



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Board of Supervisors - Third District

Subject: Cement Plant Road Bike and Pedestrian Path Project Feasibility Study

Meeting Date: May 6, 2025

Formal Title: Direct the Community Development and Infrastructure Department (CDI) to add the Cement Plant Road bike and pedestrian path feasibility study to the CDI 2025-2026 work program, and take related actions

Recommended Actions

1. Direct the Community Development and Infrastructure Department (CDI) to add the Cement Plant Road bike and pedestrian path feasibility study to the CDI 2025-2026 work program;
2. Approve the transfer of appropriations in the amount of \$26,000 from District 3 2024-2025 Measure K funds to CDI to be applied towards the cost of the feasibility study;
3. Direct CDI to initiate the feasibility study no later than July 2025, to be completed no later than July 2026; and
4. Direct CDI to coordinate with necessary parties of interest, including but not limited to the Davenport community and the Bureau of Land Management in the preparation of the study.

Executive Summary

The Cotoni-Coast Dairies National Monument is anticipated to open to the public during the summer of 2025. The Regional Transportation Commission's bicycle/pedestrian trail from Wilder Ranch State Park to Davenport (Rail Trail Segment 5) is scheduled to be completed by March of 2026. Cement Plant Road will provide a major approach to the National Monument entrance from the town of Davenport but has no sidewalks or room for a bike lane. Developing a safe bike and pedestrian path for the increased number of visitors to the area will help realize the goal of encouraging public access to coastal resources while reducing public safety dangers.

Discussion

The Cement Plant Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Path project was included as a high priority in the North Coast Facilities Management Plan. The Plan recognized the importance of providing safe access from Davenport to the National Monument for bikes and pedestrians with the expected opening of the Monument and completion of the bike/pedestrian trail from Santa Cruz to Davenport.

The first step in developing the project is the completion of a feasibility study that will evaluate the feasibility of alternative alignments for the path. A consultant has been identified to prepare the feasibility study, and it appears that the total cost for the study would be approximately \$50,000. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has agreed to contribute approximately \$24,000 and Supervisor Cummings is willing to allocate

\$26,000 in 2024-25 Third District funding towards the project. CDI will be responsible for overseeing the consultant contract. Due to the current workload in CDI, work on the study will commence in the early part of the 2025-26 fiscal year.

As part of the feasibility study, it is important that opportunities for input from both the Davenport community and BLM be provided. In addition, since the feasibility study is only the first step in the project's development, potential funding sources for completing the project will need to be identified.

Financial Impact

The total cost for the feasibility study is estimated at \$50,000 with \$24,000 expected to be provided through an encroachment permit fee and \$26,000 to be allocated from District 3 2024-2025 Measure K funds (GL 197100/90000) and transferred to 621100-62330 (P40883).

Strategic Initiatives

Operational Plan - Comprehensive Health & Safety, Reliable Transportation

Submitted By:

Justin Cummings, Third District Supervisor

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.