



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 10/22/2024
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Locations: Teleconference and
City Council Chambers
751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

Regular Session

A. Call To Order

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs (Remote – Brown Act), Doerr, Nash, Taylor, Wolosin
Absent: None
Staff: City Manager Justin Murphy, Assistant City Manager Stephen Stolte, City Attorney Nira Doherty, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Pledge of Allegiance

None.

D. Report from Closed Session

No reportable actions.

E. Public Comment

- Bill Kirsch spoke on concerns related to a lack of street safety measures and in support of speed hump installation on Partridge Avenue.
- Nancy Larocca Hedley spoke in support of speed hump installation on Partridge Avenue.
- Ross Silverstein spoke in support of utilizing the Vision Zero Action Plan as part of re-paving projects to implement safe street measures.

F. Presentations and Proclamations

F1. Proclamation: National Bullying Prevention Month

Mayor Taylor introduced the proclamation (Attachment).

F2. Presentation: Peninsula Clean Energy update

Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) Chief Executive Officer Shawn Marshall made the presentation (Attachment).

G. Consent Calendar

G1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for September 24, 2024

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Wolosin), to accept the City Council meeting minutes for September 24, 2024, passed unanimously.

G2. Waive the second reading and adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 2.56 "Public Safety Information" of the Municipal Code

ACTION: Motion and second (Doerr/ Wolosin), to waive the second reading and adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 2.56 "Public Safety Information" of the Menlo Park Municipal Code updating the City's automated license plate reader regulations, passed 4-1 (Nash dissenting).

H. Study Session

H1. Consider next steps for the Coleman and Ringwood Avenues Transportation Study

Senior Transportation Engineer Kristiann Choy and W-Trans Senior Principal Mark Spencer made the presentation (Attachment).

- Meredith Bergin Bailey spoke in support of Option 3 short-term and additional long-term solutions.
- Shawn Hardin spoke in support of urgency and action for safety measures on Coleman and Ringwood Avenues.
- Josh Orth spoke in support of Option 3 short-term and additional long-term solutions.
- Francesca Segre spoke in support of all short-term and additional long-term solutions.
- Paarth Delal spoke in support of safety measures for Coleman Avenue.
- Shadan Mirabedia and Poppy Larkin spoke in support of safety measures for Coleman Avenue.
- Ross Silverstein spoke in support of safety measures for Coleman Avenue options, one way traffic and protected bike lanes.
- Michael Aaron spoke in support of safety measures for Coleman Avenue, one way traffic, removing parking on one side of street and additional traffic calming measures.
- Vera Winkler spoke in support of safety measures for Coleman Avenue.
- Ayesha Mehta spoke in support of safety measures for Coleman Avenue.
- Kevin Rennie spoke in support of Option 3 short-term and additional long-term solutions and additional options for Ringwood Avenue.
- Jenny Michel spoke in support of safety options of one way traffic, reducing speed limits to 15 mph (miles per hour), concrete bollards, enforcement of parking and no parking on Ringwood Avenue.
- Jacqui Cebrian spoke in support of safety measures on Ringwood Avenue, one way traffic pilot and protected bike lanes.
- Nicole Angiel spoke in support of long-term design alternatives and traffic calming measures along all of Coleman Avenue.
- Felicia McGrew spoke in support of safety measures.
- Ted Sapountzis requested a community survey to understand the needs of the residents.
- Elaine Salinger provided information on the San Mateo County (County) Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) discussion and direction.
- Katie Behroozi spoke in support of safety measures for Coleman and Ringwood Avenues.

- Cassandra Loftus spoke in support of safety measures on Coleman Avenue.
- Bill Grier requested clarification on the duration of a one way traffic pilot and how public input on the project will be documented.
- Sarah spoke in support of safety measures on Coleman Avenue.
- Deanna Schroder spoke in support of safety measures on Coleman Avenue.
- Ken Bozzuto spoke on traffic issues on Coleman Avenue and in opposition of one way traffic.
- Cyrus Behroozi spoke in support of safety measures along Coleman and Ringwood.
- Greg Conlon read an article about collisions in Menlo Park and spoke in support of safety measures.

The City Council received clarification on short-term/pilot and long-term options, tree removals resulting from long-term options, lifespan of rubber speed humps, County BPAC recommendations, feedback received from the Menlo Park Fire Protection District, short-term option timelines and short-term/pilot options for Ringwood Avenue.

The City Council took a recess at 8:06 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 8:16 p.m.

The City Council discussed a one way traffic pilot, removing parking, traffic calming measures on Coleman Avenue, Ringwood Avenue options, County vs. City areas of control, city measures that can be completed without a County pilot, parking removal and resident participation in parking removal option.

The City Council discussed and provided edits to a draft letter to the County and considered including Ringwood Avenue (Attachment).

The City Council received clarification on the pilot length, funding from County, school districts concerns, feedback and requirements, expectations and timelines for implementing safety measures, parking permits on Coleman Avenue, garbage pick-ups, speed limits for cars and bikes, Coleman Arms Apartments allotted parking, safe routes funding opportunities, modeling or photo simulation before implementation, neighborhood traffic management plan for surrounding streets and funding.

The City Council directed staff to:

- Proceed with implementation of a pilot bikeway installation on Coleman Avenue in the City, which would include removal of parking on one side; and
- Proceed with implementing traffic calming measures in the City, as quickly as possible; and
- Proceed with implementing an all-way stop sign at Coleman Avenue and Santa Monica Avenue; and
- Authorize the Mayor to approve and sign a letter to San Mateo County advocating for implementation of a one-way pilot on Coleman Avenue between the City/County border and Ringwood Avenue in order to provide space for people walking and biking; and
- Return to City Council to accept the Coleman-Ringwood Avenues Transportation Study final report.

I. Regular Business

- I1. Consider and adopt a resolution to amend the salary schedule effective Dec. 1, 2024

Administrative Services Director Brittany Mello introduced the item.

The City Council discussed living wages for teachers and city staff.

ACTION: Motion and second (Wolosin/ Doerr), to adopt a resolution to amend the City of Menlo Park salary schedule effective Dec. 1, passed 4-1 (Taylor dissenting).

J. Informational Items

J1. City Council agenda topics: November 2024

J2. Communitywide electrification program: Home Upgrade Services progress report

- Pam Jones requested clarification on Habitat for Humanity and Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) programs application process and questions.

The City Council discussed age qualifications and concerns on application required documentation for legacy residents and including equity included in the Climate Action Plan.

K. City Manager Report

City Manager Justin Murphy reported out on Halloween Hoopla, Pumpkin Splash at the City pools and the Trunk or Treat events.

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren reported on current recruitment for the East Palo Sanitary District Advisory Committee.

L. City Councilmember Reports

None.

M. Adjournment

Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting at 10:08 p.m.

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting November 12, 2024.

Proclamation

National Bullying Prevention Month

WHEREAS, People of all races, religions, gender identities, sexual orientations, ages, abilities and cultures should feel safe and welcome in Menlo Park; and

WHEREAS, bullying or peer abuse is physical, verbal, sexual, or emotional harm or intimidation intentionally directed at a person or group of people; and

WHEREAS, bullying is also shunning, alienation and social exclusion or the act or rejecting someone from sports or interpersonal interactions; and

WHEREAS, bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, schools, places of business, and through technology, such as the Internet and cell phones; and

WHEREAS, various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of Americans annually; and

WHEREAS, targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems and people who are repeatedly bullied often fear such activities as riding the bus, going to school or work, and attending community activities; and

WHEREAS, people who bully are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors and people who witness bullying often feel less secure, more fearful, and intimidated; and

WHEREAS, Menlo Park schools, students, parents, recreation programs, religious institutions, and community organizations are encouraged to engage in a variety of awareness and prevention activities designed to make our communities safer for all people; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Cecilia Taylor, Mayor of the City of Menlo Park, do hereby proclaim October as National Bullying Prevention month and urge all residents and City staff to acknowledge the serious issue of bullying, educate themselves on the impacts of bullying in our community and to strive to eliminate bullying in all its forms in our community; and



Cecilia Taylor, Mayor
October 22, 2024





Menlo Park Council Briefing

October 22, 2024
Shawn Marshall
Chief Executive Officer





Putting our Customers First



How it works



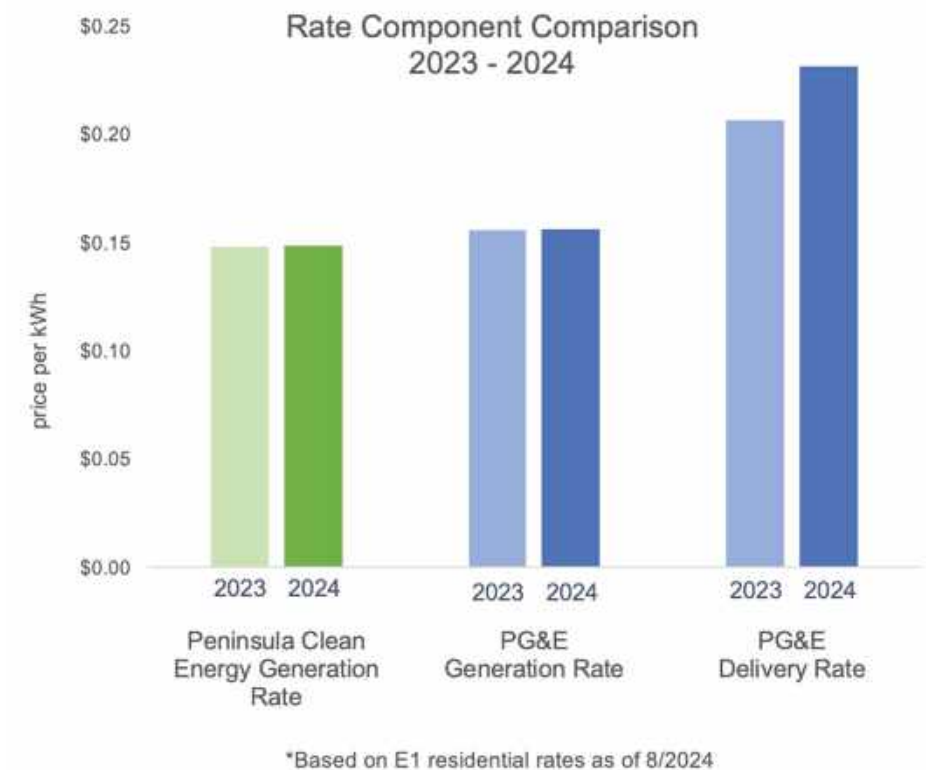
Peninsula Clean Energy provides electricity from clean energy sources at lower rates than PG&E.

PG&E owns the power lines and delivers the power we generate. They send a consolidated bill.

As a **customer** of Peninsula Clean Energy, you are helping the environment and saving money.

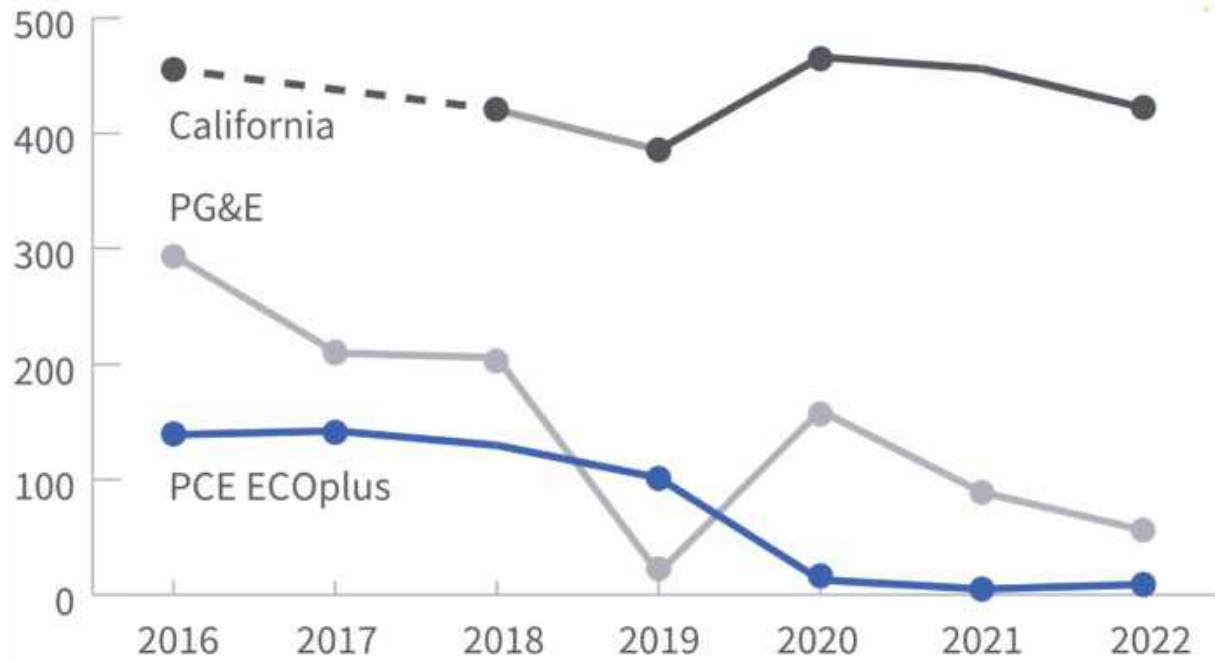
Supporting energy affordability

- ✓ Our customers have saved \$163M on electricity since 2016
- ✓ This year, the Board amended PCE's **rate design** to reflect cost of service with goal of **ongoing affordability** for our customers
- ✓ Board approved \$68M community reinvestment package
- ✓ Awarded \$530K to 16 nonprofits for public education on bill discounts & energy programs



Committed to decarbonizing our supply

Emissions factor: (lbs CO₂e/MWh)



Supporting home electrification

- **PCE's 0% loan** provides \$10k towards home electrification
 - Easy application and monthly repayment on utility bill
 - Over 600 loans issued since 2023
- **Customer rebates:** 3000+ appliances installed since 2021 (5x increase!)
- **One-stop-shop** electrification concierge services upcoming



*Robert and Teri Whitehair
2023 All-Electric Leaders*

Accelerating the transition to electric transportation

- Over 1,000 **electric vehicle (EV) chargers** installed in our service territory since 2021; 4,500 more in pipeline
- 650 customer rebates issued for **used EVs** since 2021
- Over 1,000 **e-bike rebates** since 2021



*Margarita Mendez
Program participant*



Partnering with our member agencies

- County-wide **Climate Action Plan** funding
- **GovEV:** EV fleet support to meet CARB clean fleet standards + EV charging infrastructure
- **GovPV:**
 - Round 1: 12 projects
 - Rounds 2-3: 30-40 projects with 6MWh battery
- **GovBE:** Local Govt Electrification Program
- **New This Year - Member Agency Energy Grants**



Menlo Park Highlights

- 15,898 active PCE accounts; 98% participation rate
- \$12.5M saved by Menlo Park customers since 2016
- Councilmembers Betsy Nash and Maria Doerr represent Menlo Park on the PCE Board of Directors

School and Community Partnerships

- 6 Youth Climate Ambassadors from Menlo Park
- Support of Menlo Park City School District with decarbonization of facilities
- Sponsorship of Love Our Earth Festival, Menlo Park Juneteenth Celebration, and Clean Air Day at TIDE Academy



*Love Our Earth Festival at
Menlo Atherton High School*

Going Electric in Menlo Park

- 354 electric appliance rebates
- 44 e-bike rebates and 35 used EV rebates
- 114 EV chargers installed with 236 in pipeline
- Partnership to electrify homes in Belle Haven

City of Menlo Park Partnership

- \$786K available through member agency grants
- Electric municipal fleet vehicles and solar PV system under development at City facilities
- Electrification of Belle Haven Child Development Center through GovBE incentives

Learn more: PenCleanEnergy.com/community/menlo-park



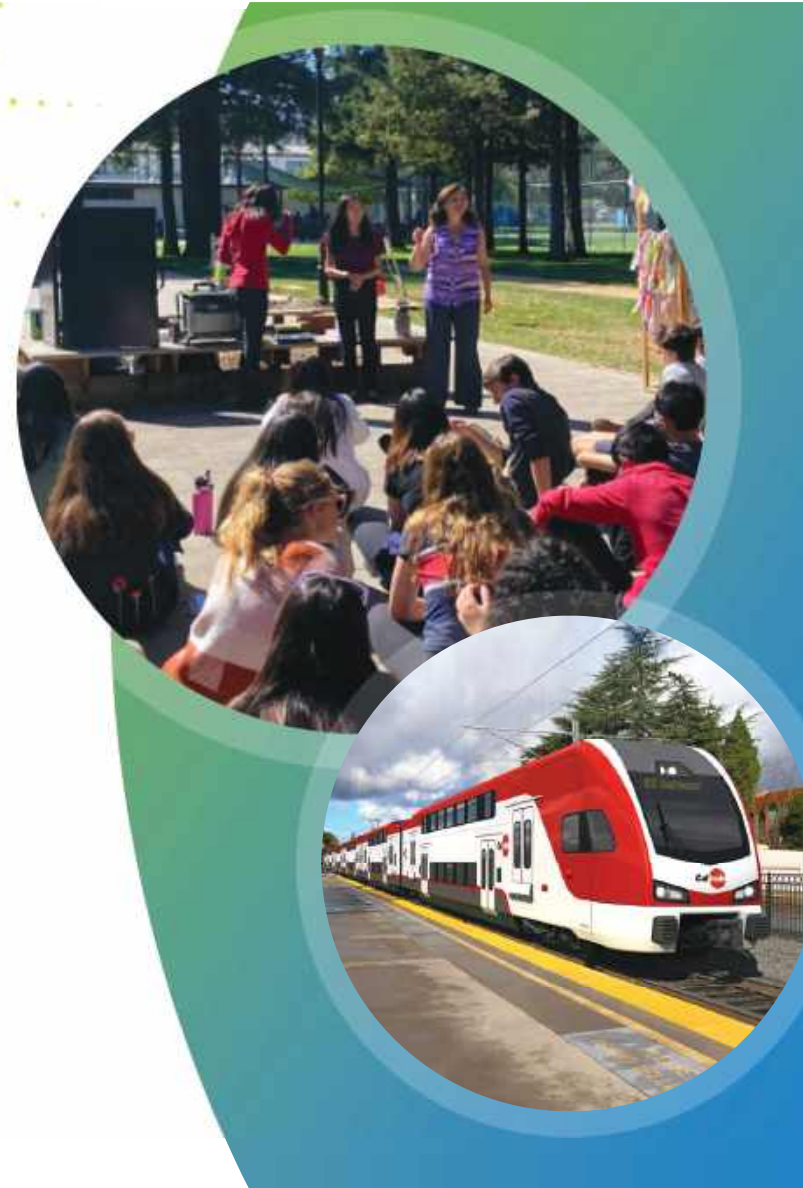
*Belle Haven Child Development
Center*

New developments in 2024



New developments in 2024

- Enhanced programs and services to make electrification easier and more affordable
- Incremental approach to 100% renewable energy by 2030 in order to keep customer rates low
- Service to San Mateo County Community College District began in July 2024
- Service to Caltrain in September
- Currently updating our Strategic Plan
- Upcoming: In house customer care center and electrification concierge services
- Customer-centric approach to everything we do!



From our team to yours: Thank you!





COLEMAN AND RINGWOOD AVENUES TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Senior Transportation Engineer Kristiann Choy





AGENDA

- Study overview
- Long-term alternatives
- Short-term options
- Stakeholder feedback
- Cost estimates
- City Council direction

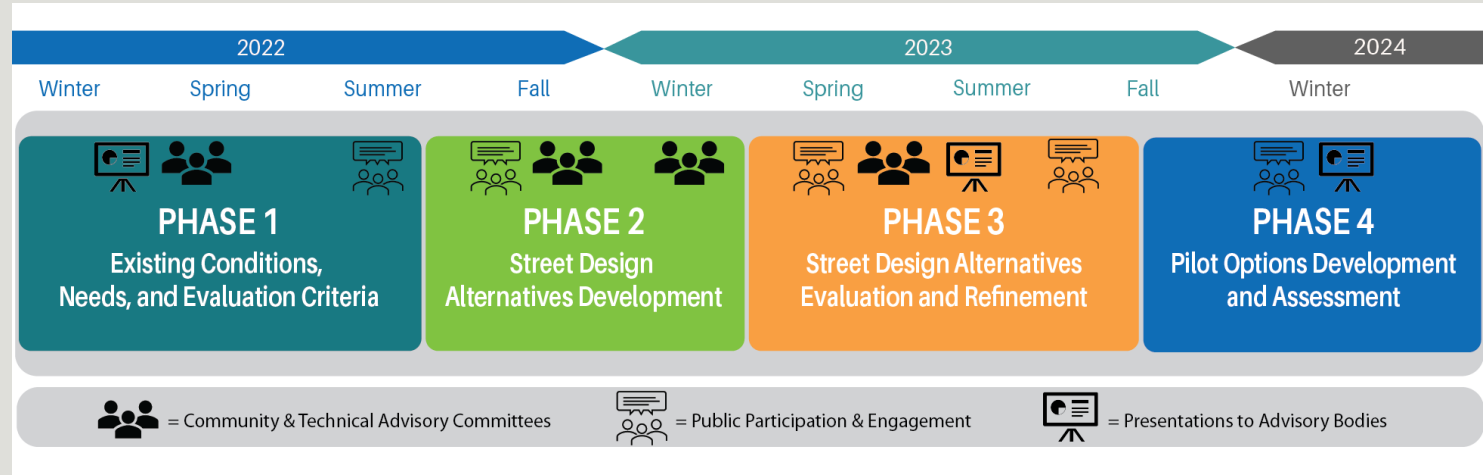
STUDY AREA



Study goal
Develop a community preferred plan for both corridors to improve mobility for active modes of transportation and improve safety for all roadway users.



STUDY OVERVIEW



Key Concerns

- Lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Speeding
- Illegal parking and lack of crossing opportunities

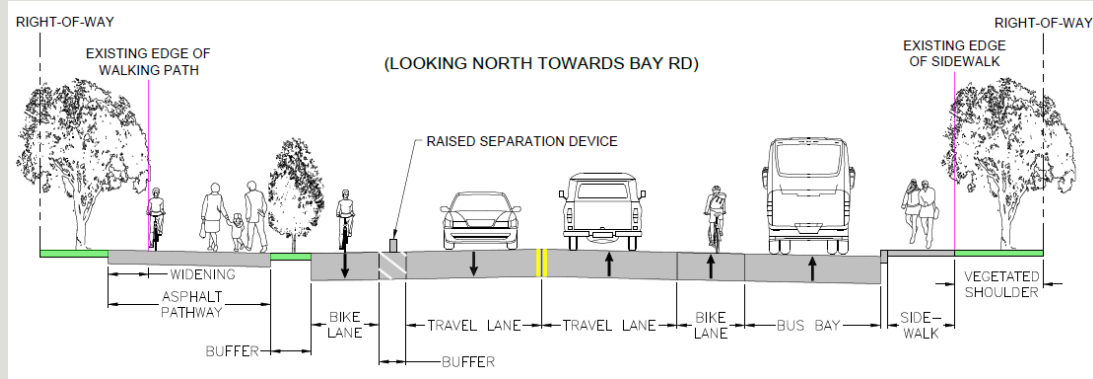
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

<p>PHASE 1 Input on Existing Conditions, Needs, Values, and Evaluation Criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAC Meeting #1 • 5 Pop-up Events • 2 Pop-in Events • 2 Walking Tours • Community Survey #1 	
<p>PHASE 2 Feedback on Initial Draft Alternatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAC Meetings #2 and #3 • Interactive Community Workshop • Community Survey #2 	
<p>PHASE 3 Feedback on Preferred Alternatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAC Meeting #4 • Pop-up Demonstration Event • Community Open House 	
<p>PHASE 4 Feedback on Potential Pilot Options for Coleman Avenue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Webinar • Community Survey #3 	

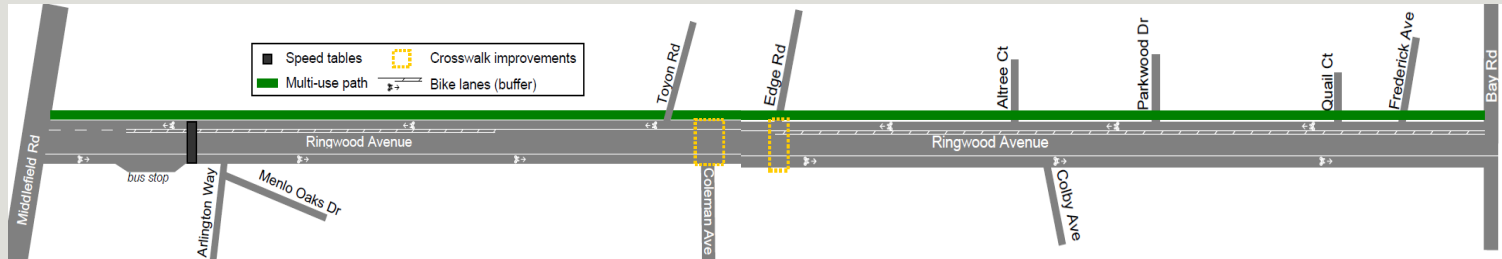
The background of the slide is a photograph of a white stone tower with a tiled roof. The tower has several arched openings. The roof is made of dark, curved tiles. The tower is set against a clear blue sky. There are green trees visible in the background behind the tower. A teal horizontal bar is overlaid on the middle of the image, containing the text "LONG-TERM ALTERNATIVES".

LONG-TERM ALTERNATIVES

RINGWOOD AVENUE LONG-TERM DESIGN ALTERNATIVE

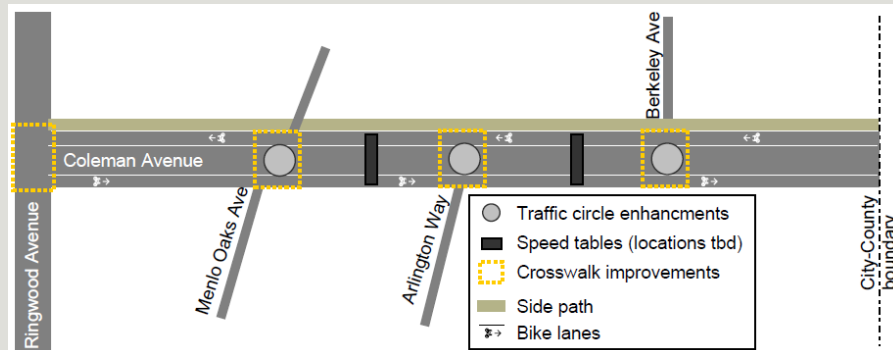
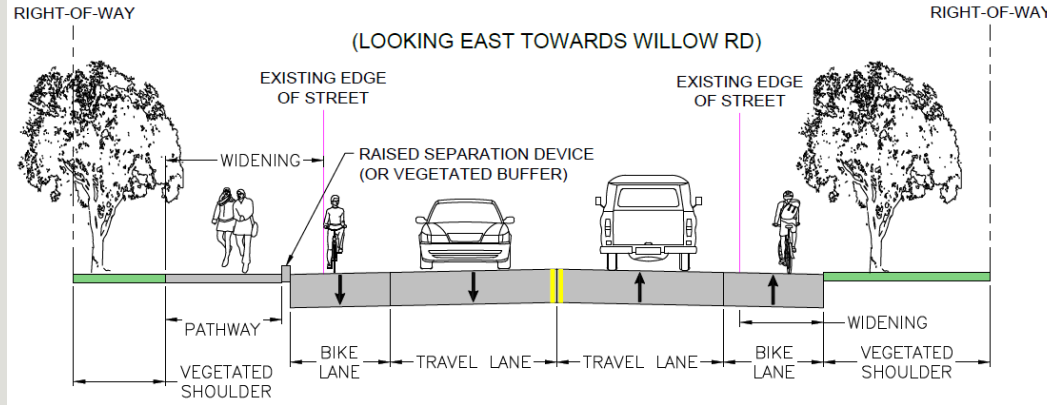


Bike lanes
(protected
near
schools)
with off-
street
pathway





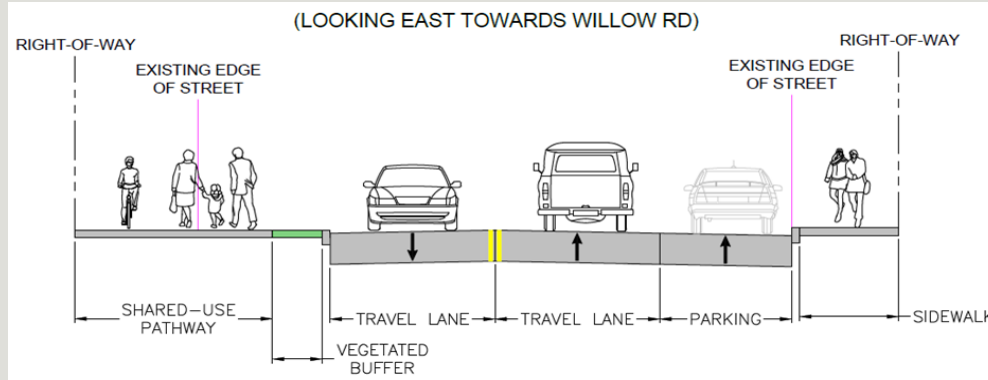
COLEMAN AVENUE (MENLO OAKS) LONG-TERM DESIGN ALTERNATIVE



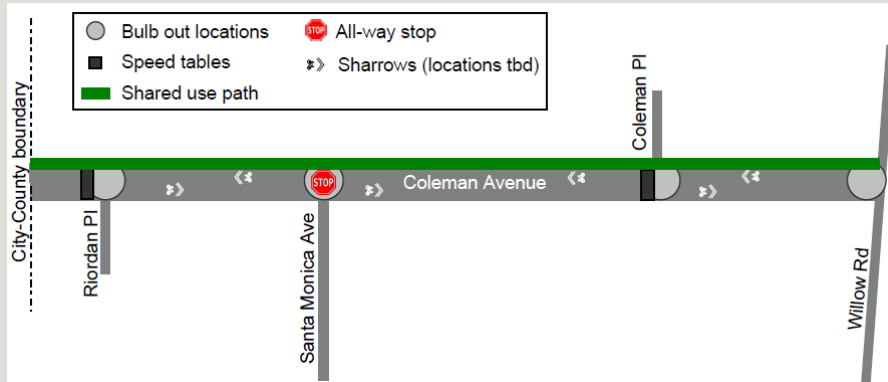
Bike lanes
with off-
street
pathway



COLEMAN AVENUE (CITY) LONG-TERM DESIGN ALTERNATIVE



Bike boulevard with shared use pathway and parking on one side



The background of the slide is a photograph of a white stone tower with several arches. The tower has a tiled roof with dark tiles. The scene is set against a clear blue sky with some green trees visible in the background. A teal-colored horizontal bar is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text "SHORT-TERM OPTIONS".

SHORT-TERM OPTIONS



SUMMARY OF PILOT OPTIONS FOR COLEMAN AVENUE

Jurisdiction	Extents	Option
San Mateo County	Ringwood Ave. to City border (approx. Riordan Place)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Turn restrictions2. Through traffic restriction (road closure)3. One-way (toward Ringwood Ave.)4. Traffic calming
City of Menlo Park	City border (approx. Riordan Place) to Willow Rd.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Bike lane westbound, shared lane eastbound6. Narrow bike lanes both directions



TURN RESTRICTION

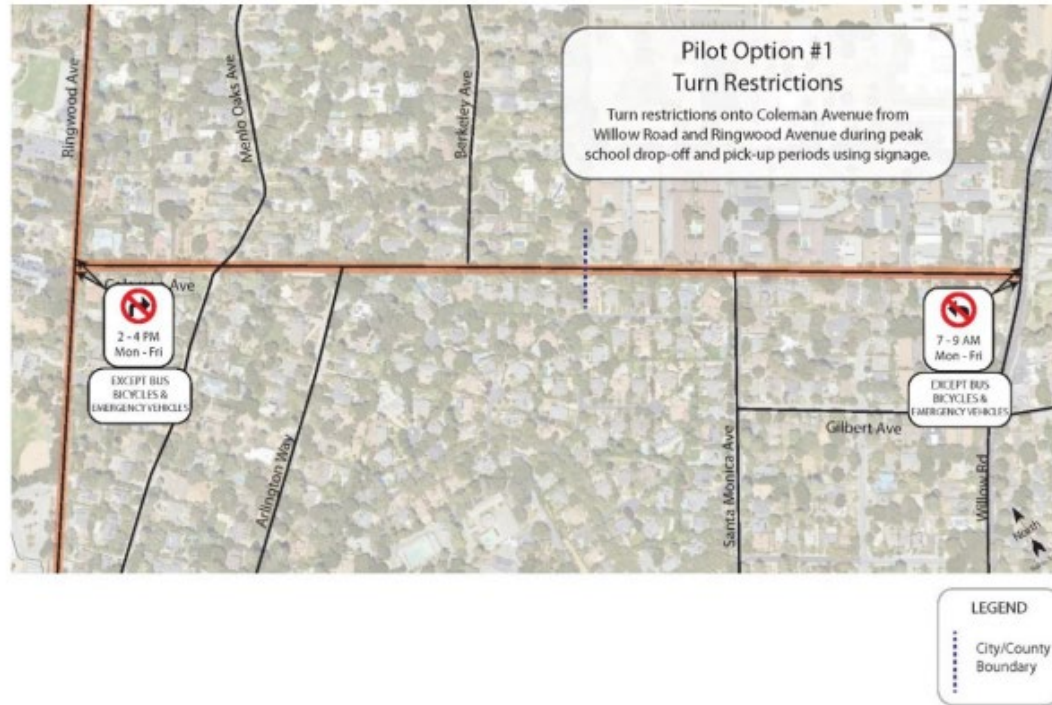


Plate 11 Pilot Option 1 – Turn Restrictions

THROUGH TRAFFIC RESTRICTION



Plate 12 Pilot Option 2 - Through Traffic Restriction (Road Closure)

ONE WAY

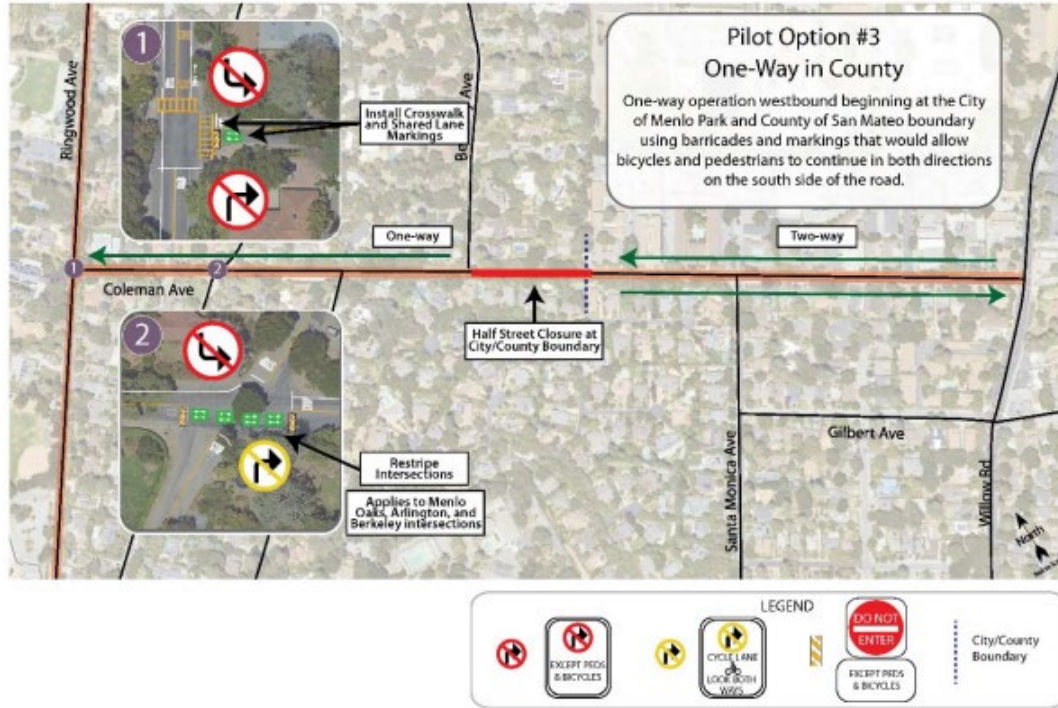


Plate 13 Pilot Option 3 – One-way Circulation in County

TRAFFIC CALMING



Plate 14 Pilot Option 4 – Traffic Calming

BIKE LANE WESTBOUND

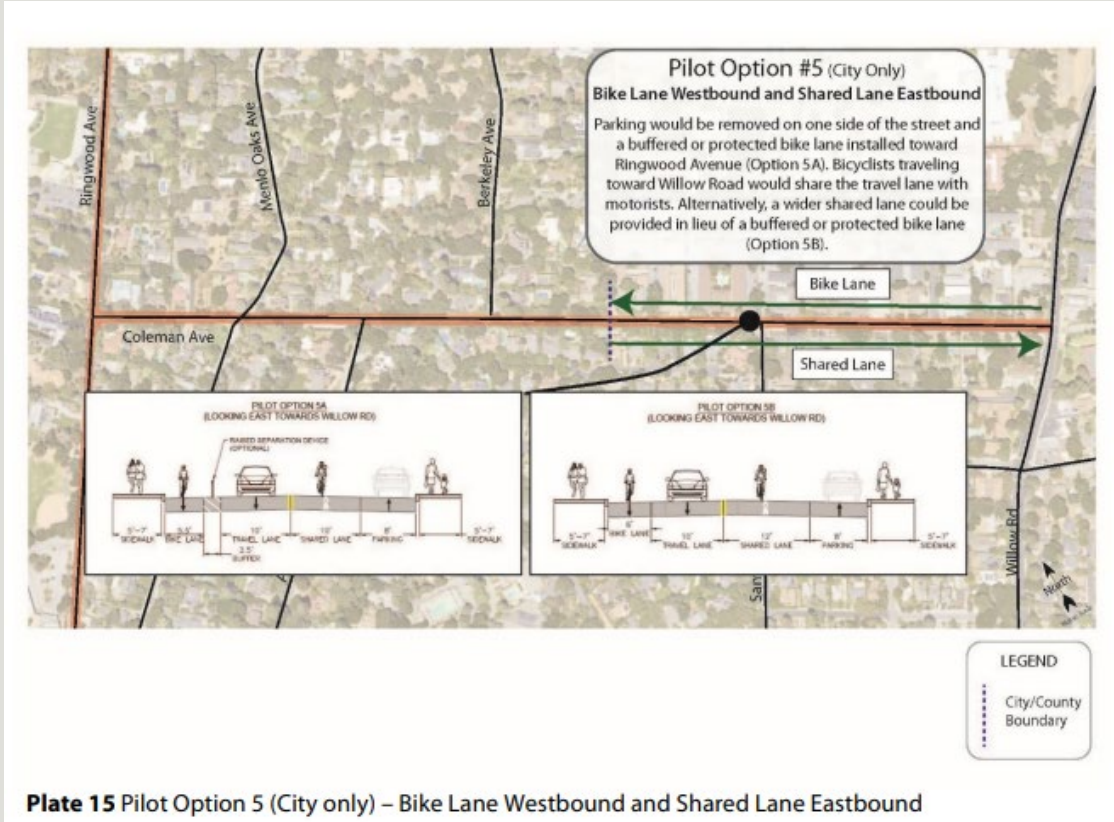
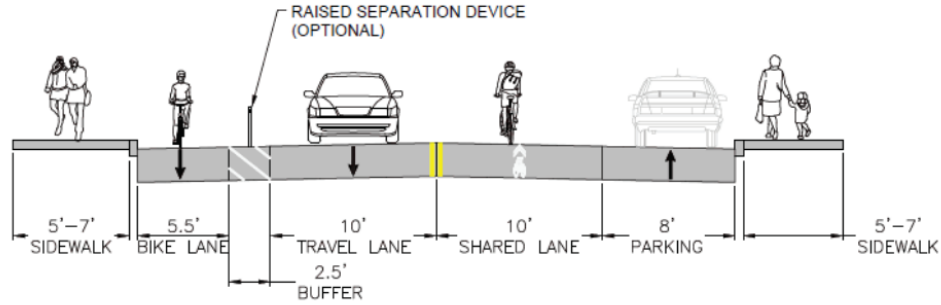


Plate 15 Pilot Option 5 (City only) – Bike Lane Westbound and Shared Lane Eastbound

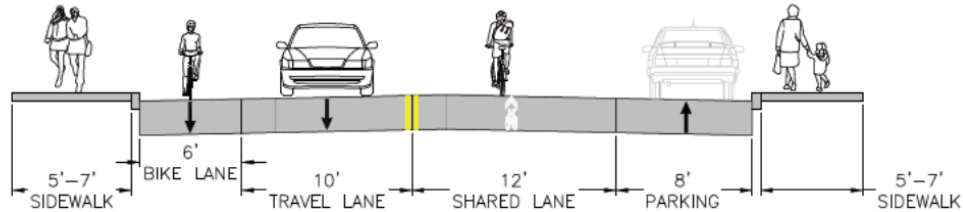
BIKE LANE WESTBOUND CROSS-SECTIONS



PILOT OPTION 5A
(LOOKING EAST TOWARDS WILLOW RD)



PILOT OPTION 5B
(LOOKING EAST TOWARDS WILLOW RD)



NARROW BIKE LANES

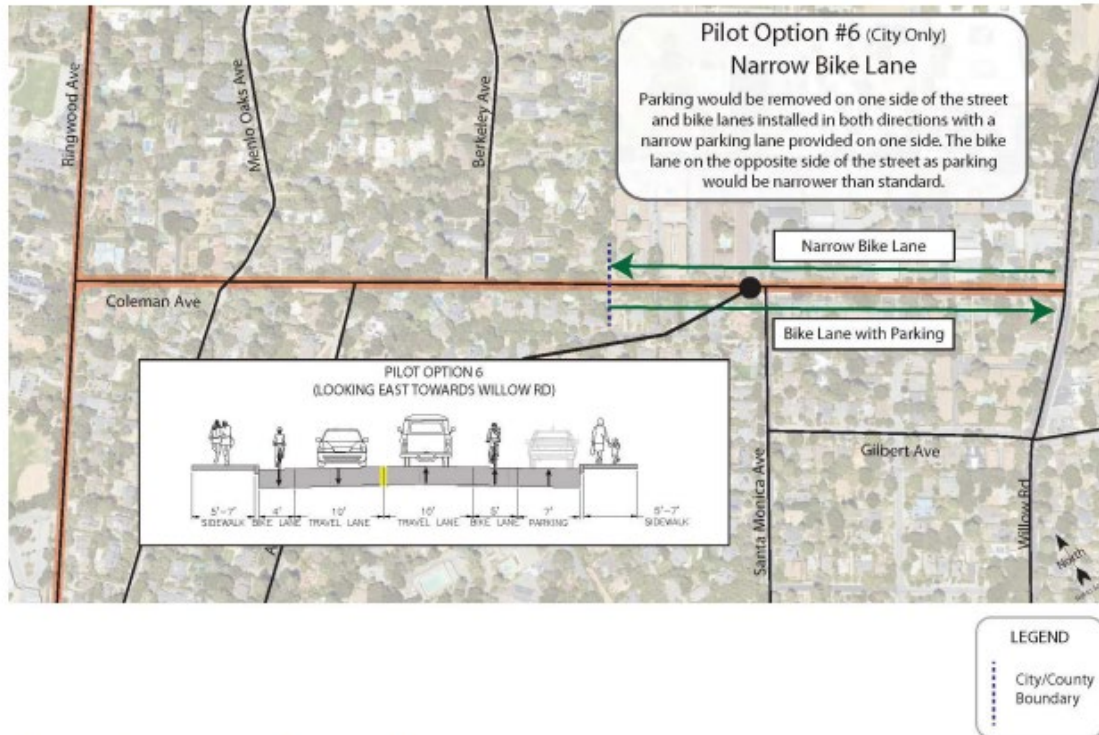
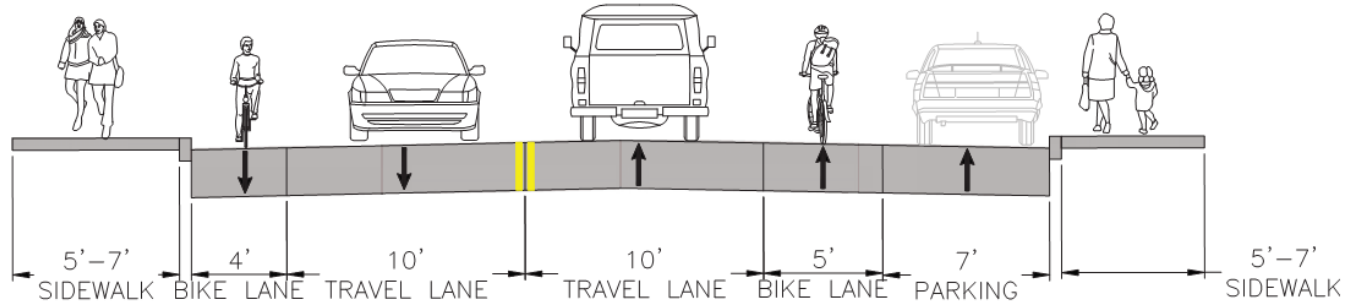


Plate 16 Pilot Option 6 (City only) – Narrow Bike Lanes



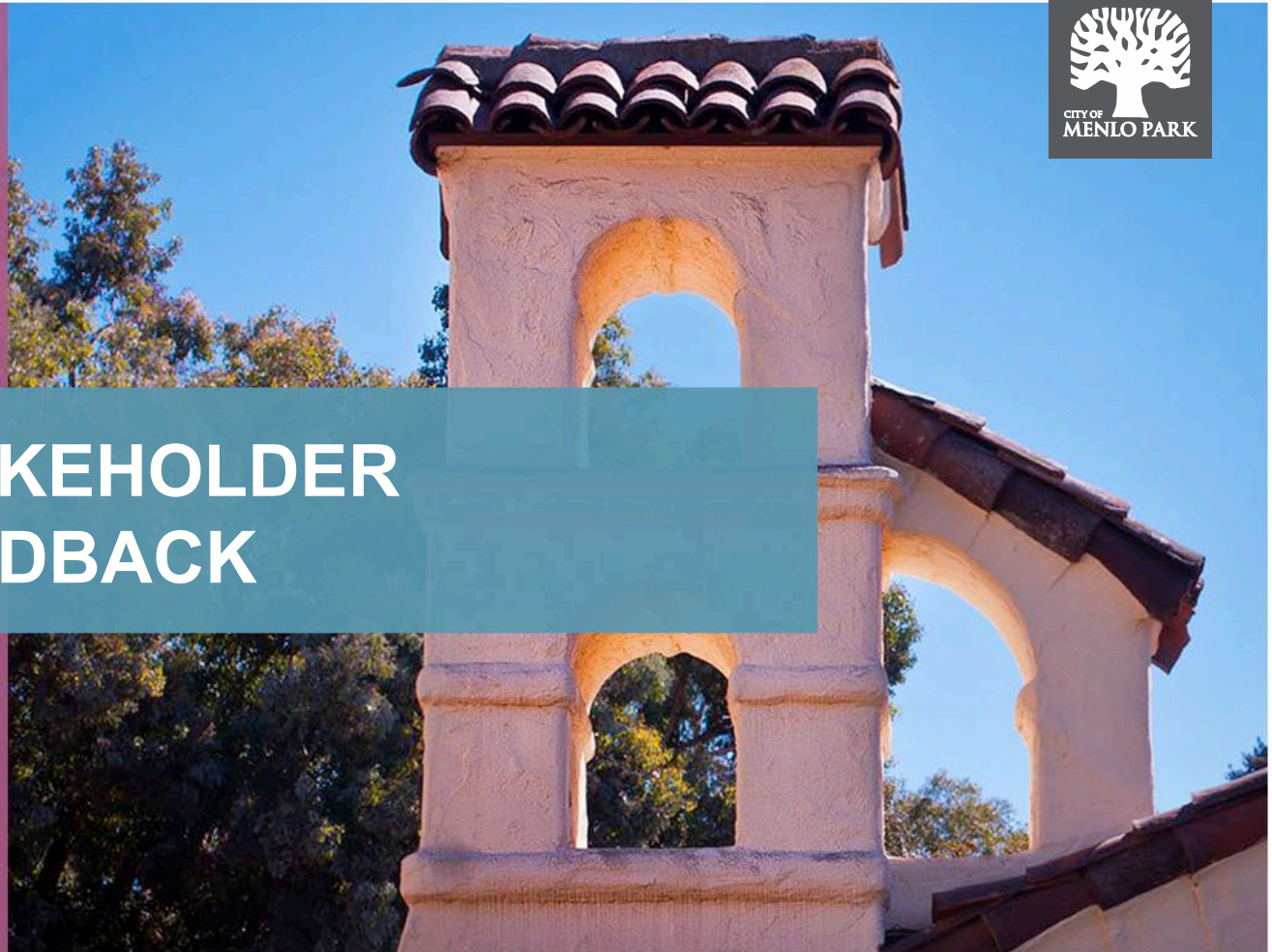
NARROW BIKE LANES CROSS-SECTION

PILOT OPTION 6
(LOOKING EAST TOWARDS WILLOW RD)





STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK





COMPLETE STREETS COMMISSION FEEDBACK

- Feb. 14 meeting
- Ringwood Avenue
 - Evaluate left turn restriction from Ringwood Avenue to Menlo Atherton High School
 - Improve drainage
 - Increase enforcement
- Coleman Avenue
 - Add all way stop at Santa Monica
 - Explore other traffic calming measures to supplement pilot
 - Explore parking removal options for bike lane during a pilot



COUNTY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Sept. 17 meeting
 - Heard comments from community members about the project
 - Majority of comments supported one-way pilot option
 - No action taken
- Oct. 17 meeting
 - Discussed draft letter to board of supervisors
 - Approved letter supporting quick build efforts on Coleman Avenue



ONE-WAY PILOT SUPPORT

- Community led petition supporting one-way pilot shared in Spring
- Sept. 25 Letter from School District representatives supporting one-way pilot option



PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATES

Street	Description	Cost estimate
Coleman	Short-term - pilot options	\$60,000 - \$200,000
Coleman	Long-term - County	\$3,700,000
Coleman	Long-term - City	\$3,900,000
Ringwood	Long-term - separated bike path on north side (City and County)	\$8,000,000



PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATES PILOT OPTIONS

Description	Cost estimate - City
Turn restrictions	\$41,000
No thru traffic restriction	\$50,500
One way pilot – county section	\$41,000
Traffic calming only	\$62,500
City section – bike lane, shared lane	\$137,000
City section – narrow bike lanes	\$117,000



REQUESTED DIRECTION FROM CITY COUNCIL

Potential future actions	Considerations
1. Accept the final report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would conclude this phase of the project as any pilot option or the long-term alternative would need additional design and budget.
2. Express support for the one-way pilot within the County section	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Received the most support and can be installed in a shorter time frame.• Would use temporary materials so it can be easily removed if not successful
3. Remove parking on one side to facilitate bicycle improvements within City section	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would allow for installation of narrow bike lanes or bike lane in one direction and sharrows in the other direction.
4. Install traffic calming measures within City section	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• These would primarily be adding speed tables
5. Install stop sign at Santa Monica Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does not meet stop sign warrants and would impede the through bicycle movement.• Provides clear right of way designation for those crossing Coleman to access bus stops.
6. Pursue long-term option	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expensive and would not be installed quickly.• Would need to look at funding sources such as grants to implement



THANK YOU

DRAFT

Dear President Slocum, Vice President Canepa, Supervisor Corzo, Supervisor Mueller, Supervisor Pine and Other Interested Parties,

The City of Menlo Park greatly appreciates our long-standing partnership with the County of San Mateo. We believe that our mutual constituents and our many shared stakeholders benefit when we work together to solve long-standing challenges in our community. This is especially true as it relates to the safety of our children on streets that have multijurisdictional complexities. To that end, we are truly grateful to have had our two public agencies work so well together over the last two years in the joint Coleman and Ringwood Avenues Transportation Study.

It is the position of the Menlo Park City Council that it is time to move from studying the ongoing problems on Coleman Avenue to taking action on a potential solution. The City of Menlo Park is looking to make a variety of street improvements on the City portion of the street, including the **removal of** parking on one side of the street to facilitate bicycle improvements, installing traffic calming measures and installing a new stop sign at Santa Monica Avenue. We feel that it is time for the County to also move forward on its segment. This letter is to convey our support for the one-way pilot within the County section of Coleman Avenue.

The one-way pilot is a relatively low-cost opportunity to make space on Coleman for all modes of travel. The pilot leaves in place vehicular traffic flow from Willow Road to Ringwood Avenue, minimizing impacts to drivers for morning drop offs at Menlo-Atherton High School and Lower Laurel Elementary. While many who participated in the study favored widening Coleman Avenue and/or completely blocking off Coleman at the County line, many others found both of those too impactful for trees and/or vehicular flow. The one-way pilot has emerged as the compromise option that most are willing to try. If the pilot ends up being unsuccessful, the use of temporary materials will enable it to be easily removed if necessary.

We would like to acknowledge a request that President Slocum and Supervisor Mueller made at a meeting with Vice Mayor Combs and Councilmember Wolosin, as well as County and City staff. At this meeting, the supervisors requested that resolutions be requested from the Menlo Park City School District Board and the Sequoia Union High School District Board. In the place of these resolutions, the superintendents and principals of these school districts submitted letters of support for the one-way pilot. It is our understanding that at least MPCSD does not have a practice of taking positions on street design. We also feel that there have been many noticed public meetings that have discussed the one-way option and that the public has had ample opportunity to have their thoughts heard. Your agendizing of this topic will be yet another chance for people to share their opinions. Please do not make school district resolutions a prerequisite for agendizing this topic.

We urge the Board of Supervisors to move this project forward as soon as possible to the next phase of development. Let's be the ones to make this happen.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,