

Alameda del Prado Class II Lanes

Project Number: 1600



PROJECT COMPLETED JULY, 2010



LOCATION

Alameda del Prado (Route 5) between Alameda de la Loma and Ignacio Boulevard (Novato)

COST

\$1,267,358 (plus an additional \$1,680,000 for the undergrounding of the utilities)

FUNDING SOURCES

NTPP \$828,858 / Bicycle Facilities Grant \$42,000 / \$396,000 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). (Utility undergrounding funded \$1,500,000 from Rule 20A funds and #180,000 from CSA#1)

COMPLETION DATE

July, 2010

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project constructed new Class II bike lanes on the unincorporated section of Alameda del Prado between Alameda de la Loma and Posada del Sol. The original, overly wide and meandering median was narrowed to a consistent width which allowed for one travel lane, a five foot bicycle lane, and a parking lane in each direction without widening the overall dimensions of the street. Curb ramps and other accessibility improvements to the sidewalks were included in the project. This project connects the existing Class II lanes on the City of Novato segments of Alameda del Prado to the north and south of the project area, closing a key gap in the North/South Bikeway. Overhead utility wires and poles were also removed and placed underground prior to bike lane construction and new street lighting was installed.

Between large vehicles and on-street parking, it was a tight squeeze on this key north-south route. The southbound direction also functions as a reliever route when the freeway is congested, which increased demand for the narrow roadway.



Narrowing the over 30-foot wide median now provides space for bike lanes while retaining parking and a landscaped median strip.

For questions, please contact Pat Echols, Marin County Department of Public Works, pechols@marincounty.org or 415-473-7026

POINTS OF INTEREST

This segment is a key link in the North-South Bikeway, connecting Novato with points south. In addition to being a regional connection, this segment serves the Loma Verde neighborhood with connections to Indian Valley College and Bel Marin Keys.

STATUS

Construction Complete

ABOUT WALKBIKEMARIN

WalkBikeMarin is an initiative by the County of Marin to help make Marin more healthy, livable, and environmentally sustainable by encouraging walking and bicycling as everyday transportation. This initiative was catalyzed by a recent \$25 million federal grant to fund the Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program (NTPP).



The varying median width created openings in some spots for vehicles to pass cyclists, but the abrupt pinch points created conflicts when the lane needed to be shared.

The improved roadway now has dedicated spaces for vehicles, bicycles, and on-street parking.



"BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME"

The Alameda del Prado corridor has seen significant increases in cyclist activity since completion of improvements in this corridor. Weekday cyclist usage has increased 350% since 2007 while weekend cyclist usage has increased 540% during the same period. Weekday pedestrian activity has also increased, though not to the degree of cycling usage, most likely due to there being sidewalks in this corridor prior to the improvement project. With completion of the Enfrente project in December, 2011 additional usage can be expected as a major gap to the north of the Alameda del Prado project area will be eliminated providing easy access to central Novato from the south.

ABOUT THE COUNTS

This corridor is one of 23 locations in Marin where pedestrian and cyclist usage counts have been conducted annually since 2007. Counts are conducted in September for weekday usage (4:00-6:00pm) and weekend usage (12:00-2:00pm). During these periods, a 'peak hour' was identified (one sixty minute period with the highest count during the two-hour period). The data in the charts reflect counts for the peak hour.

Revised January 2012

