



## City of Santa Barbara Transportation & Circulation Committee *Staff Report*

**DATE:** September 21, 2017

**TO:** Transportation & Circulation Committee (TCC) Members

**FROM:** Sara Farrell, Mobility Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Cota Street Bike Lane Implementation Update

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee receive a report on the installation of a protected bike lane on Cota Street that is scheduled this fall.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Bicycle Master Plan (BMP), adopted by City Council in July 2016, includes 35 projects for bicycle facilities, including a new dedicated westbound Class II bike lane on Cota Street in place of existing street parking. This new Cota Street facility, stretching from Milpas Street to Chapala Street, was planned to provide a couplet to the existing eastbound Class II bike lane on Haley Street. This project is expected to enhance safety for all users, creating a strong east/west route, and better connect to schools, and future planned bike lanes on the eastside.

On March 23, 2017, the TCC received a report detailing the consideration of a community proposal to convert Cota Street to a one-way street, which would allow for the installation of a Class II facility and preservation of on-street parking. With the information provided in a study of the corridor by Fehr & Peers, staff could not support converting Cota Street to a one-way street due to increased congestion on surrounding streets and concentration of trips through residential streets in a neighborhood where residents note speeding and cut-through traffic.

In August 2017, the City of Santa Barbara was awarded \$2.7 million in Active Transportation Programs. These funds were allocated for the eastside gap closure which include the Cota Street bike lane.

### **PROJECT UPDATE**

The attached concept plans illustrate refined project details. The bike facility is proposed on the north side of Cota Street and the lane would be buffered in sections with vertical delineators to enhance bicyclist safety.

Cota Bike Lane Implementation

September 21, 2017

Page 2

The TCC is receiving this update as removal of parking spaces will be exclusively on the north side of Cota rather than alternating between north and south as originally proposed. As stated in previous TCC updates the removal of parking spaces is required as part of this project to install the Class II bike lane. Short term loading spaces in front of the Santa Barbara Jr High School and key parking and loading spaces near State Street would be retained.

## **ATTACHMENT**

Concept plans for the Cota Street Bike Lane