

Matadero Creek Trail – Phase 1 Midtown Project

Public Kickoff Meeting

Friends of Palo Alto
June 26, 2014

**Matadero Creek Trail
Community Meeting No. 1 – June 26**

Welcome & Introductions

Presentation 1 – Matadero Creek Trail Project

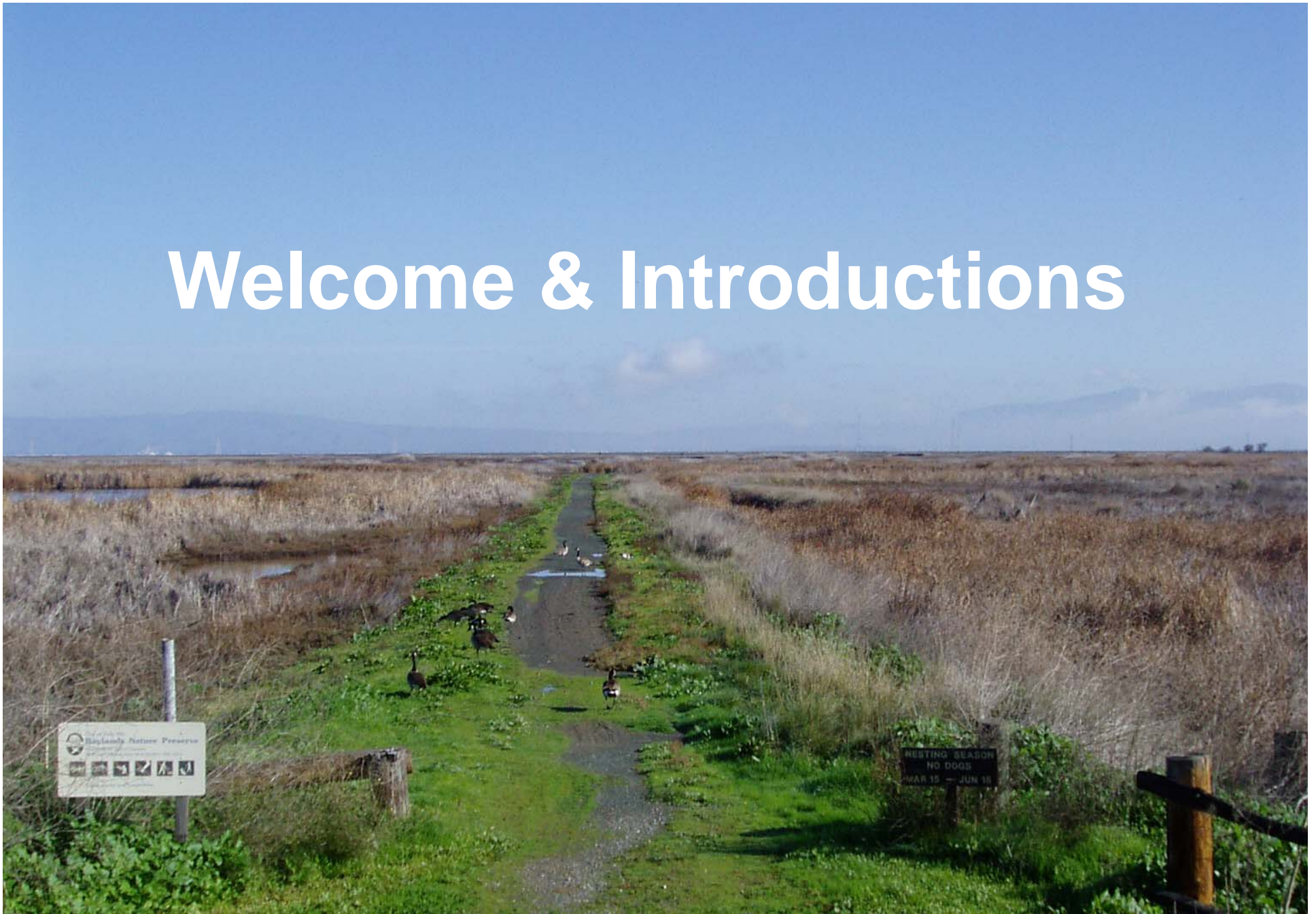
- Background
 - Stanford/Palo Alto Trail Program
 - Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation Plan
- Feasibility Study
 - Matadero Creek Trail
 - Alternative On-Street Alignments
 - Across Barrier Connections (ABCs) - Alma & Hwy 101
 - Preliminary Environmental Assessment
- Community Engagement
 - Midtown Residents Association
 - Citizens Advisory Committee
 - Meeting Schedules and Methods (Walk-about)

Presentation 2 – Best Practices of Trail Crossings

Q&A

Wrap-Up and Next Steps

Welcome & Introductions



The Alta Team



Stakeholder Facilitation
& Environmental Analysis*

Survey & Civil Engineering



Structural Engineering#

Traffic Impact Analysis

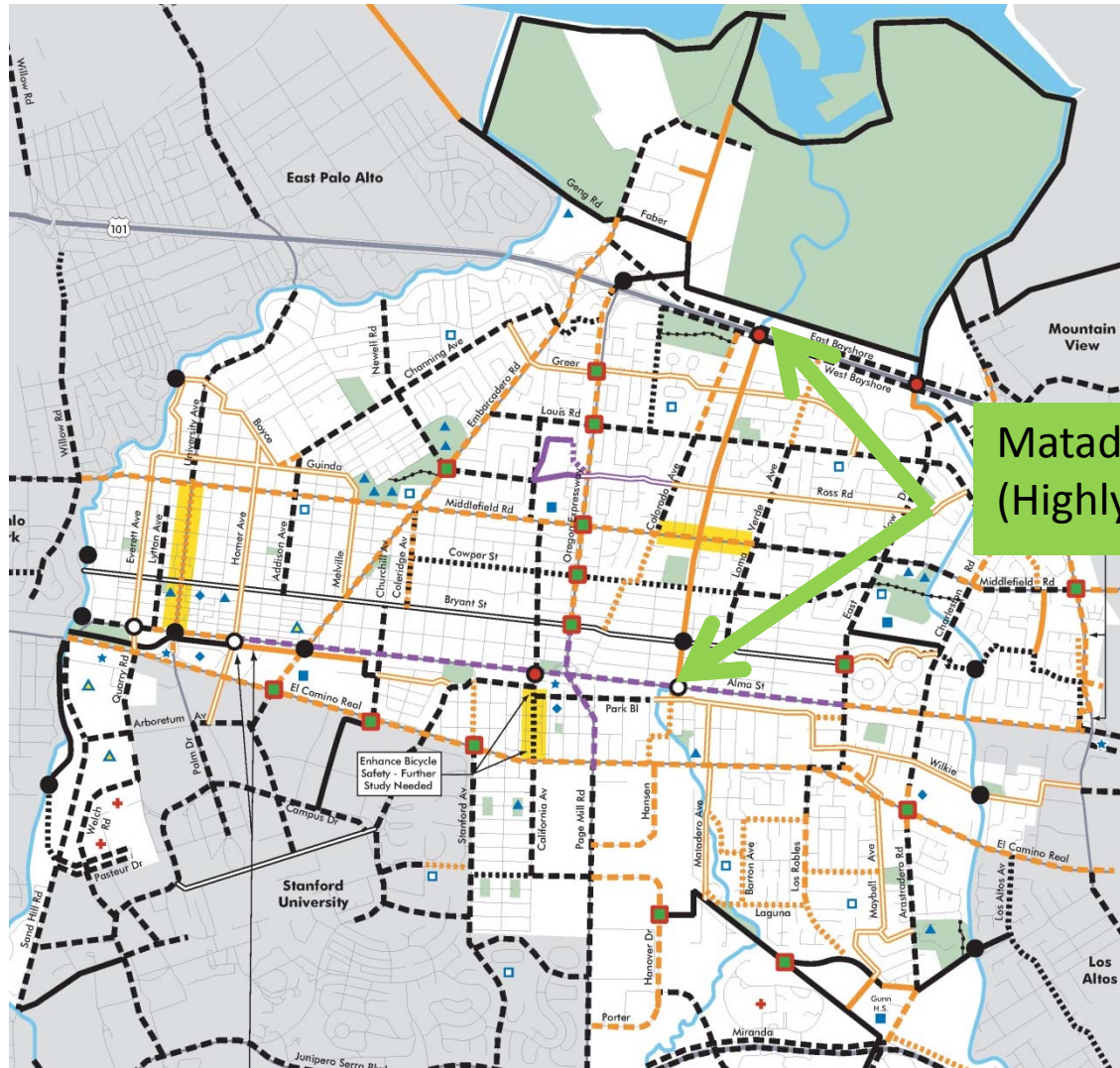
* with Schaaf & Wheeler, HT Harvey & Associates, Illingsworth & Rodkin, Inc., BASELINE Environmental Consultants

with Parikh Consultants as necessary

Project Background

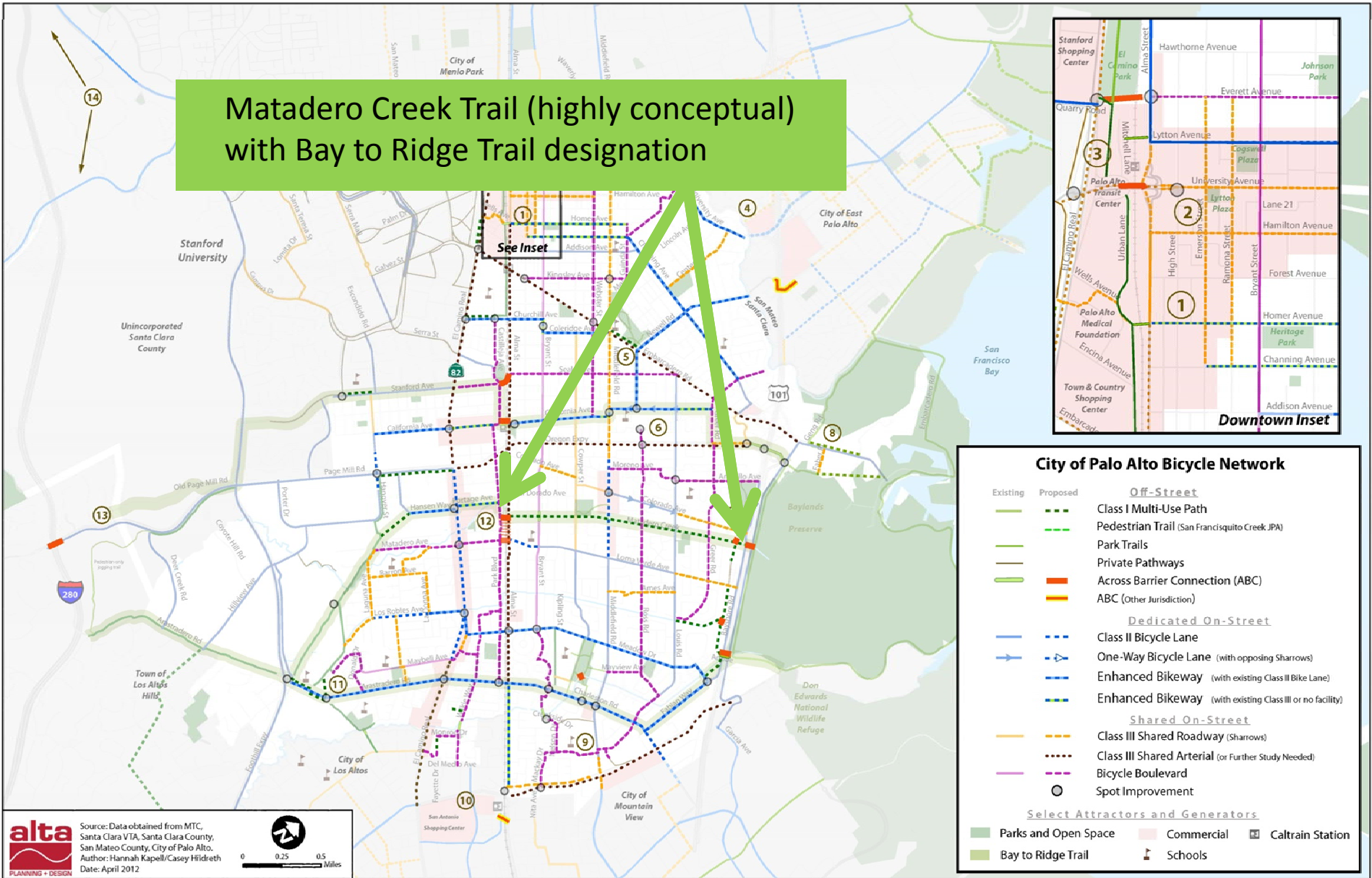


2003 Bicycle Plan



2012 Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan

Matadero Creek Trail (highly conceptual) with Bay to Ridge Trail designation



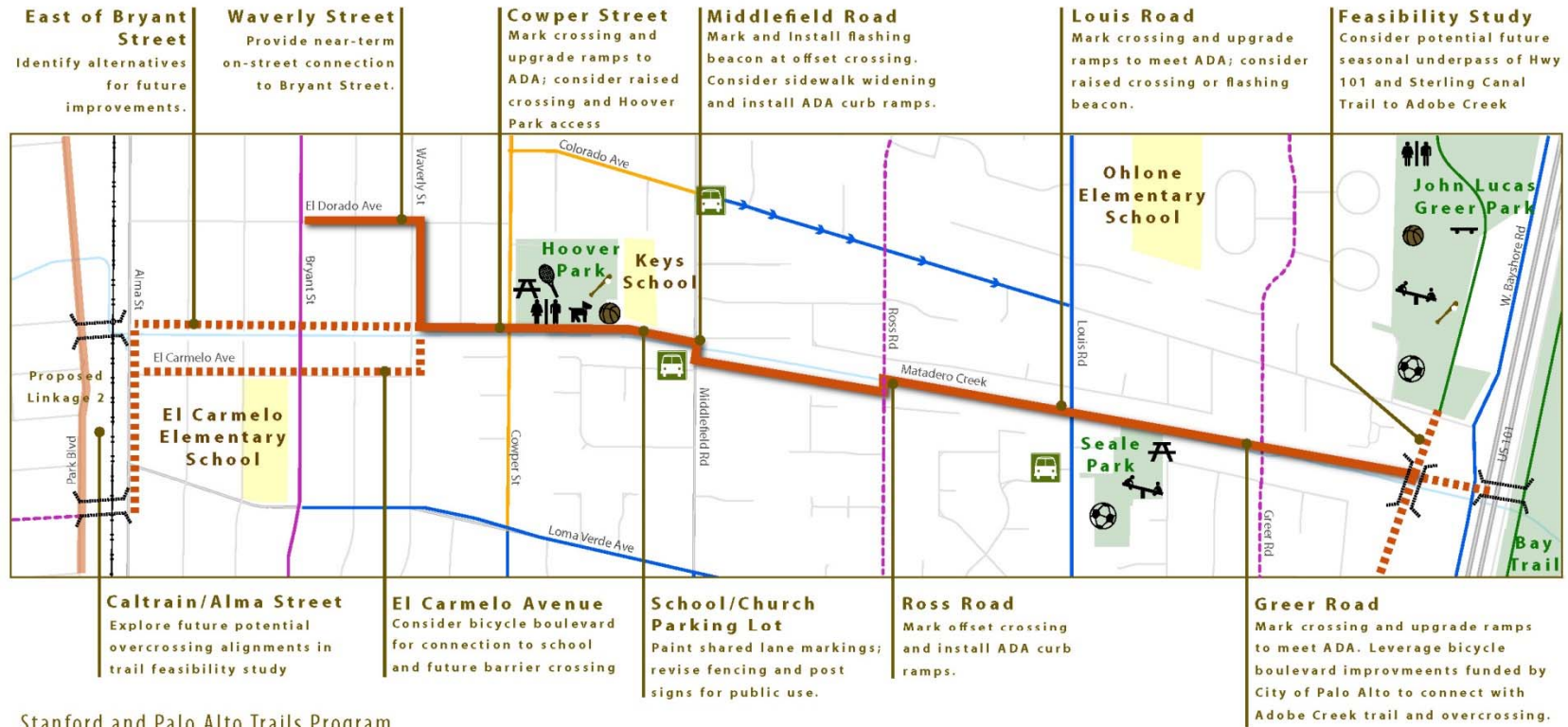
Stanford – Palo Alto Trails Program



Midtown
Phase One



Matadero Creek Trail – Grant Concept



Stanford and Palo Alto Trails Program Linkage #3 - Matadero Creek Trail

- Proposed Linkage (Application Project)*
- - - Future Potential Connections to be Studied
- - - Existing/Proposed Class I Multi-Use Path
- Existing Class II Bicycle Lane
- Existing Class III Shared Roadway
- - - Existing/Proposed Bicycle Boulevard

Existing Park Amenities

- Picnic Area
- Public Restroom
- Dog Park
- Playground
- Tennis Court
- Baseball Diamond
- Basketball Court
- Soccer Field
- Skate Park

Matadero Creek Trail (Full Extent)

- Conduct feasibility study from Caltrain to Highway 101
- Install new trail surface, pedestrian-scale lighting, and wayfinding
- Install, upgrade fence or railings as necessary



*All other proposed facilities are from 2012 City of Palo Alto Bicycle + Pedestrian Transportation Plan and are not assumed as part of the scope of this grant application (unless otherwise noted)



Matadero Trail – Midtown Segment

Photo: Larry Horton

Phase One: Feasibility Study

Phase Two: Environmental Analysis

Phase Three: Plans, Specifications, and Estimates

Phase Four: Bid and Construction Phase Services

Feasibility Study: Defining Project Parameters

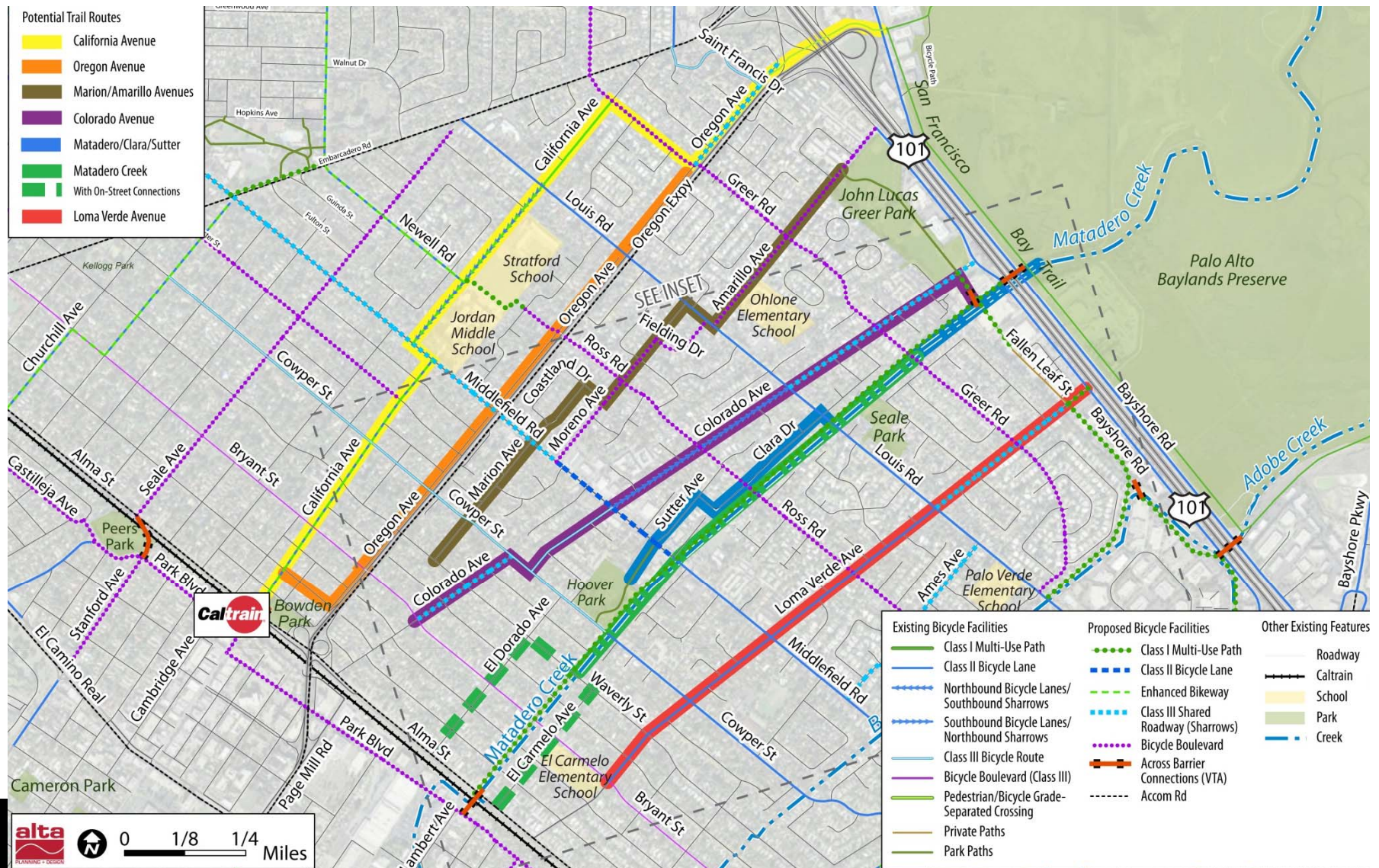


Approach:

- Early identification of potential corridors, evaluation criteria
- Clarify citywide vs. local functions, issues, opportunities
- Up-front collaboration with public, City staff, SCVWD (Water District)



Challenge: Defining Project Parameters



Across Barrier Connections: Caltrain



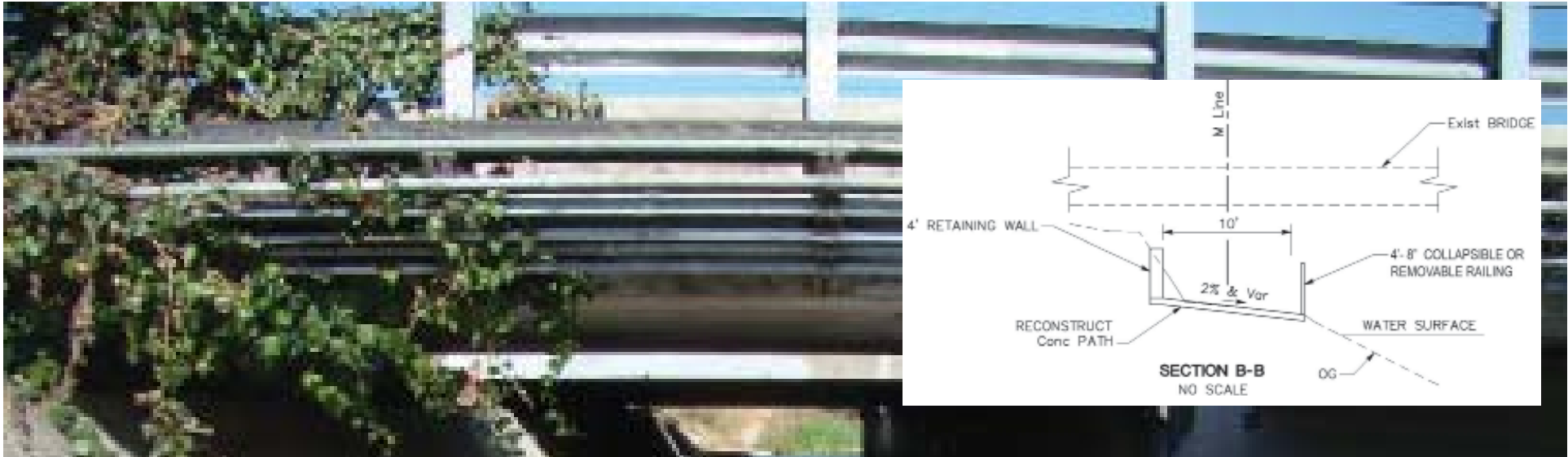
Approach:

- Study alternative locations for under/overcrossing of Alma Street and Caltrain in Feasibility Study Phase
- Develop more realistic cost estimates and inform Creek Trail alternatives analysis

Seasonal Crossing at US 101



Seasonal Crossing at US 101



Anticipated Improvements:

- Retaining Wall
- Trail Grading
- Creekside Railing

Potential Permits:

- Army Corps of Engineers - 404
- Regional Water Quality Control Board - 401
- CADFW - 1602

Environmental Constraints and Permitting



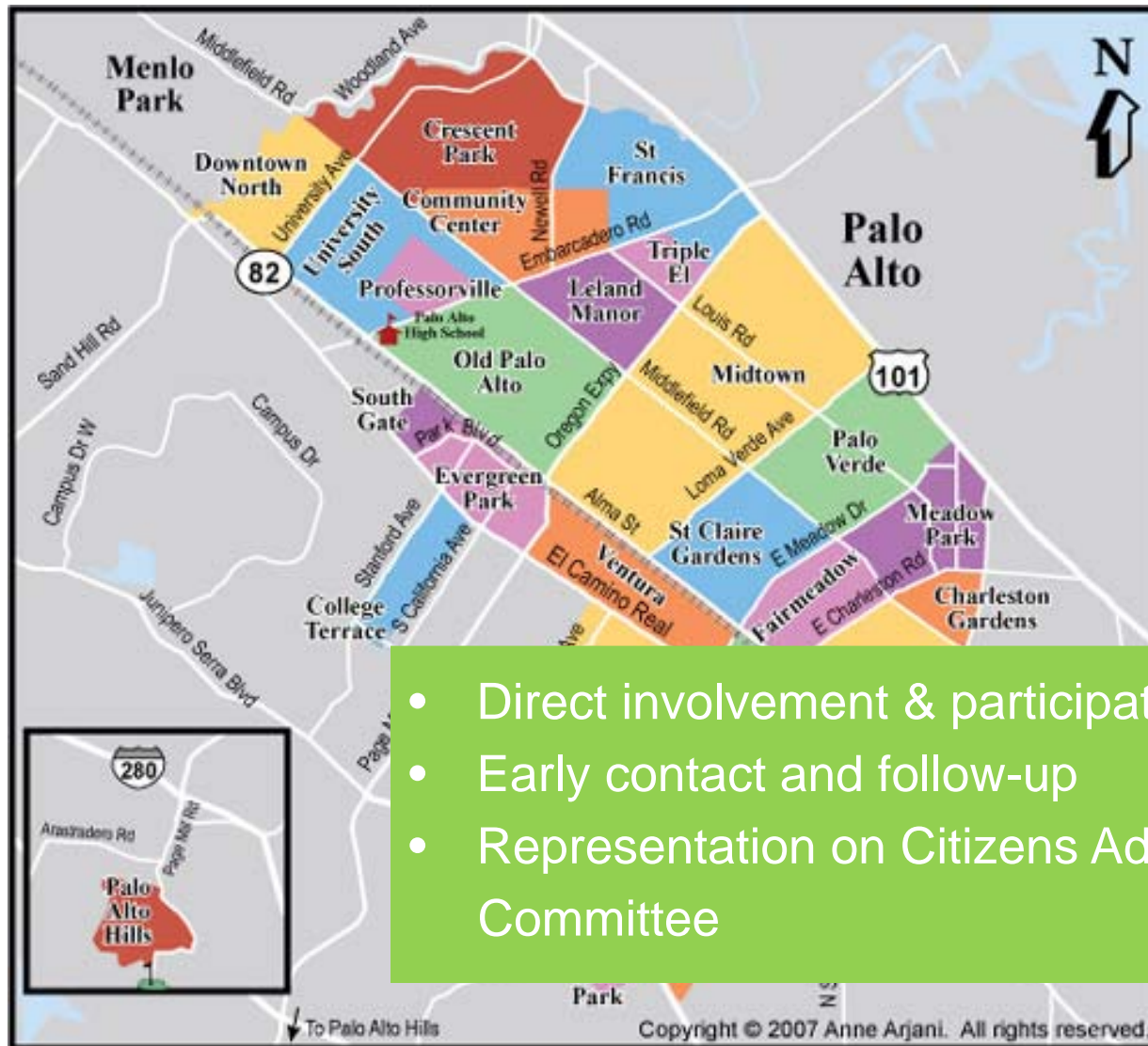
Approach:

- Scope anticipates Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, but will seek confirmation as part of Phase One (actual MND not in scope)
- Limited Phase One technical studies include hydrology, traffic, hazardous materials, air quality/noise
- Consider possible environmental approval of longer trail segment (e.g. Highway 101 underpass concept)



Community Engagement

Midtown Residents Association



Citizen's Advisory Committee



- Circlepoint as liaison/facilitator between design team and CAC
- CAC composition to include citywide and neighborhood interests
- Transparent and inclusive process from the start
- Document and integrate feedback as part of larger outreach process

Citizen's Advisory Committee



Meetings:

- Clear goals and expectations
- Focused/structured activities
- Process/options for dealing with conflict
- Document meeting/establish action items
- Extends into Phase Two Environmental Assessment



Technical Challenges

Challenge: Trail Clarity and Continuity



Approach:

- Penalize turns and jogs in performance criteria
- Emphasize trail wayfinding, visibility from key trip generators
- Design materials and thematic elements as park extension

Challenge: Trail Clarity and Continuity



Challenge: Safe and Functional Street/Trail Crossings

Approach:

- Understand “safe” and “functional” in the context of anticipated users
- Assess in terms of stress level and quality
- Integrate and communicate best practice design and research
- Key corridors: Middlefield Road, Alma Street, Hwy 101
- Potential cycletrack designs to consider driveway impacts



Path / Roadway Crossings

**PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
CONTEXTUAL GUIDANCE**
At unsignalized locations

Local Streets
15-25 mph

Collector Streets
25-30 mph

Arterial Streets
30-45 mph

FACILITY TYPE	Local Streets		Collector Streets			Arterial Streets			Arterial Streets		Arterial Streets		Arterial Streets
	2 lane	3 lane	2 lane	2 lane with median refuge	3 lane	2 lane	2 lane with median refuge	3 lane	4 lane	4 lane with median refuge	5 lane	6 lane	6 lane with median refuge
1 Crosswalk Only (high visibility)	✓	✓	EJ	EJ	X	EJ	EJ	X	X	X	X	X	X
2 Crosswalk with warning signage and yield lines	EJ	✓	✓	✓	✓	EJ	EJ	EJ	X	X	X	X	X
3 Active Warning Beacon (RRFB)	X	EJ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X
4 Hybrid Beacon	X	X	EJ	EJ	EJ	EJ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5 Full Traffic Signal	X	X	EJ	EJ	EJ	EJ	EJ	EJ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6 Grade separation	X	X	EJ	EJ	EJ	X	EJ	EJ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

LEGEND

Most Desirable	✓
Engineering Judgement	EJ
Not Recommended	X













Draft Trail Performance Criteria

- Bicycle Suitability Index
- Pedestrian Suitability Index
- Connections to Priority Origins and Destinations
- Projected User Demand
- Supports Barrier Crossings
- Private Property/ROW Impacts
- Traffic Impacts (LOS)
- Parking Impacts
- Public Safety/Security
- Utility Conflicts
- Biological Impacts
- Flood Protection and SCVWD Operations
- Noise
- Emergency Access
- Lifecycle Cost
- Community Preference
- Overall Constructability
- Conformance to Project Funding Requirements

El Carmelo Elementary School

WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL

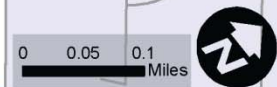
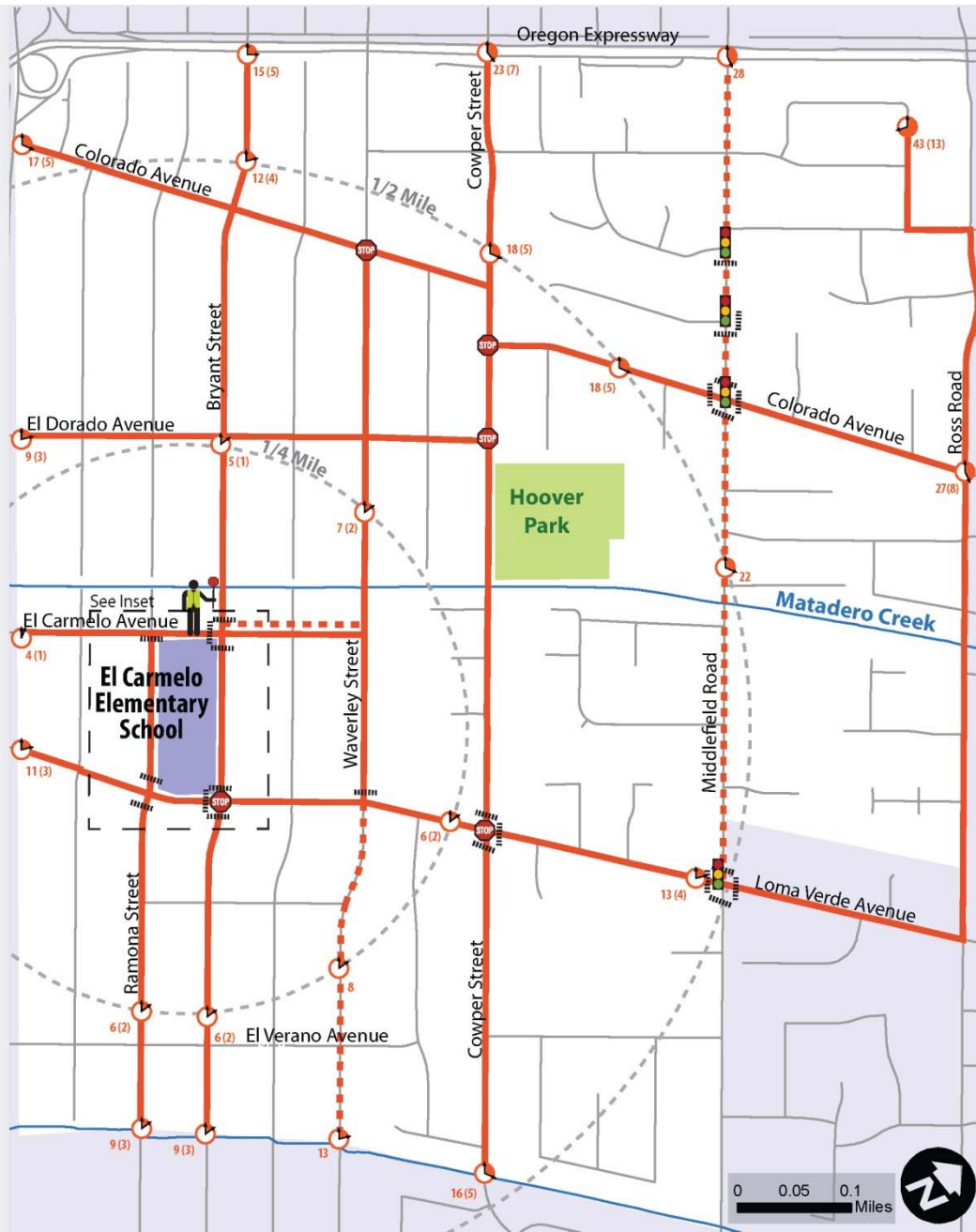
SUGGESTED ROUTES DRAFT

-  Suggested Route (Walking and Biking)
-  Suggested Route (Walking Only)
-  Est. Walking Time (Walking Time)
-  Est. Walking Time (Biking Time)
-  Crossing Guard Location
-  Pedestrian-Only Access
-  Pedestrian and Bicycle Access
-  Multi-use Path
-  Bicycle Parking
-  Traffic Signal
-  All-Way Stop
-  Marked Crosswalk
-  Attendance Area
-  Parks and Open Space
-  School



For more Safe Routes to School information, please visit:
www.cityofpal Alto.org/saferoutes

The Palo Alto Safe Routes to School Partnership encourages students to use this mapping tool to explore options for commuting from home to school. Students are responsible for choosing the most appropriate route based on their knowledge of conditions on the route between home and school and the experience level.



Questions?

