

**Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Yolo County Transportation District**
350 Industrial Way, Woodland, CA 95776----(530) 661-0816

Topic: Update on the Yolo Active Transportation Corridors (YATC) Project	Agenda Item#: Agenda Type:	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">5</div> <div style="font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Informational</div> Attachments: Yes No
Prepared By: B. Lomeli		Meeting Date: January 30, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

Informational. Receive an update on the Yolo Active Transportation Corridors (YATC) Project.

BACKGROUND:

The Yolo Active Transportation Corridors (YATC) Project will develop an active transportation plan for a network of multiuse trails that will help to address barriers to mobility for low-income and minority residents of Yolo County. This planning project will build upon YoloTD’s recent efforts to explore how public interest design of transportation services can be used to address the needs of the region’s most isolated and disadvantaged areas.

YATC was awarded \$1.2 million in federal funds from the Rebuilding Americans Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program.

YATC will accomplish two objectives:

- Establish a long-term vision and planning document for active transportation corridors in Yolo County.
- Establish priorities and complete construction documents for at least one (1) and up to three (3) corridors, thereby positioning the project(s) for discretionary grant funding.

The scope of work addresses the initial planning and outreach phase of the YATC project, comprised of Tasks 1 (Project Management), 2 (Existing Conditions Assessment), 3 (Public Outreach & Community Engagement), and 4 (Plan Preparation) identified in the RAISE grant application. A subsequent scope of work for the design, engineering, and environmental phase of the YATC project will be prepared once additional information is available regarding the priority corridors identified during the YATC planning process.

Progress and Next Steps

Progress

In July 2022, staff brought a project update to the CAC prior to release a Request for Qualifications for consulting teams. At the meeting CAC feedback included:

- Highlighting the significance of integrating additional conservancy and recreational spaces, with a specific focus on marginalized areas and access points.

- Addressing concerns related to road safety, wayfinding for bikers on trails, and the influence of climate change.
- Integrating connections to Solano County into the network.
- Various topics such as safety, driver training, outreach, and education.
- An emphasis on incorporating language competencies into outreach efforts.

While consultant selection quickly followed the July 2022 CAC meeting, the project could not launch until August 2023 due to FHWA delays.

October 4, 2023, the YATC project marked a significant milestone with its inaugural Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. This meeting brought together key government agencies, including the City of Woodland, Yolo County, City of West Sacramento, City of Davis, UC Davis, City of Winters, and District 3, whose role is to provide technical guidance as potential future implementing partners. They will convene at key project milestones immediately prior to stakeholder Steering Committee meetings.

The YATC team engaged in early “pre”-outreach initiatives, collaborating with Yolo County for their Climate Action & Adaptation Planning (CAAP) events held throughout the county. During the workshops, staff led breakout sessions focusing on transportation needs. YoloTD also distributed essential materials related to the YATC project, such as flyers, map boards, and other informative resources.

The project consultants completed an interactive website for the project, featuring a landing page, details about outreach events, and an interactive Webmap for public input. This tool improves communication, decision-making, and stakeholder engagement, providing spatial context for a better understanding of the YATC project. You can share your input on the map using this link: https://bit.ly/YATC_en

The project team has also developed a Public Engagement Plan that targets underrepresented communities in Yolo County. The strategy involves collaborating with a diverse range of stakeholders to guarantee that the perspectives of those in underserved communities are not just heard but actively integrated into the planning and decision-making processes of this project.

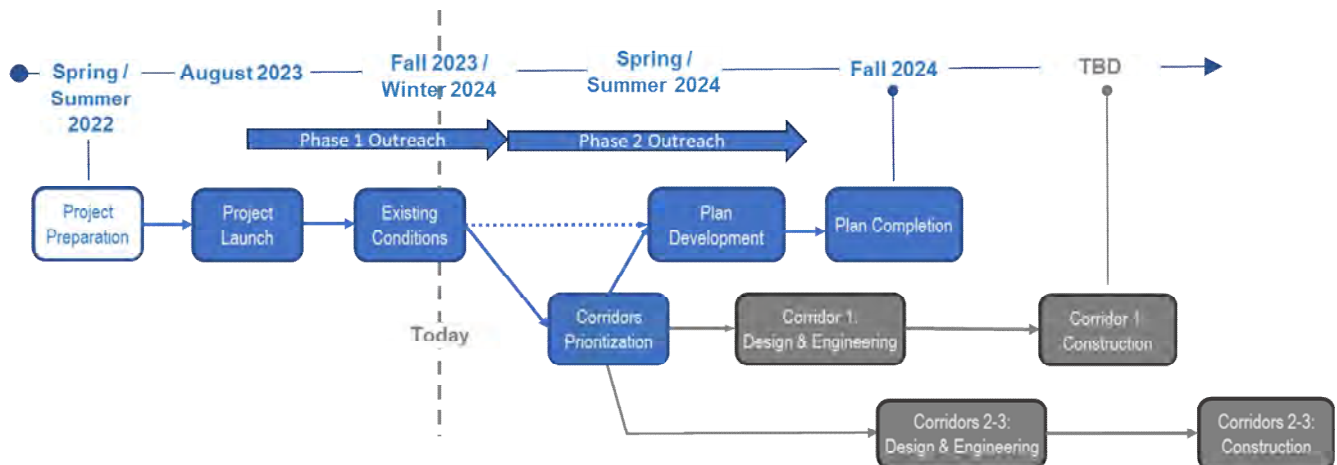
Next Steps

- The first Steering Committee meeting will be held on February 13, 2024. Organizations were selected with a focus on well-rounded representation of the community in Yolo County. Staff and consultants, which includes UC Davis Center for Regional Change, identified organizations that serve underrepresented groups, bicycling advocates, sustainability interests, business interests, and social services organizations with an emphasis on inclusivity and diversity.
- YATC has officially launched Public Outreach & Community Engagement Phase. Phase 1 activities are designed to gather community input on the project's goals and objectives. This includes seeking feedback on community members' perceptions and needs related to the active transportation system.
- YoloTD is conducting in-person outreach with a focus on underserved communities. As a result, tailoring outreach strategies to the specific needs, culture, and preferences of the community is essential for successful engagement, requiring creativity and sensitivity. A few ways staff will engage with the community and enable participation are listed below:
 - Community Events and Fairs: Participate in or organize community events and fairs, providing an opportunity to interact with Yolo County residents in a relaxed and social setting.

- Cultural Celebrations: Attend cultural celebrations, respecting and celebrating the diverse present while promoting our project.
- Food Distribution Events: Attend Food distribution hubs gives us opportunities for engagement and connection.
- Local Partner Collaborations: Collaborate with local businesses, organizations, or community leaders to enhance outreach efforts.

Project Process

The exhibit below illustrates key project milestones and current status.



BUDGET IMPACT:

The consulting agreement is split into two phases, (1) Planning & Outreach, and (2) Design & Engineering. In November 2022, the YoloTD Board authorized staff to execute an agreement with Fehr & Peers for Phase 1 for \$560,000. Consultant costs are fully funded by the RAISE grant with staff time an in-kind local match contribution.