
Monterey, CA 93940

Subject: Support for North Fremont Improvements

Dear Mayor Roberson:

As the Transportation Agency for Monterey County's (TAMC) Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee, we are writing to express support of the City of Monterey's North Fremont Improvement Project.

As TAMC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee, one of our responsibilities includes reviewing and providing feedback on local bicycle and pedestrian project designs. The North Fremont Improvement Project was brought for discussion to our Committee during its development at the November 4th, 2015 and March 1st, 2017 meetings. Additionally, our Committee has played a role in approving TAMC's investment of Regional Surface Transportation Program funds which contributed \$1,933,000 in competitive funding to the project.

The Committee supports the North Fremont Improvement Project for many reasons. Listed below are some specific elements that we support:

- Direct bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements that support all levels of mobility for both cyclists and pedestrians
- New ADA compliant ramps and curb extensions that reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians
- Improved safety for handicap access to the surrounding businesses
- Reduced frequency of jaywalking
- Excellent traffic lighting that is safe for bicycles, pedestrians and vehicles
- Added sense of security from the fencing
- Avoidance of 47 driveways that bicycles and pedestrians otherwise would have needed to cross.

In addition to these reasons, we recognize that this design was a cost-effective solution to redevelop the North Fremont corridor with added bicycle and pedestrian safety enhancements. Bicycle lanes on both sides of the road would not have worked for this corridor. The design of this project is supporting the North Fremont Business District as it allows for the same level of automobile traffic, while enhancing pedestrian and bicycle access and reducing parking demand on the businesses.

The City of Monterey was the first City in California to have a Class IV bike lane in the median, but we predict they will not be the last. This design may be one of the solutions to get bicyclists safely and quickly across cities nationwide.

The North Fremont Improvement Project is an exemplary, innovative project that gives bicyclists and pedestrians a safer and faster way to travel through the city. This project brings us one step closer to a network of connected safe travel options for bicyclists and pedestrians. Construction is scheduled to start in 2023 for a segment of the 28-mile Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway project starting at Fremont and Del Rey Oaks Boulevard. The “gap” closure project next to Laguna Grande park currently under design by the city will be an excellent connection between the N Fremont center median bicycle lanes and this segment of the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway project.

The Committee looks forward to future fluid and accessible pedestrian and bicycle facility connections.

Thank you,



Mike Novo

Chair, TAMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee

CC: Madilyn Jacobsen, Staff to TAMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
TAMC Technical Advisory Committee
TAMC Board of Directors