WHAT'S BEING PLANNED

The City of Benicia proposes to construct a bicycle/pedestrian bridge (proposed project) over Interstate 780 (I-780) adjacent to the State Park Road overpass. The proposed project includes a bike path entrance to the Benicia State Recreation Area (BSRA) and modifies and expands the existing street that currently provides access to the BSRA. The purpose of the project is to improve safety and access for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling between the BSRA and residential areas adjacent to I-780 and north of the BSRA.
The proposed project is needed to improve safety and access for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling between the BSRA and residential areas adjacent to I-780 north of the BSRA. The proposed project will modify and expand the existing street that currently provides access to the BSRA. The majority of the project will not be constructed on BSRA lands except for approximately 60 feet which will tie into the Benicia Park entry road. Construction staging will occur within a Caltrans easement, and park closure will not be required.

WHY THIS AD

The proposed project is an action that is subject to the U. S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 U.S.C. 303 and 23 U.S.C. 138, [PL 110-17], [PL 97-449], [PL 86-670]). Section 4(f) of this legislation attempts to protect publicly owned public parklands, recreation areas, waterfowl and wildlife refuges, and significant historic sites from impacts—the “use” of these resources—by U. S. Department of Transportation actions. After an evaluation of the impacts of an action upon Section 4(f) resources, a finding must be made. The responsibility for Section 4(f) findings has been assigned by the U. S. Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Act of 2005. Section 6009 of SAFETEA-LU allows determinations that certain uses of 4(f) land will have no adverse effect—de minimis—on the protected resource. Section 6009(a) requires that a public notice and opportunity for review and comment be provided for projects that are determined to have de minimis impact.

WHAT’S AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

Copies of the de minimis 4(f) finding, and a letter of concurrence from the California Department of Parks and Recreation that the proposed project will have no impact on the BSRA for this project are available for review at the following locations and websites:

http://ci.benicia.ca.us/

www.dot.ca.gov/dist4.envdocs.htm

Caltrans District 4
Office of Environmental Analysis
111 Grand Avenue
Oakland, CA 94623
(510) 286-5623
WHERE YOU COME IN

Comments on this proposed finding should be mailed to:

Melanie Brent, Office Chief
Office of Environmental Analysis
Caltrans, District 4
P. O. Box 23660, MS-8B
Oakland CA 94623-0660

or e-mailed to: melanie_brent@dot.ca.gov

Public comments will be accepted up to 30 days from the date of this public notice. Responses or replies to the public comments may not be required, depending on the substantive nature of the comments; however, all comments and responses will be documented in the administrative record for the proposed project.

CONTACT

For more information about the project, please contact Joseph Douglas at 510.622.8799.