



April 17, 2020

TO: CADA Board of Directors

SUBJECT: April 24, 2020 Board Meeting
AGENDA ITEM 5
ENVISION O STREET CONCEPT PLAN – ACCEPTANCE OF FINAL
CONCEPT PLAN (7TH TO 17TH STREETS)

CONTACT: Marc de la Vergne, Deputy Executive Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends the Board accept the final Envision O Street Concept Plan.

BACKGROUND

In November 2017, staff issued a Request for Proposals seeking design firm bids to prepare a streetscape design concept plan for O Street.

In February 2018, the Board selected MIG to provide the requested services.

Following a robust community outreach effort that staff started in May 2018, MIG completed preparation of a draft Design Framework for O Street in September 2019, which staff presented to the CADA Board for review and comment at the October 2019 Board meeting.

Based on CADA Board review and comment at the October 2019 Board meeting, staff finalized the Envision O Street Concept Plan in March 2020.

The final document is now ready for the Board's final review and acceptance.

ANALYSIS

The following list outlines the major changes between the draft and final version:

- a. **Writing Style, Grammar, and Clarity.** The document was revised to correct minor grammar and spelling edits, and refined writing for clarity.
- b. **Graphics.** The final version replaced placeholders in Chapter III with photo-simulation graphics to depict the vision. Staff also changed some photos for examples that better represent Sacramento.
- c. **Corridor Design Concept Diagram.** The Corridor Design Concept Diagram in Chapter IV was finalized to reflect the following:
 - Added climate-appropriate landscaping in select areas;

- Revised mobility improvements to better align with plans underway with the City of Sacramento and Sacramento Regional Transit;
- Added details to clarify proposed improvements, e.g., features included with the transit gateway; and
- Added or modified proposed design features to best fit each block of the Corridor, such as artistic shade canopy, iconic sculpture, prefabricated architectural treatment, murals, or artistic lighting.

d. **Implementation.** The document was finalized to include the cost estimates tables in Chapter V to reflect priorities, timing, and budget consistent with the 2020 10-year Financial Forecast, which the Board reviewed at its March meeting.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will focus on implementing proposed improvements outlined in Chapter V. Most immediately, staff will continue working with California Department of Water of Resources staff and the O Street Steering Committee's Landscape Design Subcommittee to redesign the landscaping on the 900 block of O Street so that it can be transformed from turf and hardscape to a palette of climate-adapted plants.

Staff is also encouraging the City to consider installation of pedestrian safety flashers at the 15th and O Streets intersection, as an alternative to the City's current plan to install a traffic signal using CADA CEQA mitigation funds paid in conjunction with construction of the Eviva and Legado de Ravel projects.

Next, staff will begin discussions with the City regarding 30% design of the Plan's proposed intersection bulb-outs, mid-block bulb-outs at 14th and O and elsewhere along the Corridor, paving upgrades, shade canopies and installation of the proposed interactive kiosks.

Finally, staff have been invited by DGS to share portions of the Plan related to the 800 block of O Street where the existing CA Natural Resources Building is located, and which will soon be the subject of an RFP that the State is planning to release for design and construction. The Envision O Street Plan contains some design parameters that DGS would like to use to shape the design requirements section of the RFP.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Not applicable.

POLICY

Staff is asking the Board to accept the Envision O Street Concept Plan at this time, following its review of the plan in October 2019 and completion of final edits, so staff can begin to use it as a focus of discussion with the City, RT and the State of California about O Street and needed improvements.

Acceptance by the Board of the Concept Plan does not rise to the level of a project approval, as "approval" is defined under CEQA. Because a CEQA analysis has not been carried out, "acceptance" of the plan is the appropriate action to take at this point. Acceptance of the plan provides staff with the assurance that the Board is satisfied with the plan and provides the parameters for continued discussions with the City and State, preparation of 30% design plans for some or all of the suggested improvements, and environmental analysis, which will be

presented to the Board for review, comment and approval at a later date if CADA is the lead agency.

Preparation of the O Street Streetscape Concept Plan is consistent with CADA's prior planning work for 16th Street and for R Street, which led directly to significant improvements to those corridors. This planning work builds on the 2009 Envision O Street community charrette that CADA sponsored to gather ideas for O Street improvements, and O Street Walk Audit prepared in 2016. This O Street planning work will support the goals and objectives of the 1997 Capitol Area Plan by paving the way for physical improvements to O Street that will complement and support CADA's mission to implement the residential and commercial components of the CAP Plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Acceptance of the O Street Streetscape Concept Plan advances several 2016-21 Strategic Plan goals including: Promoting Community Stewardship, Collaboration, Urban Development Leadership, and Building Neighborhood Amenities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Not applicable. The State does not require any CEQA action as part of the Board's acceptance of the Concept Plan. To commence any significant actions, such as design and installation of mid-block bulb-outs or corner bulb-outs, a CEQA analysis of the project will need to be carried out to determine whether these improvements could have traffic and parking impacts. If SACOG funding is used to pay for any portion of the project, a NEPA analysis will also need to be performed because SACOG uses federal funding. If the City is the approving agency for the project – the design and construction of the improvements – then the City would likely be the lead agency for the environmental review. Staff will be seeking feedback from City Public Works staff on analysis they feel should be performed concerning potential environmental impacts associated with implementation of the plan.

CONTRACT AWARD CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

Attachments:

1. Final Envision O Street Concept Plan

Note: The April 24, 2020 Board Packet does not include Attachments A through C of the Plan because these documents have been previously reviewed by the Board. The final printed and bound copies for the public will include the attachments.