



CITY OF SALINAS

COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: OCTOBER 22, 2024

DEPARTMENT: ADMINISTRATION

FROM: RENE MENDEZ, CITY MANAGER

BY: SOPHIA ROME, COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER

TITLE: CITY PROJECT DASHBOARDS AND MAP

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Receive a report on the City's project dashboards and interactive project map; no action required.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City has been exploring opportunities to share information with the community more effectively through innovation and technology. As part of this effort, the City started building out a transparency webpage with access to project dashboards and the City's Open Data Portal. In addition to building out new project dashboards, the City's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) team developed an interactive project map that will be a tool for residents to visualize where projects are happening across Salinas and learn more about any specific projects that may be of interest.

BACKGROUND:

In May 2024, the City announced the creation of the Transparency page on the City website, which included two project dashboards, one for Alisal Vibrancy Plan implementation and the other for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Community Relations team has been working with GIS on exploring new ways to display information for residents through an interactive map to continue expanding access to information. The City's GIS team supports City projects through internal and public facing applications with the goal of fostering transparency, improving communication between the City and its residents, and encouraging active public participation in shaping the future of our community. GIS has created the first iteration of the project map which includes a sampling of different project types to demonstrate how the mapping tool will be used.

The next steps are to:

- Continue to update the project map to include all major City projects and other work with high impact to residents;

- Add the project map to the Transparency page;
- Continue to identify and build out project dashboards for long-term City projects and initiatives; and
- Create guidelines to keep the information on the Transparency page current.

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.

CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE §84308 APPLIES:

No.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Economic Development

- Can help promote Salinas as a desired destination for business by sharing the City’s growth and investment in infrastructure improvements

Effective and Culturally Responsive Government

- Improves communication related to programs and services in a professional, customer-oriented manner

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The development of the project dashboards, project map and Open Data Portal have been a collaborative effort between City Administration, Community Development, and the GIS team. However, updating the data and content has been coordinated between City departments.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

Fund	Appropriation	Appropriation Name	Total Appropriation	Amount for recommendation	FY 24-25 Operating Budget Page	Last Budget Action (Date, Resolution)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A