



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: MARCH 28, 2018
TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER 
BY: RAMIRO ADEVA, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS 
SUBJECT: KANAN CORRIDOR UPDATE

In the Fall of 2016, the Community Services Coalition conducted a citywide survey focused on gathering feedback on the "Quality of Life" in Agoura Hills. On January 24, 2017, an Executive Summary was provided to the City Council, outlining the findings of the survey.

Among the multitude of survey questions, one particular question asked:

"If anything, what in the City would you like to see improved?"

The community responded with a resounding and unified message of "traffic," most notably, highlighting the traffic through the Kanan Corridor.

On September 27, 2017, the City Council awarded a professional services contract to Michael Baker International (MBI) to complete the Project Study Report (PSR) for the "Kanan Corridor, Safety, Operations, and Capacity Enhancement Project." This Project seeks to improve the safety of multi-modal users of the corridor, namely motorists, cyclists and pedestrians, while also increasing capacity and operational efficiency moving the various users of this corridor to and from the US-101 Freeway and the Santa Monica Mountains.

Although the original project limits included Kanan Road between Thousand Oaks Boulevard to the north, and Agoura Road to the south, the southerly limits were extended following community feedback, down to Cornell Way.

Ultimately, the conclusion of this PSR is expected to add more valuable information to the growing archive of data that has already been gathered, over the years, through periodic traffic counts, surveys, and studies, administered by the City, and further supplement projects previously completed along the corridor, such as the Kanan Road Signal Synchronization Project. The PSR is fully funded with Measure R, and it is anticipated that any future design and construction phases would be fully funded with Measure M.

The City Council's ongoing support for these projects reiterates their continued commitment to prioritize actions that seek to improve traffic flow along this congested, regional arterial.

Staff envisions a phased approach of implementation with this project, through a combination of both short-term and long-term improvements.

Short term improvements consist of replacing archaic timing clocks for the Caltrans-owned signals at the interchange, updating software within City-owned signal cabinets to increase signal timing capacity, installing hard-wire fiber optic interconnect between City-owned and Caltrans-owned signals, installing striping and signage modifications, and constructing infrastructure improvements outside Caltrans right-of-way to rehabilitate and/or stabilize public infrastructure in need of repair, or increase capacity for the multiple transport modes.

Long-term improvements would mainly consist of constructing infrastructure improvements to the Kanan Interchange and any other improvements associated directly with the portions of the project that fall within the Caltrans approval authority.

In addition to the Kanan Corridor PSR, the Mayor requested that staff initiate discussions with administration and elected officials from the Las Virgenes Unified School District (LVUSD), the Oak Park Unified School District (OPUSD), and the office of Ventura County Supervisor, Linda Parks, to discuss ways in which the school districts, and affected counties, may be able to assist in reducing the corridor's congestion. The kick-off meeting was encouraging, and the variety of participants further underscores the importance in dealing with this regional traffic problem. This cooperative effort shows the support and acknowledgement by the City Council for those concerns voiced by the residents of Agoura Hills. These meetings are ongoing and a follow-up meeting will occur in the near future to discuss potential alternatives.

Finding ways to reduce congestion along the corridor remains a daunting and complicated task. Not only is the Kanan Corridor an important roadway for residents and businesses within Agoura Hills, it is utilized by commuters from both Los Angeles County and Ventura County as well. Additionally, large volumes of traffic use the corridor to access a number of schools spanning over two districts. It also serves as one of a few direct connection points to recreational amenities in the Santa Monica Mountains, coastal beaches along Pacific Coast Highway (PCH), and plays an overall role in connecting the Santa Monica National Recreational Area with western Los Angeles County. In this respect, the current efforts conducted to analyze the corridor are necessary, and staff will continue to update the City Council in the future as new information becomes available.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully requests the City Council provide feedback and/or comments on the planned course of action moving forward.