



CITY of CALABASAS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT
FEBRUARY 21, 2024

TO: Members of the Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Tom Bartlett, AICP, City Planner

SUBJECT: Discussion of the El Camino Real Bell marker in Old Town

RECOMMENDATION: That the Historic Preservation Commission discuss the El Camino Real Bell marker in Old Town, and advise Staff on the merits of designating the marker as a local historic landmark.

BACKGROUND:

The El Camino Real is an approximately 700-mile travel route along Alta California (the portion of California north of the U.S. – Mexican border). Designated in 1769, the El Camino Real was the first road extending entirely through the territory. In 1963 the El Camino Real was designated a California Registered Historic Landmark.

With the first installation in 1906, and hundreds more placements over the following decades, the El Camino Real bell markers memorialize the historic route. Presently, nearly 600 bell markers span the route's total extents.

Located in Old Town Calabasas, south of Calabasas Road and proximate to the old Kramer Store building, the City's El Camino Real Bell is one of the original El Camino Real markers. More thorough summaries of the relevant history and background are attached as Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Historic Preservation Commission discuss the El Camino Real Bell marker in Old Town, and advise Staff on the merits of designating the marker as a local historic landmark.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A: Presentation to the Calabasas HPC by the Historic Preservation Officer

Exhibit B: PowerPoint presentation from the Chatsworth Historic Preservation Society