

Press Release

February 15, 2008

Buchanan Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Design starting off with New Year

The City of Albany started a process to develop 35% Plans, Specifications and Engineering (PS&E), as well as environmental work and traffic analysis for the Buchanan Bicycle path project. The proposed path was first envisioned in the Albany Bicycle Master Plan as a way to close the east-west gap between the Ohlone Greenway and the Bay Trail. Later, the City engaged in a feasibility analysis of the Buchanan path concept. Several options were prepared as a result of this analysis and the preferred alternative would align the path along the south side of Marin, continuing along the south side of Buchanan and providing a crossing to the north side of Buchanan either at Taylor St. or at Pierce Street.

In March 2007, the City obtained a grant from the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Program (ACTIA) for the development of 35% PS&E, environmental work and traffic analysis for this project. Matching funds for this grant are provided by Albany residents through Measure F. The consultant selection process took place in December 2007 and DMJM Harris, formerly Korve Engineering, was selected to work on the project. The City Council is considering award of this contract at its February 19 meeting and work is expected to begin at the end of the month with a kick off meeting involving City staff and the projects' stakeholders. The public will be encouraged to participate in the design process, once the consultant team begins work on this project. Final plans and environmental documents are expected to be finalized in May 2009, according to the project's schedule. The City plans to seek additional funding for the construction phase of this project.

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