

City of Albany

San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street Pedestrian Safety Improvements

PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING—QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES RECEIVED TO DATE (4/14/2016)

1. Has the City discussed the conceptual design with Fire and Police? **Yes. The Fire and Police Departments were part of the focus groups during the conceptual design development phase. However, it is expected that the design team consults with these Departments in relation to engineering of medians, curb extensions and turning radii.**
2. Do you have an approximate budget for construction? **The estimated construction budget is approximately \$3 million. A more detailed estimate will be developed during the design phase.**
3. Will the city lead the public outreach? **Yes, the City will coordinate the public outreach.**
4. Do you have turning movement counts for all the intersections? **Yes. The City has multi-modal counts for almost every intersection in the project area. Counts were taken in May 2014.**
5. Why are the bicycle lanes not included in the design? **The inclusion of the bike lanes requires additional removal of parking. In addition, the City has obtained a grant to evaluate the implementation of bicycle facilities along parallel routes to San Pablo Avenue: Kains and Adams. The City will issue a Request for Proposals for that project in the summer of 2016.**
6. Would the project require NEPA clearance? **Please provide this task as an alternative as there may be other sources of funding for this particular task.**
7. Can you clarify the need for the Geotechnical Investigation? **The project requires implementation of pedestrian illumination and the installation of a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon. Excavation of more than 3 feet may be required.**
8. How about including the bicycle crossing at Washington Avenue? **Yes, please include this crossing in your proposal as it is crucial to have this crossing to continue the bicycle facility west of San Pablo Avenue.**
9. Billing Rates? **Please provide the billing rates of each firm included in your team with your proposal.**
10. Please confirm the locations/limits of the medians on San Pablo. On Washington for example, the proposed improvement drawing shows medians on both north and south of

Washington, but the text says only north of Washington. The drawing or text does not provide a limit to the north, but there is a smaller median at Portland so it appears that these would not be connected. *Washington Avenue is a staggered intersection and this RFP covers the segment north of the southernmost leg of Washington Avenue. If you take a look at the Complete Streets Plan for San Pablo and Buchanan included in the package of this RFP, the approved design is a hybrid option for bike lanes (while bike lanes are not included in the RFP, it is important to design around their future implementation. The selected alternative provides an option for small median islands or continuous raised medians). The text is the following: Option 3 provides space for wide raised medians wherever possible; retains center turn lanes where needed; retains parking where demand is high; and provides bike lanes in some areas (Figure 3-17 of the Plan).*

The decision about the exact location of medians or median islands on San Pablo Ave. has to be done in coordination with our Fire and Police Departments and taken into consideration the possibility of a future implementation of bike lane and sharrows on San Pablo Ave. as recommended in the ATP Plan.

11. Should we anticipate installing irrigation for the landscaping in the new medians? **Yes.**
12. Please confirm which intersections will have bulb outs. Since Castro, Garfield, and Clay are not mentioned, are there no improvements planned at these locations? **Please refer to page 3-36 of the Complete Streets Plan for San Pablo and Buchanan for the recommendations for the un-signalized intersections. In summary they are:**
 - Raised medians (continuous raised medians or small median islands)
 - Curb extensions, where there are parking lanes, and where driveways or other constraints allow for the construction of a curb extension
 - Advanced yield lines with “Yield Here to Pedestrians” signs
 - High-visibility longitudinal crosswalk markings
 - Rectangular rapid-flash beacons
 - Pedestrian-scaled illumination
13. What is the City looking for the “Welcome to Albany” gateway signage? Will it be a large overhead sign attached to the overcrossing or a smaller sign panel attached to a luminaire or separate from the overcrossing? Does the City have a design (Text/Font/size/material) in mind or should we provide a few designs? **The City has branding colors and fonts, but we can consider other fonts (not other colors). You are welcome to provide alternative designs for the "Welcome to Albany" sign, but we expect something that represents the character of the City.**
14. What are the drainage issues referred to in the RFP? **Every time you design bulb outs, there are drainage considerations. You are also welcome to provide good locations for rain gardens on San Pablo Avenue. The City is interested on implementing more rain gardens with its projects whenever feasible.**

