



CITY OF SALINAS

PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 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:

This item is informational item only – No action requested.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan (Master Plan) facilitates the implementation of the Alisal Vibrancy Plan (AVP), by advancing AVP goals, policies, and actions focused on the design of safe, attractive streets and public space that increase access for all residents “whether biking, walking, taking transit, or driving a car.” On April 18, 2023, the City entered into an agreement with SWA Group and subconsultants Nelson Nygaard and BKF Engineers to prepare a streetscape master plan to further this goal. The consultant team has completed a series of community outreach, workshops and online survey efforts to inform the design process and developed the Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The Master Plan builds upon other previous and ongoing planning efforts such as Alisal Complete Streets, Safe Routes to School, Vision Zero, Urban Greening Master Plan, and Salinas Active Transportation Plan. Plan preparation included the analysis of existing site conditions and context, understanding of community goals, community input, and a transparent design process to develop Master Plan goals and identify commercial corridor improvements. Identified Master Plan goals 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.

The 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. Several design 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 preferred design selection process. The Master Plan also includes a chapter that identifies grant funding opportunities, project implementation priorities, and maintenance recommendations. Grant funding opportunities such as the receipt of \$16 Million for improvements to Williams Road secured through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program also influenced design and implementation prioritization.

The Master Plan accompanied by technical documentation including Synchro traffic modeling outputs for the proposed condition at each intersection, 30% PSE drawings, and a conceptual opinion of probable cost will be presented January 2025 for City Council consideration of adoption. The Master Plan is scheduled for public review for feedback and comments with the deadline for December 20, 2024.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that as there is no action being taken, this update on the Alisal Streetscape Master Plan is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378). Any subsequent discretionary projects resulting from this action will be assessed for CEQA applicability.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

The Master Plan supports the Council's initiative of Public Safety and Sustainable Infrastructure through the design of safe, attractive streets and public spaces that increase access for all residents.

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan
ASMP Planning Commission Presentation