

RESOLUTION NO: 96-55

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
GRANTING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT 93-07
FOR BIKEPATH IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the City proposes to construct a bikepath from the intersection of Creston Road and Melody Drive to the intersection of Navajo Avenue and South River Road, and

WHEREAS, the level of improvements vary along the proposed bikepath as follows:

Segment 1: From Creston Road, southbound on Melody Drive to the western terminus of Lana Street, stripe a bikepath within the existing street (Class II Bikepath);

Segment 2: From the terminus of Lana Street to Centennial Park (along existing bikepath), widen the existing bikepath to ten feet with two foot wide shoulders on each side (Class I Bikepath);

Segment 3: From Centennial Park to Navajo Avenue, construct a ten foot wide paved bikepath with two foot wide shoulders on each side along the existing sewer access road (Class I Bikepath). This proposed segment would necessitate a mid-block crossing of Nickerson Drive at the southern edge of Centennial Park;

Segment 4: From Navajo Avenue to South River Road, stripe a bikepath within the existing street (Class II Bikepath); and

WHEREAS, an Initial Study has been prepared for this project (see attached) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of May 7, 1996, the City Council found that there was no substantial evidence that this project would have significant adverse effects on the environment provided that the mitigation measures described in the Initial Study are implemented for the project, and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed bikepath is consistent with the City's General Plan and Bikepath Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, based on their independent judgment the City Council of the City of El Paso De Robles hereby grants a Negative Declaration for Department of Public Works Project 93-07 in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act subject to completion of the following mitigation measures:

1. Installation of traffic safety devices such as the following:
 - a. Provide a cross-walk where the bikepath crosses Nickerson Drive;
 - b. Provide traffic warning signs and pavement markings advising motorists of the approaching cross-walk;
 - c. Paint the curb red for sufficient distances on either side of the cross-walk to prevent on-street parking, which would reduce motorists' visibility of crossing bicycles.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th day of May, 1996 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: HEGGARTY, IVERSEN, MACKLIN

NOES: PICANCO

ABSENT: MARTIN



MAYOR WALTER J. MACKLIN

ATTEST:



RICHARD J. RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER/CITY CLERK

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INITIAL STUDY

DATE: April 10, 1996
FILE #: Department of Public Works Project 93-07
APPLICATION: Bikepath connecting Creston Road at Melody to Cen-
tennial Park and to South River Road at Navajo Avenue
APPLICANT: City-Initiated

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION: Attached.
2. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: Attached.
3. IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: Please see attached Initial Study Checklist.
4. DISCUSSION OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:
If any of the items on the Initial Study Checklist are marked "Yes/Maybe", please see the attached Analysis for discussion and recommendations for mitigation or further environmental study.
5. CONSISTENCY OF PROJECT WITH EXISTING GENERAL PLAN, ZONING AND OTHER LAND USE CONTROLS:

- This project is consistent with the City's General Plan, Zoning Ordinance and other land use controls.
- This project involves a request to change the General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and/or other land use controls.

6. PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS INITIAL STUDY:

Bruce Buckingham, Associate Planner
Ditas Esperanza, City Engineer

7. DETERMINATION: On the basis of this Initial Study:

- I find that the proposed project could not have a significant effect on the environment, and a Negative Declaration will be prepared.
- I find that, although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on the attached Discussion of Environmental Evaluation have been added to the project. A Negative Declaration will be prepared.
- I find that there is insufficient information to determine whether the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment and that the applicant needs to provide additional information in the form of an expanded initial study.
- I find that the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, and recommend that an Environmental Impact Report be prepared.

Bruce Buckingham,
Associate Planner

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

FILE #: Department of Public Works Project 93-07

APPLICATION: Bikepath connecting Creston Road at Melody Drive to Centennial Park and to South River Road at Navajo Avenue

APPLICANT: City-Initiated

This Initial Study Checklist was completed by reviewing the project application in light of the following:

- a. The City's General Plan, Municipal Code and adopted Standards;
- b. Environmental information and studies maintained by the City;
- c. Consultation, when necessary, with Responsible and Trustee Agencies, as defined by CEQA, and other interested parties;
- d. Observation of the project site in the field.

All items checked "Yes/Maybe" will be discussed in the section entitled "Analysis" attached to this checklist.

If an item is checked "No", the project will either not have a significant effect on the environment, or, any potential significant effects will be mitigated by standard conditions of development required by the City.

| Item | Environmental Impact | Yes/Maybe | No |
|------|---|-----------|--------|
| 1. | <u>LAND USE, POPULATION, HOUSING:</u> | | |
| a. | Alteration of present or planned land use in an area..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Compatibility with existing or planned land uses in an area..... | | .XX... |
| c. | Alteration of location, distribution, density or population growth rate of an area..... | | .XX... |
| d. | Affect existing housing or create demand for additional housing..... | | .XX... |
| e. | Airport Land Use Plan..... | | .XX... |
| 2. | <u>CIRCULATION/TRANSPORTATION:</u> | | |
| a. | Traffic generation..... | .XX..... | |
| b. | Traffic access, movement, hazards..... | .XX..... | |
| c. | Pedestrian, bicycle systems..... | .XX..... | |
| d. | Parking facilities..... | | |
| e. | Emergency vehicle access..... | | .XX... |
| f. | Air, rail operations..... | | .XX... |

| Item | Environmental Impact | Yes/Maybe | No |
|------|--|-----------|--------|
| 3. | <u>GEOLOGY AND SOILS:</u> | | |
| a. | Unstable earth, changes in geological substructures..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Changes to soil strata (disruption, displacement, compaction, etc.)..... | | .XX... |
| c. | Exposure of people or property to landslides and seismic hazards..... | | .XX... |
| d. | Increase in soil erosion..... | | .XX... |
| 4. | <u>SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE WATER:</u> | | |
| a. | Changes to groundwater flows..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Groundwater quality and quantity..... | | .XX... |
| c. | Streamcourse alteration and siltation..... | | .XX... |
| d. | Increase in runoff, storm drainage impact..... | | .XX... |
| e. | Other water-related impacts..... | | .XX... |
| 5. | <u>VEGETATION AND ANIMAL LIFE:</u> | | |
| a. | Oak trees..... | .XX | |
| b. | Other vegetation concerns..... | | .XX.. |
| c. | Wildlife habitats..... | | .XX.. |
| d. | Other wildlife concerns..... | | .XX.. |
| 6. | <u>AIR QUALITY:</u> | | |
| a. | Creation of air emissions..... | .XX | |
| b. | Creation of objectionable odors..... | | .XX.. |
| c. | Alteration of air movement patterns..... | | .XX.. |
| d. | Other air quality concerns..... | | .XX.. |
| 7. | <u>PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES:</u> | | |
| a. | Fire protection..... | | .XX.. |
| b. | Police protection..... | | .XX.. |
| c. | Water service..... | | .XX.. |
| d. | Sewer service..... | | .XX.. |
| e. | Street maintenance..... | | .XX.. |
| f. | Other governmental services..... | | .XX.. |
| g. | PG&E..... | | .XX.. |
| h. | So. California Gas Co..... | | .XX.. |
| i. | Sonic Cable TV, Pacific Bell..... | | .XX.. |
| j. | Solid waste disposal..... | | .XX.. |

| Item | Environmental Impact | Yes/Maybe | No |
|------|--|-----------|--------|
| 8. | <u>HEALTH AND SAFETY:</u> | | |
| a. | Noise: Creation of or exposure to..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Light & Glare: Creation of..... | | .XX... |
| c. | Electromagnetic disturbance, radiation..... | | .XX... |
| d. | Health hazards: Creation of or exposure to..... | | .XX... |
| e. | Fire, Explosion, Chemical spill..... | | .XX... |
| 9. | <u>AESTHETICS:</u> | | |
| a. | Visually-sensitive area or corridor..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Hillside, grading issues..... | | .XX... |
| c. | Other aesthetic concerns..... | | .XX... |
| 10. | <u>PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE:</u> | | |
| a. | Impact on public parks and recreation..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Generates need for private recreation..... | | .XX... |
| c. | Need to maintain open space..... | | .XX... |
| 11. | <u>CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL:</u> | | |
| a. | Historic and/or cultural sites..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Archaeological sites..... | | .XX... |
| 12. | <u>NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY:</u> | | |
| a. | Natural resources supply..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Energy supply..... | | .XX... |
| 13. | <u>MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:</u> | | |
| a. | Potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a wildlife species, cause wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory..... | | .XX... |
| b. | Potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.. | | .XX... |
| c. | Impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable..... | | .XX... |
| d. | Substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly..... | | .XX... |

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT 93-07

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The City proposes to construct a bikepath from the intersection of Creston Road and Melody Drive to the intersection of Navajo Avenue and South River Road. The level of improvements vary along the proposed bikepath as follows:

Segment 1: From Creston Road, southbound on Melody Drive to the western terminus of Lana Street, stripe a bikepath within the existing street (Class II Bikepath);

Segment 2: From the terminus of Lana Street to Centennial Park (along existing bikepath), widen the existing bikepath to ten feet with two foot wide shoulders on each side (Class I Bikepath);

Segment 3: From Centennial Park to Navajo Avenue, construct a ten foot wide paved bikepath with two foot wide shoulders on each side along the existing sewer access road (Class I Bikepath). This proposed segment would necessitate a mid-block crossing of Nickerson Drive at the southern edge of Centennial Park;

Segment 4: From Navajo Avenue to South River Road, stripe a bikepath within the existing street (Class II Bikepath).

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:

Segment 1: This segment is within an existing asphalt paved right-of-way.

Segment 2: This segment passes through an open space corridor consisting of oak-covered slopes adjacent to a seasonal creek. Single family residential development is beyond the open space area. This segment is currently developed with an approximate seven to eight foot wide asphalt bikepath. The proposed widening to ten feet with two foot wide shoulders on each side would not displace any significant vegetation.

Segment 3: This segment passes through an open space corridor consisting of oak-covered hillsides adjacent to a seasonal creek. Single family residential development is beyond the open space area. There is an existing sewer access road which is presently graded and based. The proposed ten foot wide bikepath with two foot wide shoulders on each side would not displace any significant vegetation.

Segment 4: This segment is within an existing asphalt paved right-of-way.

DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS FOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT 93-07

1. Items 2a (traffic generation) and 2c (bicycle systems): The provision of the proposed Class I and Class II bikeway would contribute to the extensive bikeway system proposed by the City's Bikeways Plan, which will, hopefully, encourage use of bicycles as an alternative mode of transportation to the car, thereby reducing traffic.

2. Item 2b (traffic access, movement, hazards): The proposed bikepath would cross Nickerson Drive in a mid-block location, which could expose riders to conflicts with cars. This situation could be mitigated with the following:
 - a. Provide a cross-walk where the bikepath crosses Nickerson Drive;
 - b. Provide traffic warning signs and pavement markings advising motorists of the approaching cross-walk;
 - c. Paint the curb red for sufficient distances on either side of the cross-walk to prevent on-street parking, which would reduce motorists' visibility of crossing bicycles.

3. Item 6a (creation of air emissions): Encouragement of bicycles as an alternative mode of transportation, as discussed in item #1, above, will also have beneficial effects on air quality.

CONCLUSION:

Provided that appropriate measures are taken to ensure the safety of riders crossing Nickerson Drive, the proposed bikepath will not have any significant effect on the environment.

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