



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: December 14, 2020

PHONE: (831) 646-3921

CONTACT: Andrea Renny, City Traffic Engineer

E-MAIL: traffic@monterey.org

CITY OF MONTEREY'S NORTH FREMONT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WINS 2020 CALTRANS EXCELLENCE IN TRANSPORTATION AWARD

Monterey, CA. – California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) congratulated the City of Monterey Public Works Department on winning the 2020 Caltrans Excellence in Transportation award in the Transportation-Related Facilities category for the North Fremont Bicycle and Pedestrian Access and Safety Improvement Project.

Caltrans received entries from across the state, including entries from local and public agencies, private contractors, consultants and Caltrans. A panel of judges consisting of various professionals, including engineers, environmental specialists and transportation planners reviewed the projects.

The award announcement stated, "Caltrans is pleased to highlight the projects that meet California's growing transportation needs by providing a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability."

"The comprehensive infrastructure and safety improvements we were able to achieve with the bicycle lane grant funds were enormous," said City Manager Hans Uslar. "This award-winning project allowed us to complete a major segment of a regional multi-modal transportation network that benefits our residents, enhances safety, revitalizes business opportunities, manages growth, and sustains our precious environment. While a lot of attention has been given to the innovative bike lanes, the project's impact on the streetscape, ADA accessibility improvements, signal upgrades and traffic flow cannot be underestimated. Very soon, residents will see new developments along this corridor spurred by this project."

Kelly Violini, CEO of the Monterey County Fair and Event Center and President of the North Fremont Business District of Monterey, said, "This award-winning project was the first step in transforming the North Fremont Business District into a vibrant, revitalized area. We are proud to be a part of a 'first in California' project that will benefit a broader regional

(more)

transportation network, and excited about the future of the North Fremont Business District!"

The North Fremont Bike and Pedestrian Access and Safety Improvements Project transformed North Fremont Street in the City of Monterey into a true multi-modal corridor, providing safe access to bicyclists and pedestrians on a vital link between residential, commercial, educational, and community facilities. The project promotes the active transportation component of the North Fremont Specific Plan, the goal of which is to improve mobility and revitalize business activity along the corridor. The project was supported by many stakeholders in the community, including the North Fremont Business Association.

This grant-funded \$9.4 million project is the first major transportation project to occur along North Fremont Street in over 50 years and includes the first signalized Class IV median bike lane in the state of California. The design included extensive stormwater improvements, traffic signal improvements and upgrades, ADA curb ramps, shorter crosswalks through curb extensions, and Class IV bicycle lanes from Casa Verde Way to Casanova Avenue.



Infographic front and back -

<https://monterey.org/Portals/0/MajorProjects/NorFremontBikPed/New-NFremont-Infographic-Jan-2020-FINAL.pdf> - A full list of winning projects is available online at <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/public-affairs/eitawards/winners>

This project has won other numerous regional and national awards since it's completion in the fall of 2019, including an Institute of Transportation Engineers 2020 Best Project Award for the category of Pedestrian and Bicycle Project. This national award by transportation professionals seeks to recognize projects that apply innovative techniques related to pedestrian and bicycle activities and contribute to the transportation industry. For a full list of all awards related to this project and to learn more visit monterey.org/nfremontbikeped

###