



DATE: December 7, 2021

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Public Works

TITLE: **California Street (West) Complete Street Improvements, Pilot, Project 21-40—Authorize Professional Services Agreement**

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager or designee to execute a professional services agreement with BKF Engineers of San Jose to provide design services for California Street (West) Complete Street Improvements, Pilot, Project 21-40, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$180,000.

BACKGROUND

In 2015, the California Street/Escuela Avenue/Shoreline Boulevard Complete Streets Feasibility Study (Study) was prepared to identify potential solutions to create safe, comfortable, and convenient conditions for all travel modes, including automobile, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit. The Study, which was generally supported by the City Council in the [October 2015](#) Study Session, recommended a three-phased approach for implementing complete streets along California Street, between Showers Drive and Bryant Street (see Figure 1 and Table 1).

The first phase identified a pilot lane reduction (four lanes to three lanes) created through pavement markings and the implementation of other improvements, such as temporary bulb-outs. The lane reduction will allow parking-protected bike lanes with painted buffers and shorter intersection crossing distances for pedestrians.

The second and third phases will convert the temporary bulb-outs to permanent bulb-outs with green street landscaping features at intersections and midblock crossing locations, and lane reductions will be advanced further (four lanes to two lanes) with limited gaps for left-turn access and landscaped median islands.

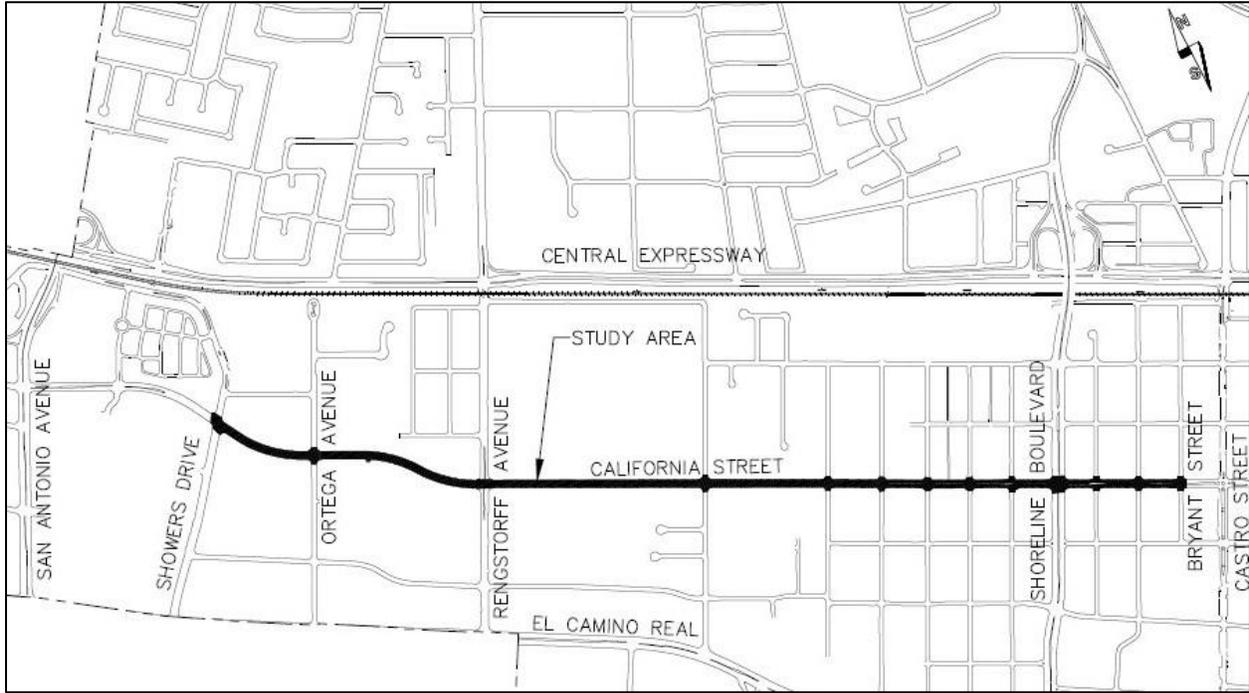


Figure 1: Study Area

**Table 1: Phased Alternatives from California Street/Escuela Avenue/
 Shoreline Boulevard Complete Streets Feasibility Study**

Phase	California Street Enhancement Element
1	Pilot four-lane to three-lane reduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-way left-turn lane • Interim parking-protected bike lanes • Temporary bulb-outs • Midblock crossings with enhanced lighting • Protected intersection treatments on California Street at key streets, such as Showers Drive, Ortega Avenue, Rengstorff Avenue, Escuela Avenue, and Shoreline Boulevard
2	Permanent bulb-outs with green street features
3	Permanent four-lane to two-lane reduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent parking-protected bike lanes • Landscaped median • Sidewalk widening downtown

This project will implement Phase 1 on the western segment of California Street from Showers Drive to Ortega Avenue (see Figure 2) utilizing nonpermanent features, such as paint striping, rubberized bulb-outs, and temporary pavement markings. Some of the principal elements include the pilot from four- to three-lane reduction and the installation of a two-way left-turn lane, parking-protected bike lanes, temporary bulb-outs at intersections, protected intersections, and high-visibility midblock crossings with enhanced lighting. Staff will evaluate preproject and postproject traffic metrics in the project area, including traffic volumes, vehicle speed, cyclist volumes, and use of the midblock crossing. Staff will also use survey and outreach tools to gauge community support for the improvements to proceed into Phases 2 and 3. The duration of this pilot will be for a minimum of 12 months from acceptance of construction.



Figure 2: Project Location

Based on the success of Phase 1 and funding identified in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Phase 2 will include the conversion to permanent street enhancement elements along this street segment and installation of permanent enhancement elements

from Ortega Avenue to Shoreline Boulevard. Staff will also evaluate similar Complete Street treatments for the segment of California Street between Showers Drive and San Antonio Road as part of a future pilot project.

ANALYSIS

On August 16, 2021, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals for design services for this pilot project. On September 10, 2021, five firms submitted proposals. A selection committee evaluated the proposals and reviewed the firms' qualifications and understanding of the project. The committee selected BKF Engineers as the most qualified firm based on the merits of their experience and understanding of the project goals. BKF Engineers is currently designing two other City projects, including East Whisman Transit-Oriented Improvements and Stierlin Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements, providing similar design services, such as protected intersections, bike facility and pedestrian safety improvements, and road striping design.

The main elements of the scope of services include:

- Conduct site survey, traffic counts, and review of reference documents;
- Prepare construction bid documents; and
- Provide bidding and construction support.

The recommended fee of \$180,000 for basic services and contingency is consistent for such services, and staff considers the fee to be fair and reasonable for the scope of work required.

If the recommended action is approved by Council, BKF Engineers would begin design in February 2022. The project is estimated to complete design in fall 2022 and start construction in early 2023.

FISCAL IMPACT

California Street (West) Complete Street Improvements, Pilot, Project 21-40, is funded with \$760,000 from the San Antonio Public Benefits fund. The fee for the recommended agreement is \$161,852 for basic services and reimbursable expenses, and a contingency of \$18,148, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$180,000. The project has sufficient funds for the recommended action.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Do not authorize a professional services agreement for design services.
2. Provide other direction.

PUBLIC NOTICING—Agenda posting.

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(21-40)