

City of Piedmont  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

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DATE: October 4, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Sara Lillevand, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Consideration of Direction to Staff to Proceed with the Final Design Phase of the Oakland Avenue Pedestrian Enhancement Project

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RECOMMENDATION

By motion, direct staff to proceed with the final design phase of the Oakland Avenue Pedestrian Enhancement Project.

BACKGROUND

Oakland Avenue is one of the few arterial roadways within Piedmont, and it contains several roadway crosswalks that are identified as prominent pedestrian crossings for school children. Two such locations that were identified in the 2014 Piedmont Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan (PBMP), and again in the 2021 Piedmont Safer Streets Plan (PSS), are the Oakland Avenue pedestrian crossings at the intersections of Jerome Avenue and El Cerrito Avenue.

Recognizing the need for enhanced street crossings at these intersections, on December 17, 2018, Council approved a contract with Coastland Engineers to design permanent bulb-outs and the associated safety improvements. The Council reviewed preliminary designs for these intersections at its April 15, 2019 meeting, which included shortened crossing distances, high visibility crosswalks, new pedestrian ramps, Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs), refreshed street paint and new signage. Like previously constructed bulb outs, these designs also allow for the installation of landscaping if desired.

The approved 2014 PBMP included improvements at these intersections as high priority future projects. Based on the criteria identified in the 2021 Piedmont Safer Streets Plan (proximity to schools, bike routes, arterial roadways without controlled crossings), these intersections were also assigned the highest priority of locations in the PBMP.

There are many possible traffic improvements listed in the PBMP and PSS, but the Public Works Department recommends moving forward with this project for a variety of reasons, including their high-priority status in the PBMP, the completion of preliminary design work, and having previously been reviewed by Council.

## FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS

The preliminary engineer's estimate for the design and construction of both intersections is \$400,000. This includes a 10% construction contingency. When construction documents are completed and a bid package is assembled, Staff will return to Council with a detailed engineer's estimate, a discussion of funding sources, and a request for authorization to bid the project.

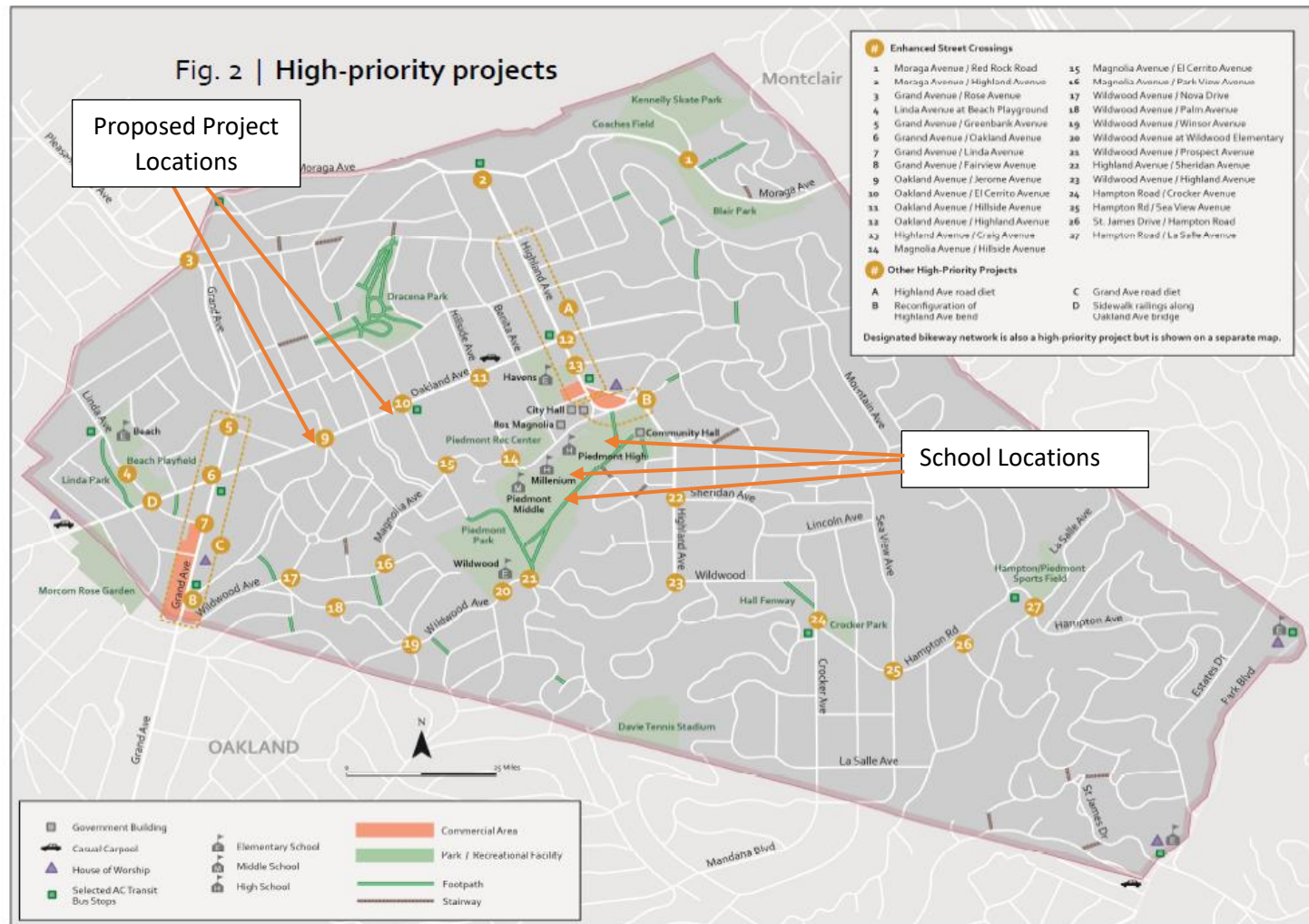
In addition, the City was recently awarded a \$19,000 Safe Route to Schools (SR2S) mini-grant for the design phase of this project. This grant uses Measure B funds and is administered by the Alameda County Transportation Commission.

The Piedmont Beautification Foundation (PBF) has indicated its interest in fundraising for this project with its holiday 2021 campaign. To ensure coordination with this longstanding project, PBF has requested that the City Council indicate if it desires to move forward with the project before the foundation begins its fundraising. Directing staff to proceed with the final design of the project will serve this purpose.

By: Daniel Gonzales, Public Works Director

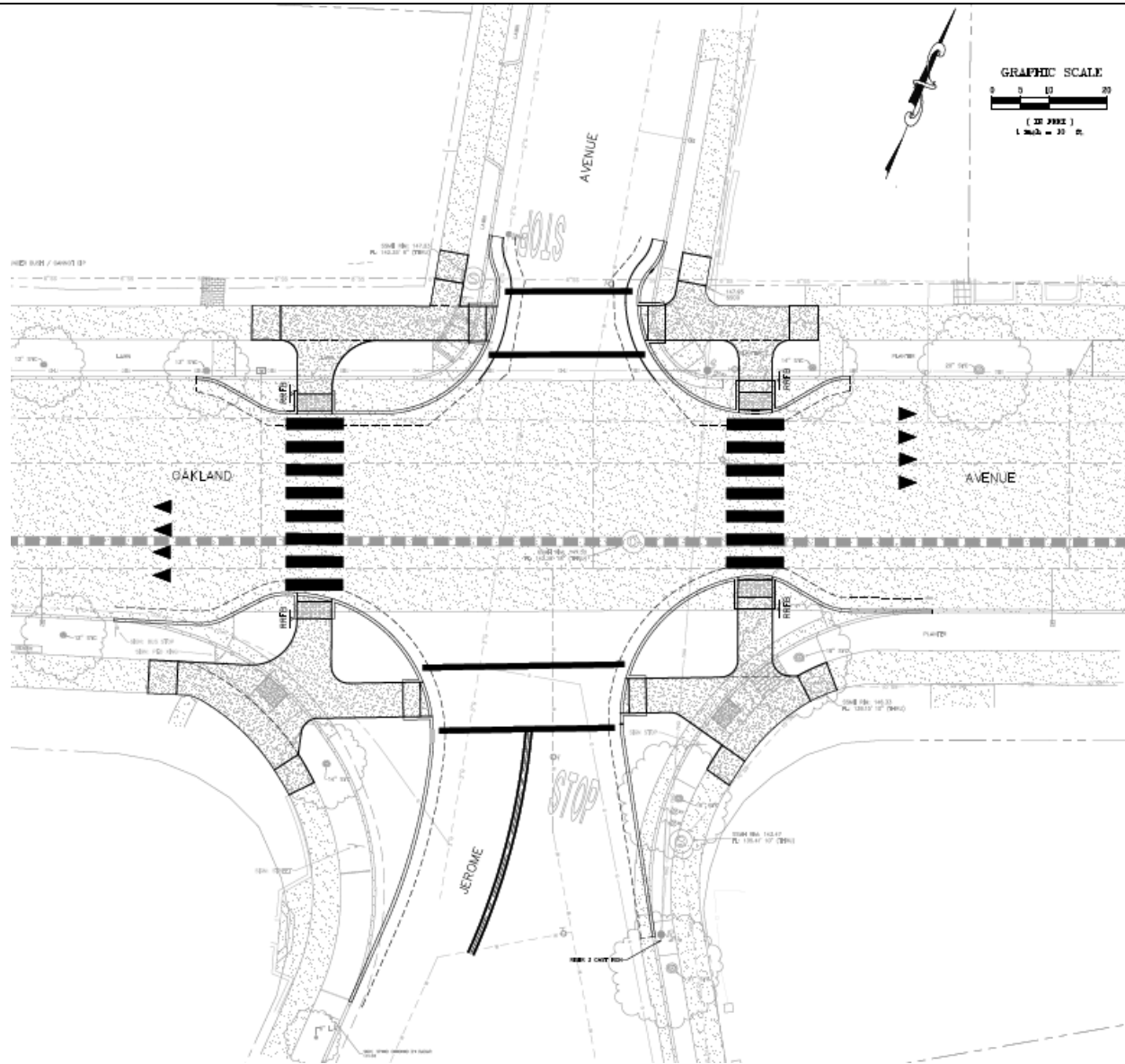
## ATTACHMENTS

A – Schematic Design of Proposed Improvements



LOCATION MAP FROM PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

SHOWING PROJECT LOCATIONS AND SCHOOL LOCATIONS



OAKLAND AVENUE/JEROME AVENUE

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

