



# CITY *of* ESCONDIDO

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMISSION

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October 10, 2024 at 3:00 PM  
Council Chambers: 201 North Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025

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## WELCOME TO YOUR COMMISSION MEETING

We welcome your interest and involvement in the legislative process of Escondido. This agenda includes information about topics coming before the Commission.

### CHAIR

Lori Hatley

### VICE CHAIR

Rachael Kassebaum

### COMMISSIONERS

William Durney

Lon Grothen

Lynn Graykowski

Linda Rendon

Francis Spoonemore

### ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

Sarena Garcia

### HOW TO WATCH

The City of Escondido provides one way to watch a Commission meeting:

#### In Person



201 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025



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## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The City of Escondido provides two ways to communicate with the Commission during a meeting:

### In Person



Fill out Speaker Slip and Submit to City Clerk

### In Writing



<https://escondido-ca.municodemeetings.com/>

## ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact our ADA Coordinator at (760) 839-4643. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired – please see the City Clerk.





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## ROLL CALL

1. Call to Order
2. Flag Salute

## ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3. Review and approve meeting minutes for July 11, 2024

## ITEMS

4. Staff to provide information-only progress update via PowerPoint on recent work on the Comprehensive Active Transportation Strategy (CATS), Community Transportation Needs Assessment and Mobility Element.
5. Quarterly report by staff on the progress of various City projects that improve transportation options for residents and travelers within the City.
6. 1234 Gamble Street, Escondido, CA 92026: Staff will present a constituent concern related to traffic near the aforementioned address

## ADJOURNMENT



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TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMISSION

## MINUTES

### ROLL CALL

#### PRESENT

Chair Lori Hatley  
Vice Chair Rachael Kassebaum  
Commissioner William Durney  
Commissioner Lon Grothen  
Elementary Rep Francis Spoonemore  
EUHS Rep Linda Rendon

#### ABSENT

Commissioner Lynn Graykowski

### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Durney; Second: Grothen; Approved 6-0 (Graykowski - Absent)

### ITEMS

1. **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROJECT LIST (TMPL) FY24/25 PROJECT NOMINATIONS**

Giuseppe Gutierrez – Expressed concern

Motion to approve Project 1, Project 2 and Project 3 (Up to \$5000 for 25 MPH Signs, Downhill Radar Speed Feedback Signs and LED Signs) Hatley; Second: Durney; Approved 5-1 (Grothen - No, Graykowski - Absent)

2. **APPROVAL OF THE ENGINEERING & TRAFFIC SURVEYS (E&TS) FOR POSTED SPEEDS ON VARIOUS STREET SEGMENTS CITYWIDE AND TO FORWARD RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL TO RETAIN SPEED LIMIT ON SIX SEGMENTS**

Motion: Kassebaum; Second: Spoonemore; Approved 6-0 (Graykowski Absent)

3. **CITY-WIDE TRAFFIC PROJECT STAUS REPORT**

No action required by the Commission



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**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting Adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

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CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK



# STAFF REPORT

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October 10, 2024  
Agenda Item No.: 2

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**SUBJECT:**

**CITY-WIDE TRAFFIC PROJECTS STATUS REPORT –**

**LOCATION:**

Various Locations Citywide

**BACKGROUND:**

The following transportation-related projects are currently in design, under construction or recently completed:

**DISCUSSION & PURPOSE:**

**TMPL Projects FY22/23**

Project Description

The City of Escondido 2022/23 Traffic Management Project List (TMPL) and preliminary prioritization, based on approved scoring criteria, were presented to TCSC at the July 14, 2022 meeting. Of the five nominated projects citywide, TCSC selected the top four projects for final design and implementation.

1. The Vista Avenue Traffic Calming has been completed
2. The proposed improvements for the Felicita Avenue at Montview Traffic Calming Phase 1 consist of pavement markings, reflectors, flexible delineator posts and additional signage near Montview Drive. The solar-powered radar speed-feedback signs could supplement the improvements in a second phase.
3. Crosswalk Improvements at Hidden Valley Middle School Frontage on Reed Road include the construction of two new pedestrian/ADA ramps, upgrading the existing crosswalk to yellow, continental style high visibility crosswalk, new and refreshed signage and pavement markings.
4. Crosswalk Improvements at Tulip St and 15th Ave by Felicita Elementary School consist of ADA ramp on 15<sup>th</sup>, and new and refreshed signage, striping and pavement markings. Existing crosswalks will be upgraded to yellow continental style high visibility crosswalks on Tulip Street at 15th Avenue.

Status: Work on these projects was largely completed in coordination with the City's annual Pavement Maintenance & Rehabilitation Program, as well as City forces. ADA ramps have been completed at Hidden Valley Middle School and Felicia Elementary. Timeframe: Fall 2024 for completion of final project at Felicita at Montview.



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## STAFF REPORT

### TMPL Projects FY23/24

#### Project Description

The City of Escondido 2023/24 Traffic Management Project List (TMPL) and preliminary prioritization, based on approved scoring criteria, were presented to TCSC at the April 13, 2023 meeting. Four projects were nominated citywide, TCSC approved all four projects for final design and implementation.

1. N Broadway and North Avenue high-visibility crosswalk for Reidy Elementary School (completed)
2. Khayyam Road LED curve warning signage.
3. Golden Circle Radar Speed Signs
4. Classical Academy crosswalk and pedestrian signage improvements on Canyon Road at Gretna Green Way. (completed)

Status: Work on these projects was largely done in coordination with the City's annual Pavement Maintenance & Rehabilitation Program, City forces and materials bid. Timeframe: Bidding and installation of signs will be completed Fall 2024

### Traffic Signal Communications Grant

#### Project Description

This project provides design and installation of software and hardware upgrades to the communication system for the City's traffic signals system. These improvements will significantly improve operations and longevity to the system. The project supports installation of upgraded signal controllers, detection and communication devices that are more responsive, provide more data to support operational improvements, and will allow deployment of technology to support the ultimate build-out of the City.

A Caltrans Highway Safety Improvement Program grant was awarded on March 30, 2021 with a total project cost estimate of \$2.32m, and a local share of \$1.16m. Final funding authorization for Engineering was received on September 30th, 2021, indicating approval to issue a Request for Proposals for Phase 1 Engineering. Advantec Consulting Engineers, Inc. was awarded the project to prepare the Traffic Signal Communications Master Plan (Master Plan) which kicked-off on July 7, 2022. The consultant completed a draft of the existing systems inventory of the City's traffic signal infrastructure and is coordinating with staff to determine the appropriate communications strategy for future deployment. Staff heard presentations from various communications and traffic signal vendors to determine equipment to be specified in the updated Traffic Signals Specifications. A CCTV Pilot Project will be conducted to evaluate two different products and the associated data analytics to determine which best meets the needs of the City. The Consultant is currently revising the draft



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Traffic Signal Communications Master Plan, preparing a draft Traffic Signal Specifications, and will be coordinating with staff to discuss design of the Traffic Management Center to be housed in City Hall.

Status: Work on the Traffic Signal Communications Master Plan was re-assigned to another consultant and is now anticipated to be completed in late 2024. Preparation of Plans, Specifications, and Estimates for corridor upgrades to be completed early 2024.

### City of Escondido TIA Guidelines Implementation

#### Project Description

The City of Escondido's updated Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines were adopted by City Council in April 2021, and supplemented with a VMT Mitigation Program that was approved by City Council on Dec 7, 2022. This work provides details about mitigation options for projects that will generate traffic levels that exceed 85% of the regional average. Options include an exchange program that allow a developer to select from a list of VMT-reducing projects (such as bikeways, pedestrian walkways, or transit connections) that could reduce the VMT 'footprint' of the proposed project. A status report was given to TCSC in July 2022.

Status: The guidelines and Mitigation Program continue to be utilized on all development projects throughout the City, depending on the location and impacts of the project.

### Comprehensive Active Transportation Strategy (CATS) and Mobility Element Update

#### Project Description

The Comprehensive Active Transportation Strategy (CATS) and Mobility Element update will include evaluation of current infrastructure and user demand to develop a well-connected active transportation network. The CATS will evaluate trail, bike lane, and sidewalk connectivity, as well as roadway capacity to ensure that limited resources are used to improve the highest priority facilities. The effort will also provide support for future grant applications and is identified as an activity in the Climate Action Plan. The development of the CATS will be accomplished in tandem with the Mobility Element Update. Work on the project started in July, 2023 and will continue throughout 2024, with completion in early 2025.

Status: Work continues on this project: inventory and the first phase of outreach, as well as identifying and prioritizing projects have been completed. The Community Transportation Needs Assessment was also completed. The team is currently preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of public outreach.

### Seven Creek Crossings

#### Project Description





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This project improved crossing safety on approximately 2.5 miles of the Escondido Creek Trail Bike Path by adding lighting, pedestrian signals, crosswalks, ramps and signage to seven intersections between Juniper Street and Citrus Avenue. The project was funded through the Active Transportation Program, with construction awarded in November, 2021. The work included 7 improved crossings, including a new traffic signal at Midway Drive and traffic calming, pedestrian ramps and RRFBs at the creek trail crossings of Juniper, Hickory, Fig, Harding, Rose and Citrus.

Status: This work was completed in early 2024.

### **Escondido Creek Trail Transit Center Bike Path Improvements**

#### Project Description

This project included the addition of two new traffic signals at the Quince St and Tulip St crossings of Escondido Creek Trail, as well as a median, drainage and ADA improvements at Tulip. Funding was through Caltrans' Active Transportation Program. The project was advertised for bids in December, 2021; with construction awarded to PAL General Engineering in January, 2022.

The majority of the construction work was delayed until March 2023 due to traffic signal equipment delivery delays. Construction expected to be completed in October 2023.

Status: Work was completed in November 2023 when signals were activated and trail was officially opened.

### **Creek Trail Expansion Project**

#### Project Description

In 2020, the City was awarded \$8.5 million from the California Department of Parks & Recreation through the Prop 68 Parks & Water Bond Act of 2018. The purpose of this program is to create new parks and recreation opportunities in underserved communities across California. The Escondido Creek Trail Expansion and Renovation project will beautify and improve approximately 4.5 miles of the creek corridor, and extend the western end of the trail 0.4 miles to Harmony Grove Road. The eastern end of the improvement is Midway Drive. This project will create a double-sided trail on approximately 1.7 miles, where one side will be the existing Class I bicycle path, while the other will be a new pedestrian oriented compacted gravel (decomposed granite/DG) trail.

Improvements between Broadway and Midway include a new DG path, seating areas, water bottle filler stations, kinetic fitness stations, adventure play areas, landscaping improvements, pollinator gardens using native plants, as well as enhanced fencing and lighting. The paved segment on the south side is enhanced with seating, garden areas, lighting and fencing.



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A wider segment from Fig St. to Ash St. allows room for several improvements, such as a pollinator garden between Fig St. and Elm St. and a linear outdoor fitness station built by Elm Street. A community garden is designed on the north side of the creek between Elm St. and Date St. ADA access will be improved at the existing Date St. pedestrian crossing and decorative enhancements such as traditional tribal basket weave pavement patterns are added for visual interest. The Beech Street entrance will be reconfigured on the south side and new access to the trail will be provided from North Beech Street. At Washington Park, the existing fencing will be removed to create an open park area.

Status: Design work is complete. Construction bids completed Summer 2024, with construction starting in the latter half of 2024. Construction is expected to take about 12 months.

### **Citracado Extension Project**

#### Project Description

This project constructs a key missing link of Citracado Parkway, between Andreasen and Harmony Grove Village Parkway, including a bridge over the Escondido Creek - in the western portion of the City. The project will also widen Citracado Parkway between W. Valley Pkwy and Avenida del Diablo, including the installation of sound walls at Johnston Rd.

The project includes new traffic signals at Citracado Pkwy at Mountain Shadows and Citracado Pkwy at Harmony Grove Rd. In addition, two existing signals will be modified at Harmony Grove Village Pkwy and at Andreasen Drive.

Status: Construction of the \$23m project started in September 2022; it was open to traffic in August 2024. Work continues on some finishing elements with total completion anticipated by the end of 2024.

Project updates can be found here: <https://www.escondido.org/citracado-parkway-extension-project.aspx>

### **Grand Avenue Vision Project**

#### Project Description

This project implements the Grand Avenue Vision Plan to improve Grand Avenue between Juniper and Escondido Blvd, including widened sidewalks, expanded outdoor dining areas, traffic circles, improved pedestrian crossings, string lighting, and diagonal parking on one side of the street.

Status: Phase I was completed in 2022. Design for Phase II, that improves both sides of Grand Ave between Maple and Juniper, was completed in 2023; construction began in October 2024. The City's



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five-year Capital Improvement Program shows continued funding toward Phase III of the project between Escondido Blvd and Maple St.

### **Annual Street Rehabilitation and Maintenance Projects**

#### Project Description

These annual CIP-funded projects provide for the maintenance and repair of City streets. Work is focused on one of eight residential zones each year. Resurfacing of Major and Collector streets is performed Citywide based on pavement condition. Work includes subgrade repairs, asphalt replacement and seal coating. In addition, the project repairs lifted sidewalks and stripes bike lanes on resurfaced streets in accordance with the Bicycle Master Plan.

The project currently underway is focused on the southeast portion of the City, with the west Central area following. In recent years, buffered bike lanes are included where street widths or other design factors allow. High-visibility continental crosswalks are included, and at some signalized intersections, existing detection loops were replaced with camera detection.

Status: The work currently under construction is within the southeast portion of the City, roughly east of Ash Street and south of Valley Parkway. Design in underway on the 2024 program, which is in the west central area of the City: I-15 to the west; SR 78 to the north; Ash to the east and 5<sup>th</sup> to the south. Bids for this work will be sought in early 2025.

### **Bear Valley Parkway at Mary Lane Traffic Signal Modification**

#### Project Description

This Capital Improvement Program-funded traffic signal modification project upgrades the top ranked signal project in the City. This project adds left-turn phasing for the east-bound and west-bound left-turn movements at the intersection of Bear Valley Parkway and Mary Lane. Improvements include new traffic signal poles, signal indications, pedestrian push buttons, fiber optic cable for communication, striping, and signage to enhance the safety for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Status: This work was completed and fully operational in early 2024.

### **Washington Avenue and Rose Street Traffic Signal Modification**

#### Project Description

This traffic signal modification project is funded by the Capital Improvement Program and will upgrade the signal at this location with left-turn phasing. Improvements include new traffic signal poles, signal indications, pedestrian push buttons, striping, and signage to enhance safety for



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vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The design phase started in September 2022. Previous property constraints were resolved with design modifications at the northwest corner of the intersection.

Status: Design is complete, with construction bids expected late Fall 2024.

### **Juniper Safe Routes to School Phase 2**

#### Project Description

This project provides missing portions of sidewalk, curb and gutter, and Class II bicycle lanes along Juniper Street, creating a continuous, separated pedestrian pathway near Juniper Elementary and also provides for a Safe Routes to School educational (non-infrastructure) program at Juniper, Oak Hill, and Central Elementary Schools.

Construction funds were allocated for this Active Transportation Program-funded project in December 2021 by the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The project widens Juniper Street and fill gaps in sidewalk. In addition, existing traffic signals will be modified with protected left-turns and APS at Felicita Ave at Escondido Blvd and at Juniper St at Felicita-17th Ave. The Non-Infrastructure (NI) part of the project is moving forward with information sharing and coordination with the school staff, students and parents.

Status: Construction began in April 2023 and was largely completed in September 2023, although SDG&E utility poles relocation could not be completed until 2024. The SDG&E work is currently underway and should be completed by late 2024.

### **Palomar Heights**

#### Project Description

This 510-unit mixed-use development is located at the former site of the downtown hospital. The project will install a new traffic signal at Valley Parkway at Ivy. Three existing signals will be modified and upgraded at Valley Pkwy/Valley Blvd/Private Driveway; Valley Pkwy/Grand Ave/2nd and at Grand Ave/Fig St. (Palomar Heights Development).

Status: Project is in construction. Vertical construction of buildings is well underway. Work on the surrounding roads is largely complete (as of October 2024). Work on the interior is expected to continue throughout 2024, with completion in 2025.

### **7-11 and Gas Station Mission Avenue**

#### Project Description

This commercial development project is conditioned to install a new traffic signal at Lincoln Avenue at Rock Springs Rd, a location listed on the City's Traffic Signal Priority List. In addition, an existing



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traffic signal will be modified with protected left-turns at Rock Springs Rd at Mission Avenue. Designs are at 90%.

Status: Design is still underway and is expected to be completed in 2024. Construction is not expected to be complete until 2025.

### **The Sunrise Project - Meyers Avenue at Barham Drive Signal**

#### Project Description

This 193-unit multi-family residential development on Meyers Avenue was required to install a new traffic signal at Meyers Avenue at Barham Drive near the City boundary.

Status: The traffic signal was activated in December 2023, with minor pavement and striping work recently completed.

### **The Villages at Escondido Country Club (also known as Canopy Grove)**

#### Project Description

The 380-unit development is being constructed on the grounds of the former Escondido Country Club property. The project includes construction of the new center median on Country Club Lane, two new traffic signals - at Country Club Lane and Gary Lane and at Country Club Lane and Nutmeg St. In addition, signals at El Norte Pkwy at West Country Club Lane/Madrid Manor and El Norte Pkwy at Nordahl /Nutmeg St. will be modified. A new pedestrian crossing with a refuge median and an RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon) was included at Firestone Drive. Roundabouts were included at Golden Circle and at La Brea.

The project includes traffic calming improvements of Country Club Lane between Golden Circle Drive and Nutmeg Street, including reducing the through lanes from 4 to 2, and adding buffered bike lanes for much of this segment. The City's first roundabout was constructed at Country Club Lane and Golden Circle in 2022. The contractor is currently working on the underground water main and storm drain on Country Club Lane between Gary Lane and La Brea.

Status: The Golden Circle roundabout was opened in 2022. In late 2023, most of County Club Lane was restriped to reduce the through lanes from 4 lanes to 2 lanes with buffered bike lanes. All legs of the La Brea roundabout were opened early in 2024. The new traffic signal at Gary Lane and Country Club is currently in construction, with signal poles being placed later this year. This large project is nearly complete, but many items remain to be completed.



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### **Oak Creek Development**

#### Project Description

This single-family home development improves Hamilton Lane and Felicita Avenue between Hamilton Lane and Clarence Lane, with a total of 45 homes. Features include a roundabout at Felicita Road and Park Drive, as well as an All-way Stop for Felicita Avenue at Hamilton Lane. Buffered Class 2 bike lanes will be installed along Felicita Avenue.

Status: The subdivision is largely complete. Work is nearing completion for the offsite improvements along Miller Avenue and Felicita Avenue, including the new roundabout at Felicita and Park.

### **Juniper 'Old Escondido' Street Lighting**

#### Project Description

The City will provide street and pedestrian lighting, and upgrade existing street lights to LED fixtures along Juniper Street between 5th Avenue and 9th Avenue in the Old Escondido Neighborhood. An option to complete similar improvements between 2nd Avenue and 5th Avenue will be included in the bid documents to possibly add work to take advantage of good pricing.

Status: The project was bid in early 2024; bids have been approved; construction is anticipated in late 2024, with completion in early 2025.

### **Bear Valley Pkwy Widening Project and Signal at Zlatibor Ranch Road, in conjunction with Sonora Hills subdivision**

#### Project Description

This City project widens the *west side* of Bear Valley Parkway between Sunset/Ranchito and the City limits at Choya Canyon Rd to add one south-bound lane as required to address the currently failing Level of Service. Widening of the *east side* of Bear Valley Parkway to add one north-bound lane and a traffic signal at Zlatibor Ranch Rd (and entrance to the Sonora Hills subdivision) is being completed by the development project, with City contribution, to extend improvements to Sunset/Ranchito, in accordance with the Development Agreement approved for this project. Funds for the City's west side widening are projected during FY24/25-FY27/28.

Status: Construction on the east side is currently underway, as is the traffic signal.



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### Valley Parkway Sidewalk Improvement Project

#### Project Description

This project is along the north side of the East Valley Parkway between Rose Street and Midway Drive. The goal of this project is to enhance the public experience and walkability in the area through incorporation of concrete sidewalk and various landscaping enhancements.

The scope includes removal of the existing asphalt walkway to be replaced with concrete sidewalk; installation of landscaping and placemaking components such as planting shade-providing trees, installing seat walls, and other items to improve the appearance of the neighborhood; provide irrigation for the new landscaping features; and to upgrade the driveways to the businesses.

This project is funded by American Rescue Plan Funds.

Status: Design work on this project is nearly complete. Construction bids are out, construction scheduled to begin in early 2025.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive report update

#### **COUNCIL ACTION**

None

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

none