



STAFF REPORT

CITY of YORBA LINDA

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2024

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Colleen Callahan, Economic Development Manager
Tony Wang, Traffic Engineering Manager

SUBJECT: Yorba Linda-Placentia Draft Active Transportation Plan Including the 2024 Update of the Riding, Hiking, and Bikeway Trails Component of General Plan

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission review and provide comments.

BACKGROUND

The Yorba Linda-Placentia Active Transportation Plan (ATP) (**Attachment A**) is a collaborative effort between the City of Yorba Linda, the City of Placentia, and the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District to create a community-supported, implementable plan that enhances safety and connectivity within communities in both cities. The plan was made possible by a grant awarded to both cities from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

The plan reflects each city's unique challenges and opportunities and addresses active transportation mobility gaps that negatively impact community access to schools, parks, hospitals, retail centers, and regional and local transit options. Additionally, the plan analyzes existing conditions in both Yorba Linda and Placentia that present community-wide challenges and builds upon previous planning efforts to address them. Public input will be used to better understand existing and future transportation network needs, and active transportation improvements will be recommended to promote healthier and more vibrant communities. In addition to bicycle and pedestrian recommendations in priority areas, the plan also evaluates all public schools in Yorba Linda and Placentia and recommends infrastructure and programming to improve Safe Routes to School. Recommended improvements are prioritized to enable swift implementation to achieve citywide connectivity with pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Additionally, the plan includes an update to the 2005 Yorba Linda's Riding, Hiking, and Bikeway Trails Component of the General Plan (Master Plan of Trails) (**Attachment B**) to enhance mapping legibility and identify any new recommendations that will help complete the City's trail network.

On August 28, 2024, this item was brought to the Planning Commission pursuant to Chapter 18.36 of the Zoning Code. As a result of the creation of the ATP Plan and Update of the

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Master Plan of Trails, Exhibits CR-4 of the Circulation Element and OR-2 of the Recreation Element will need to be amended in the General Plan. During this meeting, the Planning Commission began the first step of the process with the adoption of a resolution initiating the General Plan update.

DISCUSSION

With the initiation of the General Plan amendment, the next step is to circulate the Yorba Linda-Placentia Draft Active Transportation Plan Including the 2024 Update of the Riding, Hiking, and Bikeway Trails Component of General Plan for public comment. The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is part of this process. We are asking the Commission to review the draft document(s) and provide comments. The purview of this Commission would be to focus on the update to the Master Plan of Trails component.

The Updated Trails Master Plan is a separate, but complementary part of the ATP. This 2024 Plan includes the review of the 2005 Riding, Hiking and Bikeway Trails Component (Master Plan of Trails) Plan, updating it to reflect the current state of trails in the city, including enhancing trail maps and describing the implementation status of previously recommended trails. Since 2005, many housing developments have been constructed and connections to Yorba Linda's trails have been completed. This 2024 update will reflect those trail segments that have since been completed or are in progress.

The 2005 Update was very extensive, while this 2024 update serves to 1) identify trail segments that have since been completed or are in progress, 2) fix the readability of the segment maps and 3) make recommendations for future trail connections at a very high-level planning effort. The scope of the Trail Update did not include construction plans or costs associated with any trail recommendations.

There are five (5) new trail recommendations (Segments 51-55) in the 2024 Master Plan of Trails Update (**Attachment C**). Bikeway recommendations in ATP are also included in the updated Master Plan of Trails. For the sake of this Commission discussion, the following trail segments are being recommended:

Segment #51:

- Ohio Street currently a paved road/path
- Requested from outreach with equestrian group and neighbors
- Connects to the El Cajon Trail
- Long-term recommendation

This segment would link two trails; the Ohio St. Trail north of Yorba Linda Blvd. and the El Cajon Trail. There is limited right-of-way width along Ohio Street for a paved path or trail, and there is currently a City Council Policy P-6 which states this street is to remain "semi-rural", with no sidewalks, curbs, or lighting, thus putting some constraints on building a path in this neighborhood. Due to strong equestrian community support and a couple of adjacent

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residents, we recommend this path in the Plan, so it may be implemented if constraints are eventually resolved.

Segments #52, 54 and 55:

- Carbon Creek Trail
- Paved path is within boundaries of Yorba Linda, Placentia, and Brea
 - Within Yorba Linda boundaries between Malcolm Lane and Mimosa Drive; and at the crossing of Bastanchury Road

The Carbon Canyon Creek trail accounts for 3 of the Plan's 5 new trail recommendations. Though much of these recommendations are within other jurisdictions. All cities will need to collaborate to create a continuous, connected, off-street path. A portion of this path is already in development as part of the OC Loop. (Segment 55 from Golden Ave to Bastanchury Rd)

Segment #53:

- Earthen path along south side of Bastanchury Road
- Complements existing bike lanes and earthen path on north side of road
- Connects to existing trails at Emerald Downs Drive and Gun Club Trail

There is existing right of way on the south side of Bastanchury and a landscaped area that could be converted into a trail. There are large utility boxes that pose some obstacles. Work with utility companies will be required.

In addition to the Parks and Recreation Commission review and comments next steps include the following meetings all open to the public:

October 22, 2024 – Virtual Community Meeting

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Link:

<https://virtualeventroom.com/yorba-linda-placentia-atp/#meetings>

October 24, 2024 - Traffic Commission meeting

November 13, 2024 - Planning Commission Public Hearing

December 17, 2024 – City Council Meeting for Approval

The public comment period continues through November 4 leading up to the Planning Commission Public Hearing and City Council Meeting. Commissioners and the public are encouraged to also visit the Yorba Linda-Placentia Draft Active Transportation Plan website

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at <https://virtualeventroom.com/yorba-linda-placentia-atp/>. There is a Virtual Meeting Room to review the Draft ATP and Master Plan of Trails documents. Formal comments can be submitted through the comment box in the middle of the “virtual” room.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Draft Yorba-Placentia Active Transportation Plan (ATP)
 - B. Draft 2024 Update of the Riding, Hiking and Bikeway Trails Component of the General Plan (Master Plan of Trails)
 - C. Segment Recommendations 51-55 of the Draft Master Plan of Trails
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