



CITY *of* CALABASAS

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2024

TO: TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: TATIANA HOLDEN, P.E., DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: WEST CALABASAS ROAD ROUNDABOUT PROJECT UPDATE

MEETING
DATE: OCTOBER 22, 2024

BACKGROUND:

In December 2021, the City of Calabasas executed a Funding Agreement with Metro for the West Calabasas Road Improvements Project. The approved project includes a roundabout at the intersection with Mureau Road and widening approximately 610 feet of the road east from the intersection.

At its August 10, 2022 meeting, City Council awarded a contract with MNS Engineers, Inc. for the design of the improvements.

DISCUSSION:

The intersection of Calabasas Road and Mureau Road is proposed to be widened for a roundabout. The traffic pattern at this intersection is 95% westbound right-turn movements from Calabasas Road to Mureau Road and, conversely, southbound left turns from Mureau Road to Calabasas Road. Calabasas Road west of Mureau Road is a dead-end and has few developments adjacent to the roadway, and thus minimal traffic. This type of traffic pattern is best suited for a roundabout since there is no direct conflict between the two primary vehicle movements. A roundabout is also a much better solution than a stop-controlled device, since it does not require motorists to come to a full stop and promotes a continuous and controlled flow of traffic.

The proposed project also includes widening Calabasas Road for approximately 610

feet east of the intersection. The proposed improvements would extend the sidewalk on the south side of the roadway between the Audi Dealership where it currently terminates to the intersection of Mureau Road covering a distance of approximately 480 feet. A continuous sidewalk will connect the existing pedestrian facilities along Calabasas Road and on the Mureau Road bridge to provide pedestrian access across the freeway and further to Hidden Hills. Construction of a sidewalk connecting the existing pedestrian facility on Calabasas Road and the Mureau Road bridge is an important link in the City and multijurisdictional pedestrian network. The proposed sidewalk will link to the future improvements west of the project location and will provide gap closure in a non-motorized network within Calabasas and adjacent Los Angeles County and Hidden Hills communities, promoting walkable pedestrian friendly neighborhoods.

In summary, the project elements include:

- Roadway widening;
- Extension of an existing sidewalk;
- Pedestrian crosswalk;
- Roundabout;
- New pavement and curb & gutter;
- Extension of a bike lane;
- Street lighting.

The City has been working with MNS Engineers on a Single-Lane Roundabout design shown in Exhibit 1. Earlier this year, staff requested the consultant to evaluate a Mini-Roundabout design option (Exhibit 2) and analyze the overall construction impacts and costs for both options.

Staff has analyzed the information and data provided by the consultant and noted the following main comparison points:

- Intersection sight distance is impacted by the guardrail system in the Mini-Roundabout option;
- The Mini-Roundabout is less effective because it would need to be mountable and, therefore, is less visible, especially at night;
- California (CA) legal truck turn movements are more impactful to the intersection operations and aesthetics for the Mini-Roundabout option;
- CA legal truck U-turns cannot be accommodated by the Mini-Roundabout option;
- Construction costs savings, initially thought to be significant with the Mini-Roundabout, are not as great as anticipated.

Based on these findings, staff recommends to proceed with the Single-Lane Roundabout design and preparation of construction documentation. The relatively

small construction cost savings do not offset potential safety, operational and aesthetic matters.

FISCAL IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDING

The West Calabasas Road Roundabout project is fully funded by Measure M funds.

REQUESTED ACTION

This is an informational item but the Commissioners are encouraged to provide input and comments which will be considered during preparation of the construction documentation.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit 1 – Single-Lane Roundabout Exhibit

Exhibit 2 - Mini-Roundabout Exhibit

Exhibit 3 – Technical analysis by MNS Engineers