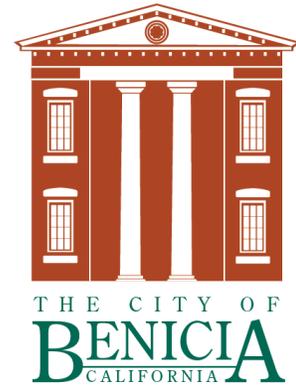


PRESS RELEASE

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SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT SET TO BEGIN **Improvements at five Benicia schools scheduled**

Benicia, CA (June 30, 2020) — City of Benicia Public Works Department announces improvements at five Benicia schools, set to begin Monday, July 6, 2020. The Active Transportation Program (ATP) Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Project will construct traffic and pedestrian safety improvements at five schools in Benicia and two schools in Vallejo. The City of Vallejo is the lead agency on this joint project and recently awarded a \$2,968,249.39 construction contract to FBD Vanguard Construction, Inc. of Livermore, which includes \$973,228 for the Benicia portion of the project.

“This grant project and its traffic and pedestrian improvements have been long awaited and will greatly improve safety at all five Benicia schools,” said William Tarbox, public works director for the City of Benicia.

The project includes the following traffic and pedestrian safety improvements:

- **Mary Farmar Elementary School:** Installation of high visibility yellow crosswalk on Military West at Drolette Way with a pedestrian-actuated flashing beacon and install accessible curb ramps. Installation of high visibility yellow crosswalk on West 7th Street at Lori Drive with a pedestrian-actuated flashing beacon and installation of accessible curb ramps.
- **Robert Semple Elementary School:** Installation of high visibility yellow crosswalk, refresh all pavement markings and striping around the school, install a pedestrian-actuated flashing beacon on East S Street and Hillcrest Avenue at East 3rd Street, widen and installation of sidewalks on East 3rd Street, upgrade lighting in tunnel under I-780, and install accessible curb ramps. Construction of a sidewalk on the south side of East S Street from East 2nd Street to East 3rd Street (approx. 600 ft. long).
- **Benicia Middle School:** Widening of sidewalks along school frontage and installation of accessible curb ramps. Widening of sidewalks west of school driveway entrance at the bus stop, installation of high visibility

yellow crosswalk and a pedestrian-actuated flashing beacon across Panorama Drive near James Court and crossing Southampton Road at Panorama Drive.

- Joe Henderson Elementary: Replacement of sidewalk along school frontage, including north of school driveway entrance and retrofitting pathway for ADA accessibility and installation of accessible curb ramps.
- St. Dominic School: Installation of pedestrian-actuated flashing beacon at East J and East 5th Streets.

The SR2S Pedestrian Improvement Project construction work will begin Monday, July 6, 2020 and will be completed by September 30, 2020. Work will be scheduled between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Efforts will be made to minimize impacts to the residents, businesses and the traveling public in the area.

Questions may be directed to Nouae Vue, Senior Civil Engineer, at 707.746.4281 or email nvue@ci.benicia.ca.us.

About the Active Transportation Program

The Active Transportation Program was created by Senate Bill 99 in 2013 to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as walking and biking.

The goals of the ATP include, but are not limited to, increasing the proportion of trips accomplished by walking and biking, increasing the safety and mobility of non-motorized users, advancing efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals, enhancing public health, and providing a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of users including disadvantaged communities.

In 2017, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 1, also known as the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. SB 1 directs \$100 million annually from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account to the ATP, significantly augmenting the available funding for this popular program.

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