Old Arcata Road Design Project

Arcata City Council
November 16, 2016
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Project Partners

- City of Arcata
- Arcata TSC
- Consultant Team
  - SHN
  - RCAA
  - Streamline Planning
  - Omni Means
  - DZC Consulting
Old Arcata Road from Buttermilk Lane to Jacoby Creek Road
- Previous Project Attempts
- Measure G funds used to embark on a community planning process for OAR
- RFP released in February, Project Team selected in April, project began August
Project Goals

- Provide multiple ways to share ideas
- Create a community-driven plan for Old Arcata Road improvements
- Develop draft plans to assist with implementation fund seeking
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Project Timeline

- Community and School Outreach (*August and September*)
- Kickoff Workshop (*September 12*)
- Walkability Assessment (*September 26*)
- Develop Draft Concept Alternatives
- Install Pop-Up Demonstration (*October 18*)
- Community Open House (*October 19*)
- Online Community Survey (*October 20 – November 4*)
- Present Update to TSC and City Council (*this week*)
- Prepare Project Report
  - *November - December 2016*
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Outreach Conducted

- Flyers at local businesses and home with students at Jacoby Creek School
- Radio PSAs and interviews
- Social media
- Press releases, school newsletters
- Project website updates
- Emails to workshop participants
- Changeable message sign along OAR
3 charrette workshops
Pop-up demonstration
On-line survey
Website

More than 285 participants!!!
Event #1
Kickoff Workshop

- 90+ attendees
- Small group community input
- Discuss existing challenges
- Identify opportunities
Event #2
Walk Audit

- Over 40 participants
- Observed Jacoby Creek School Pick-Up
- Guided walk along roadway
  - Identified challenges
  - Identified opportunities
- Small group discussion & concept design
Event #3
Pop-Up Demonstration

- Simulate potential improvements
  - School frontage
  - JC Road Intersection
- Comments from 40+ people; seen by many more
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Event #3 Pop-Up Demonstration
Event #4
Open House

- 60+ attendees
- Showcased draft concepts based on community input
Event #4
Open House

- Community feedback helped refine draft concepts
Online Survey

- Sought feedback from those who could not attend events
Key Feedback

- Maintain rural character
- Improve safety
- People like and use the existing
Desired Improvements

- Traffic calming
- Pedestrian walkways
- Double yellow centerline
- Safer crosswalks
- Pedestrian safety at school crossing
- Improved signage/pavement markings for school zones
- Improve Jacoby Creek Rd intersection
- Bike friendly improvements
Recent Maintenance

- Patched roadway
- Restriped roadway to narrow travel lanes & widen bike lanes
- New crosswalks soon at Golf Course Road and Anderson Lane
- School speed sign for Mistwood
- There has been a lot of positive feedback on these improvements!
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Concept Alternative #1: Leave as-is

- Improvements limited to current maintenance project
- Annual maintenance will continue
- < 10% of respondents wanted this alternative
Concept Alternative #2: Separated Path

- Preferred by more than 60% of respondents
- Separated path along west side of Old Arcata Road for entire project length
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Concept Alternative #2: Separated Path
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Concept Alternative #2: Separated Path
Concept Alternative #3: Sidewalk in front of JC School

- Preferred by about 20% of respondents
- Raised sidewalk just along Jacoby Creek School frontage
- Separated path continuing south of school
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Concept Alternative #3
Concept Alternative #3: Sidewalk in front of JC School
Intersection Concept Alternative #1: Narrowed intersection

- Preferred by about 45% of respondents
- Narrow Jacoby Creek Road intersection
- Additional sidewalks
- Safer road crossing
- Aesthetic improvements at City pump house site
- Modifications to Post Office parking lot
Intersection Concept
Alternative #1: Narrowed intersection
Preferred by about 30% of respondents

Similar walking facilities as Intersection Concept #1

Roundabout for traffic calming
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Intersection Concept
Alternative #2: Roundabout
Old Arcata Road Design Project

North Segment Concept

- Supported by about 45% of respondents
- Improve existing path to Old Bayside Road
- Formalize shared use for walking and biking along Old Bayside Road
- Create park and school remote-drop off in grassy area
Old Arcata Road Design Project

North Segment Concept:
Overall Desires of Community

- A few individuals wanted to leave the roadway as-is
- Most wanted to see some improvements
- Pedestrian and bike safety are a priority
- Reducing vehicle speed is desired
- Separated path was preferred
- JC School parking needs to be improved
Old Arcata Road Design Project

- Pedestrian Flashing Beacon at raised crosswalk south of Buttermilk
- Repairs to existing path
- Aesthetic improvements at pump station
- Sharrows on Old Bayside Road
- Explore additional school parking
- Enhance education and encouragement at Jacoby Creek School, Mistwood and Sunnybrae Middle School

Potential Short Term Improvements
Old Arcata Road Design Project

Next Steps

- Receive feedback from City Council
- Prepare Project Report by end of the year
- Utilize report to seek implementation funding
- Pursue low hanging fruit improvements
Thank you!