



CITY OF SALINAS

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2024

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS, TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

FROM: ADRIANA ROBLES, CITY ENGINEER
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TITLE: DRAFT ALISAL STREETScape MASTER PLAN

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion recommending that City Council approve a Resolution adopting the Alisal Streetscape Master Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

To facilitate the implementation of the Alisal Vibrancy Plan (AVP), the Alisal Streetscape Master Plan (Master Plan) specifically advances a set of goals focused on the design of safe, attractive streets and public spaces that increase access for all residents “whether biking, walking, taking transit, or driving a car.” SWA Group entered into an agreement with the City of Salinas in April 2023 to complete this work along with Nelson Nygaard and BKF Engineers as subconsultants. The consultant team has completed a series of community outreach efforts to inform the design process and developed draft streetscape master plan that is currently under public review.

BACKGROUND:

The Alisal Streetscape Master Plan describes improvements for the four primary commercial corridors within the Alisal District: East Alisal Street, East Market Street, Sanborn Road, and Williams Road. The improvements outlined in this plan are based on an analysis of existing site conditions and context, understanding of community goals, community input, and a transparent design process.

Specifically, this plan is a part of the implementation of the Alisal Vibrancy Plan (AVP). The Streetscape Master Plan builds upon a number of other previous and ongoing planning efforts such as Alisal Complete Streets, Safe Routes to School, Vision Zero, Urban Greening Master Plan, Salinas Active Transportation Plan and others.

Based on this background and the community input received throughout the project process, the goals defined in the plan are to reduce vehicle speeds, create safer streets for everyone, enhance the public realm, foster community gathering spaces, and expand the urban tree canopy for a more resilient, beautiful, and healthy Alisal.

Several alternatives were developed for each corridor prior to the selection and refinement of the preferred design represented in the Master Plan. City staff and community input informed the

selection process, as did the receipt of \$16 Million for improvements to Williams Road secured through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378). In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 includes the general rule that CEQA applies only to activities which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Because the proposed action and this matter have no potential to cause any effect on the environment, or because it falls within a category of activities excluded as projects pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378, this matter is not a project. Because the matter does not cause a direct or foreseeable indirect physical change on or in the environment, this matter is not a project. Any subsequent discretionary projects resulting from this action will be assessed for CEQA applicability.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

This action supports the Council's initiative of Public Safety.

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The Public Works Department in coordination with the Community Development Department managed the plan development process.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

There is no impact to the General Funds.

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan