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**ITEM V-B : DRY CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL**

**REQUEST**

This is an informational report intended to give the Planning Commission an update on the Dry Creek Greenway Trail Planning & Feasibility study and several other transportation projects underway at this time. The Planning Commission is encouraged to provide feedback to staff.

**DRY CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL**

City staff is beginning a planning & feasibility study for the Dry Creek Greenway Trail. The project is envisioned as a paved, off-street trail along Dry, Cirby and Linda Creeks that will provide residents a place for bicycling, walking, running and dog-walking for fun, recreation and transportation. The current planning effort will study the trail from Riverside Avenue to the City limits just past Old Auburn Road as shown in Figure 1.



The City of Roseville 2008 Bicycle Master Plan identifies this multi-use trail as a priority project because it will provide a safe, comfortable, convenient and highly connected bike route in an area of the City that is otherwise underserved by bicycle facilities. The Dry Creek Greenway trail will connect schools and businesses to residential neighborhoods. The trail will also provide important regional connections as it is

part of a series of existing and planned trails that will form a loop around the greater South Placer/Sacramento area.

The City has hired Alta Planning & Design, a nationally-recognized bikeway & trail planning firm, to lead the study. The City has also hired Aim Consulting to facilitate public meetings. This project is funded through a Community-Based Transportation Planning grant funded by Caltrans, with a 20% local cash match. The total budget for the planning study is \$145,000.

Challenges for the project include neighborhood compatibility, limited availability of right-of-way, roadway crossings, existing utilities and environmental factors. The City is employing a multi-faceted approach to address these challenges. The work plan includes:

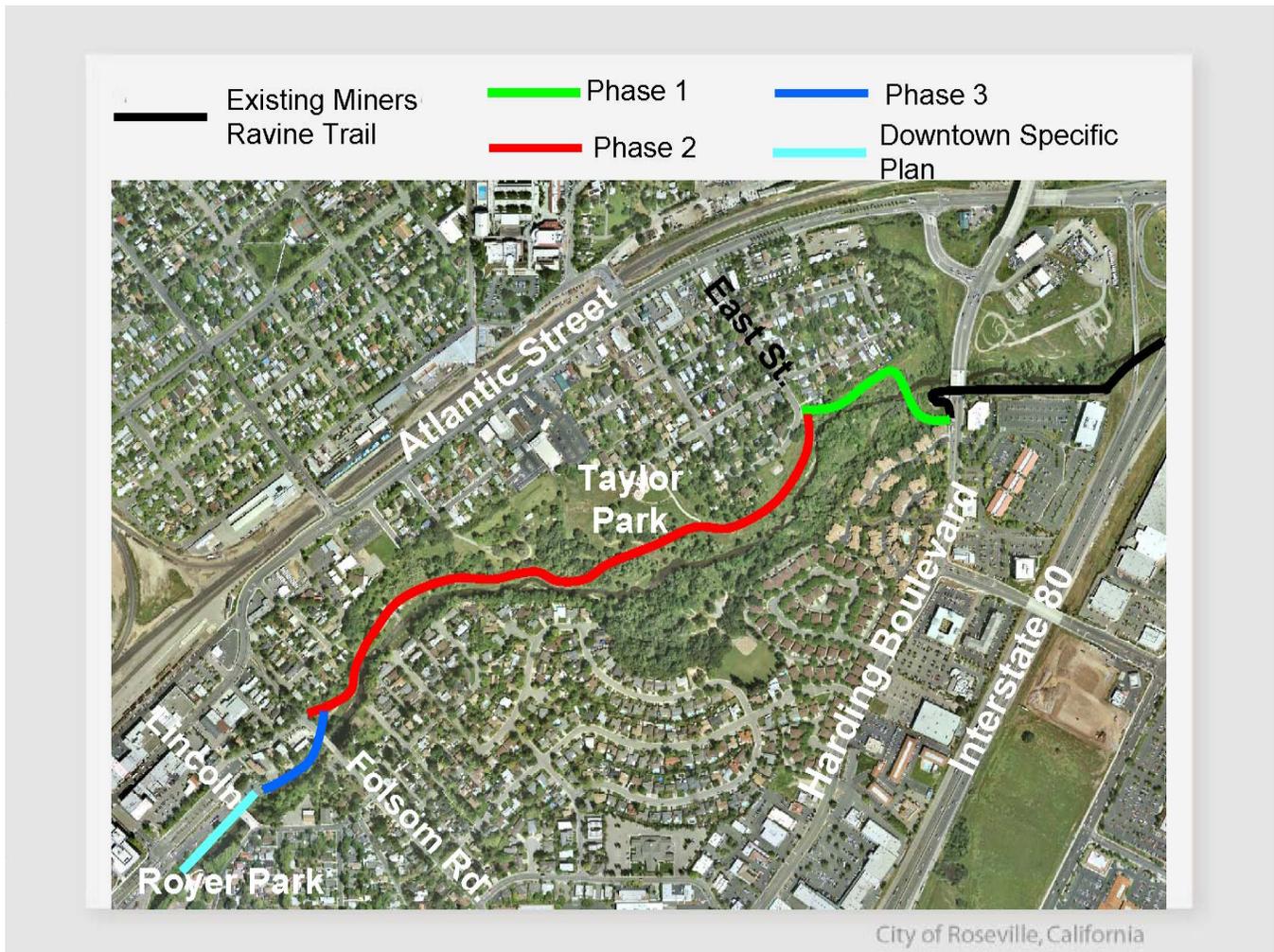
1. **Public Outreach and Consensus Building.** The public outreach program will include:
  - Stakeholders Representatives Group – This group will be made up of representatives from neighborhood associations, the business community, schools, biking groups, running groups, and environmental groups. The group is expected to provide feedback to the City and consultant; act as a liaison between the City, the consultant and the respective interest group/organization; and review and offer comments on the draft plan.
  - Public Opinion Survey – The consultant will prepare and distribute a survey to gauge public interest and perceptions regarding the trail.
  - Public Workshop – The consultant will host a workshop to introduce the project to the public and gather input.
  - Open House – Once a draft plan is available, the consultant will host an open house to solicit comments on the plan.
  - Public Meetings – The draft plan will be reviewed by the Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission and Transportation Commission before being forwarded to the City Council for action.
2. **Inventory of Existing Conditions.** This inventory will include plan review, biological surveys, topographic surveys and base mapping.
3. **Alternatives Analysis.** The consultant will develop and evaluate trail alternatives, including conceptual design, cost estimates, phasing and cost/benefit analysis.
4. **Draft/Final Plan.** The findings of the public outreach program, inventory of existing conditions, and alternatives analysis will be presented in a draft plan. After obtaining public comment, the final plan will be forwarded to the City Council.

Staff expects the draft plan will be available for review in early 2009.

### **HARDING TO ROYER BIKE TRAIL**

The Harding to Royer Trail project will extend the popular Miners Ravine Trail into Downtown Roseville, resulting in a safe, convenient and comfortable route for bicyclists and pedestrians. The trail will support bicycling as a low-cost, quiet, non-polluting and healthy form of transportation. The trail will also be a great facility for physical fitness and recreation. Extension of the trail into Downtown Roseville will facilitate the staging of bicycling and running events Downtown, helping the City's revitalization efforts.

Phase 1 construction began in August with construction of a Class I trail from the existing Miners Ravine Trail at Harding Boulevard to East Street, including a bridge over Dry Creek. Phase 1 should be complete by December 2008. This phase will create trail access for residents in the Enwood and Sierra Vista neighborhoods. Phase 2 will continue the trail from East Street to Downtown Roseville at Folsom Road. Staff expects to begin construction of Phase 2 in spring 2009. Phase 3 will continue the trail from Folsom Road to the Lincoln Street parking lot. Construction of Phase 3 will be coordinated with the Downtown Specific Plan project. The Downtown Specific Plan may also include a trail connection under Lincoln Street and into Royer Park proper, creating a seamless link between the Miners Ravine Trail and Royer Park.



### **BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY AWARD**

The City of Roseville is the first city in Placer County to be honored with the prestigious Bicycle Friendly Community Award. Municipalities actively supporting bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation receive the award from the Bicycle Friendly Communities Campaign. Roseville boasts 83 miles of on-street bike lanes and 27 miles of off-street bike paths. The city joins Davis, Folsom and Sacramento as other locally honored communities.

While honoring Roseville at the bronze level, the League of American Bicyclists cited Roseville Bikefest, a family-friendly bicycle safety event, as an example of the City's commitment to bicycling. The League also cited the City's recent installation of 49 bicycle lockers for long-term parking for employees and commuters as an example of the City's commitment to bicycling. This award is reflective of the ongoing support from the City Council, Planning Commission, other appointed commissions and City staff from many different departments.

The Bicycle Friendly Community designation is awarded by the League of American Bicyclists and considers a community's record in promoting bicycling in five categories: education, engineering, enforcement, encouragement, and evaluation. Only communities with established records in two or more of the five categories receive awards. Since its inception in 2003 the League has given awards to 96 communities in 32 states out of 245 communities that have applied. Platinum, gold, silver, and bronze awards are given twice each year. The designation must be renewed every four years, which will give the

City of Roseville an opportunity to achieve the silver level in 2012. City officials will be scheduling an event this fall or early next year to celebrate the award.

### **ADA TRANSITION PLAN/PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN & DESIGN GUIDELINES**

City staff is beginning work on an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan and Pedestrian Design Guidelines. The ADA Transition Plan is a legally-required document that, pursuant to the ADA Act of 1990, addresses improvements needs relating to disability access in the public right-of-way. The Pedestrian Master Plan will include policies and improvements needed to accommodate pedestrians in Roseville. The Pedestrian Design Guidelines will include design standards for the installation of pedestrian improvements within the public right-of-way. The intention of the Pedestrian Master Plan and Design Guidelines is to enhance accessibility for all pedestrians, including individuals with and without disabilities, and improve safety, connectivity, ease of use, aesthetics and cost effectiveness.

The City of Roseville conducted an inventory of existing pedestrian facilities in winter and spring 2008. The inventory focused on curb ramps and corners at intersections throughout the City. The inventory also included sidewalks and bus stops along all arterial and collector roadways in Roseville. In all, approximately 2,400 intersections and 755 sidewalk segments were surveyed. The survey results will be used by Dowling Associates, a transportation planning consulting firm hired by the City, in the preparation of the ADA Transition Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan and Pedestrian Design Guidelines.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission provide comments on the described projects.