

## Community-Based Transportation Planning Grants

### Improving Safety and Mobility Along State Route 70/20 in the City of Marysville

- **Grant Amount:** \$79,000
- **Grant Recipient:** City of Marysville/Local Government Commission
- **County:** Yuba

**Project Area** – State Routes 70 and 20 travel through the heart of Marysville and serve as major streets in the downtown area. SR 70 travels north/south through the City, forming the western and northern edges of the historic downtown. SR 20 travels east/west, intersecting SR 70 along the northern board of the downtown near Ellis Lake.

**Project Focus** –Each day, thousands of cars and large trucks use these highways as their primary route through Marysville. The speed and volume of this traffic create an uncomfortable streetscape environment that severely restricts access for pedestrians and bicyclists between the historic downtown, Ellis Lake Park, and other neighborhoods throughout the City. In addition, these highway corridors are unattractive with no landscaping, many broken and uplifted sidewalks, and inadequate ADA accessibility.

**Project Goals** – This project will develop a plan to improve the connections across SR 70/20. The plan will provide details on how the State Highways can better serve the community both as a corridor for high volume vehicle traffic flow and for improving access for pedestrians, the handicapped, and bicyclists. In addition,

the plan will incorporate design details to enhance the appearance of the highways to make Marysville an attractive destination to visitors and area residents.

**Community Outreach** – A multi-day design effort, or *charrette*, was conducted from May 30 to June 6, 2007. Staff, community leaders, and residents participated in a series of events designed to identify concerns, priorities, and potential solutions. The events began with a series of focus group meetings. Groups included City, SACOG, and Caltrans staff, emergency services providers, community leaders, schools, and downtown business people. The facilitator encouraged each group to share their knowledge, concerns, and ideas about the study area.

**Project Outcome**– The project's purpose was to prepare recommendations to improve pedestrian connections and walkability across and along State Route 70 and State Route 20 (SR70/20). The final product is a vision plan and detailed recommendations to help Marysville achieve its Smart Growth goals, including improved walking, bicycling, and transit facilities.

#### **Planning Goals Realized** -

- Foster neighborhoods and project designs that enable more walking and biking
- Reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality