

**NORTH
FAIR OAKS**

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN RAILROAD CROSSING
AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS STUDY**



North Fair Oaks Bicycle and Pedestrian Railroad Crossing and Community Connections Study

Final Report

North Fair Oaks Community Council
February 22, 2024



Presentation Overview

- Project Overview and Recap
- Constraints with Selection of a Preferred Rail Crossing
- Conclusions and Considerations



Planning Context and Study Goals

Study Purpose:

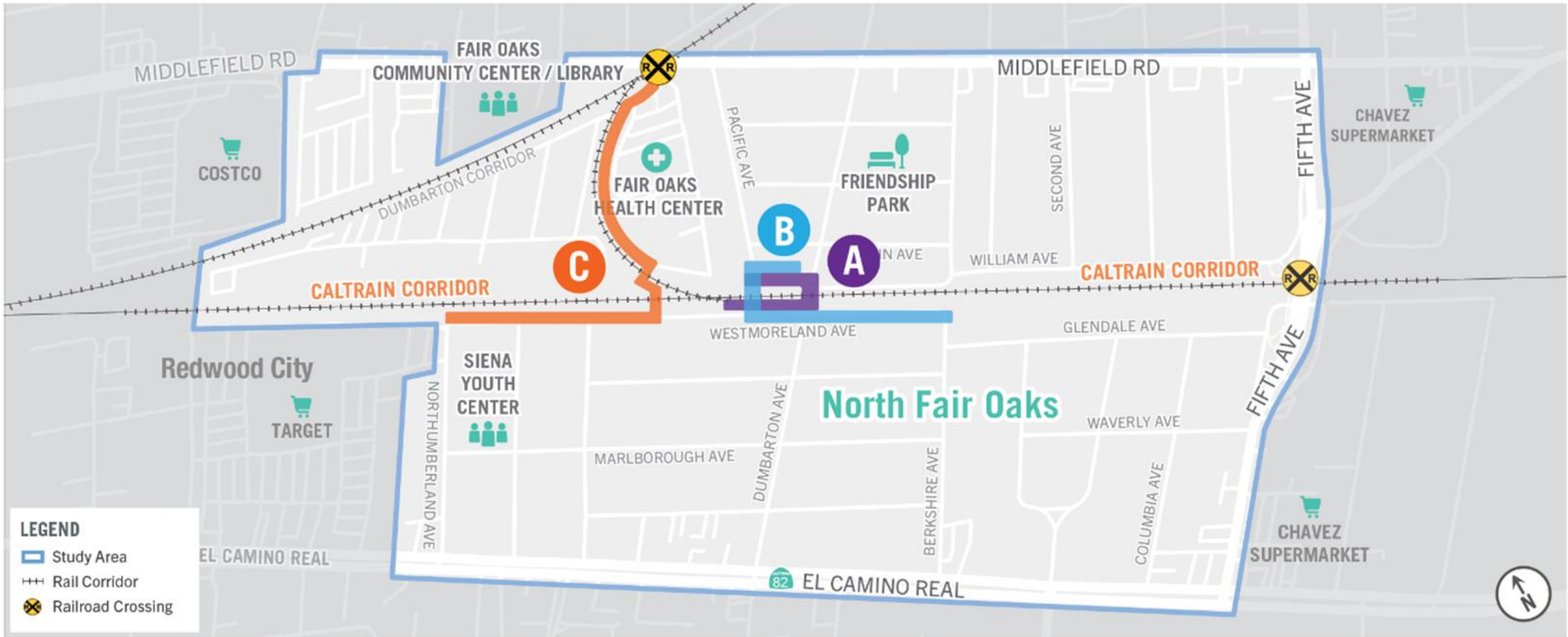
To build on prior County plans exploring the feasibility for a new bicycle and pedestrian crossing of the Caltrain tracks with safety and access improvements in the adjacent neighborhoods

- 2011 North Fair Oaks Community Plan
- 2021 Unincorporated San Mateo County Active Transportation Plan

Project Goals:



Study Area Rail Crossing Options



OPTION **A**

DUMBARTON AVENUE TUNNEL

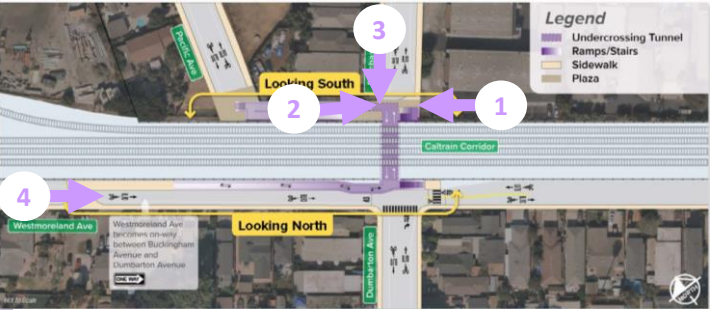
OPTION **B**

DUMBARTON AVENUE BRIDGE

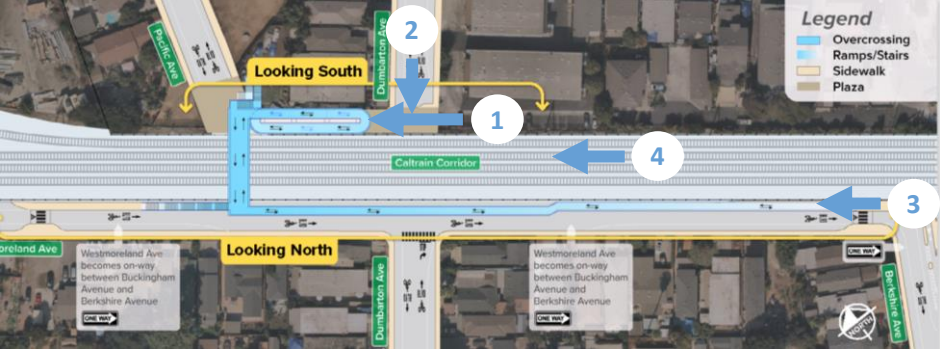
OPTION **C**

MIDDLEFIELD JUNCTION BRIDGE

Option A Dumbarton Tunnel Renderings



Option B Dumbarton Bridge Renderings



Option C Middlefield Junction Bridge Renderings





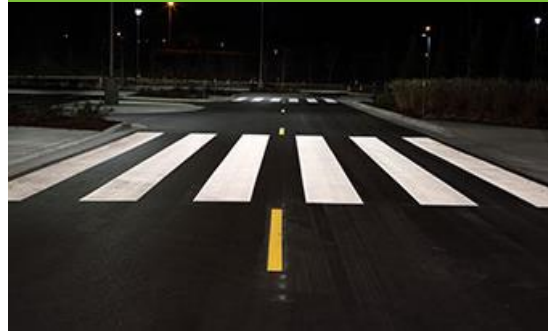
Community Connections Improvements

Bicycle and pedestrian surface street improvements can provide improved safety and access to local destinations in the neighborhoods on both sides of the tracks and can be implemented separate from a rail crossing.

Sidewalk & Crosswalk Lighting



High-Visibility Crosswalk



ADA Curb Ramps



Curb Bulb-outs



Raised Crosswalk



Traffic Circle



Chicane



Speed Humps





Community Engagement Round 1

Summer 2022



Key Survey Takeaways:



37% drive to destinations to cross the tracks but would prefer to walk or bike



30% walk, bike, or take the bus to cross the tracks but find it challenging



22% don't travel to across the tracks or do so less often because it is difficult

Top safety concerns: speeding, need for better lighting and unsafe street crossings



Top priorities: convenience, personal security, and access





Community Engagement Round 2

Spring 2023



Key Survey Takeaways



85% voted for a bridge rail crossing option



78% said they would use a new crossing frequently



Many shared concerns regarding personal security



Many were concerned about parking impacts



Top 3 community connection improvements: improved lighting, high visibility crosswalks and accessible curb ramps



Caltrain Electrification Constraints

Relevant
Options

- B** Dumbarton Avenue Bridge
- C** Middlefield Junction Bridge

Caltrain's new electrification system poses many challenges crossing over the Caltrain corridor.



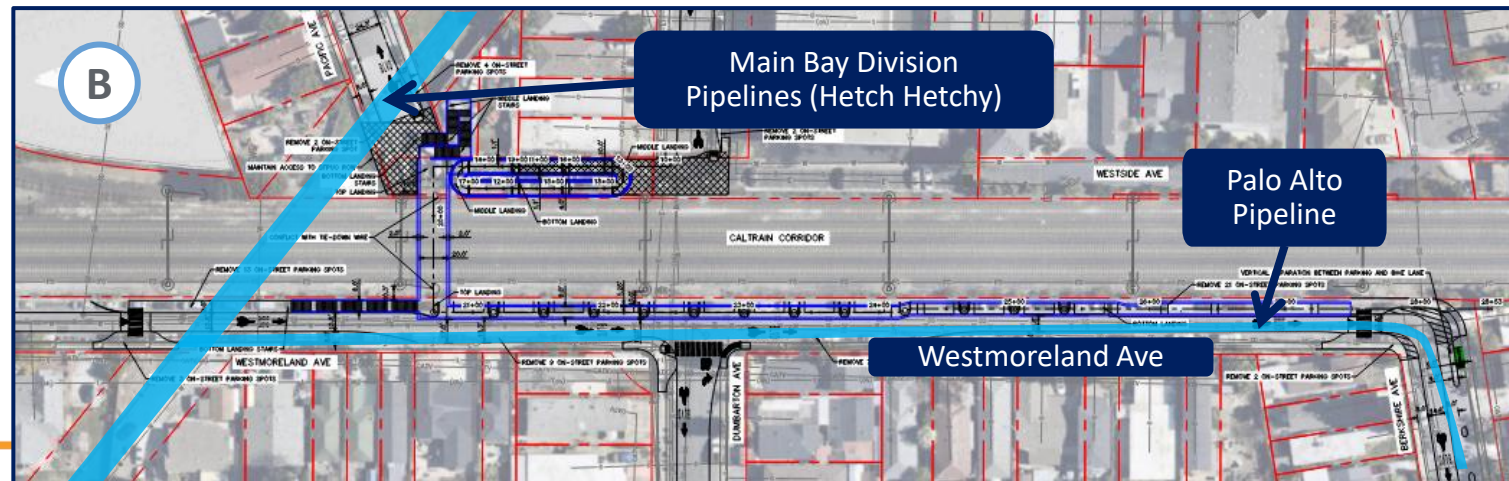
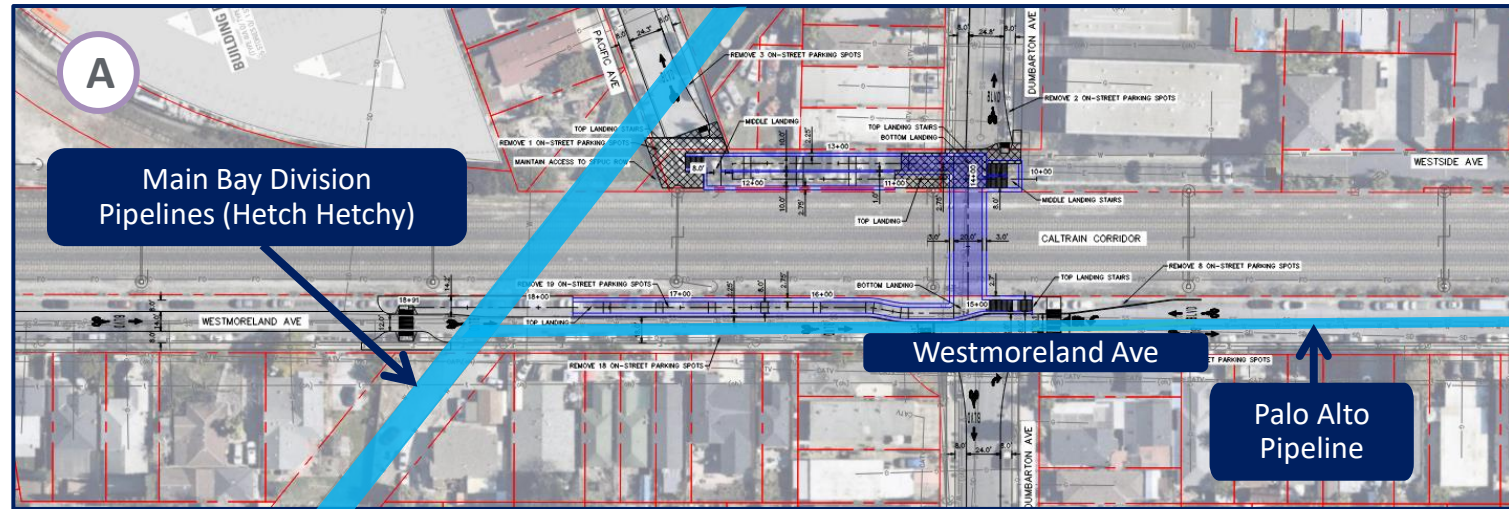


SFPUC Water Pipeline Constraints

Relevant Options


- A Dumbarton Avenue Tunnel
- B Dumbarton Avenue Bridge


















Two major water pipelines are likely to be impacted by construction of Option A or B





Option Constraints - Summary

 = Relevant consideration or impact for Option implementation

	SFPUC 	Caltrain 	Spur Conflicts 	Construction 	Engagement 	Parking 
Option A						
Option B						
Option C						

Each of the three Options presents complications that could not be adequately addressed within the scope of this Study



Community Engagement Round 3

Winter 2023



Key Takeaways from Community Conversations and Open House

- ✓ Appreciation for County's engagement efforts reaching the community
- 👏 Confirmation of prior outreach takeaways
- 📊 Disappointment at the difficulty of advancing a new rail crossing but understanding of the constraint
- 🚆 Desire by some to continue efforts to resolve crossing constraints
- 👍 Support for implementing community connections improvements separate from a new crossing



Conclusions and Considerations

- ➔ Need and support expressed for a new bridge crossing
- ➔ Magnitude and array of constraints with each rail crossing option prevents recommendation for a preferred alternative
- ➔ Community connection improvements could be implemented separate from a rail crossing

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Questions and Comments

Final Study Report: https://www.smcsustainability.org/wp-content/uploads/2024.02.12-North-Fair-Oaks-Rail-Crossing-and-Community-Connections-Study_Final-Report_.pdf

Final Study Report Appendices: <https://www.smcsustainability.org/wp-content/uploads/2024.02.13-NFO-Final-Report-Appendix.pdf>