

Carmen Road Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge Feasibility Study Public Meeting #1

The first public meeting for the project was held on January 24, 2019 at the Multipurpose Room, Monta Vista Recreation Center in the City of Cupertino to introduce members of the public to the project and the project team. The meeting format was held in an open-house format where attendees were invited to arrive at any time during the event window (6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.) and provide individual feedback on the project.

Twenty-eight (28) people signed into the event. The meeting included a sign-in table, a comments table, a table with the aerial maps for the project, and a board with the project timeline on display. City staff and the project consultant team were available at the various tables/displays to listen and answer any questions. Attendees were provided a comment form upon entering and were asked to complete and return before leaving so that their comments could be recorded.

Halfway through the meeting, Cupertino Transportation Manager David Stillman addressed the audience and provided a brief background of the project. Attendees asked to speak openly so that their comments and concerns could be heard by all that were present. The comments received from residents and members of the public during the open discussion are summarized below. Additionally, the completed comment forms received at the event are attached herein along with photos taken at the event.

- Would like a safer crosswalk to cross Stevens Creek
- Concerned about bike speeds
- Is a crossing under Stevens Creek possible?
- Usually cross Stevens Creek Boulevard on bike to school day only (Wednesday); if the bridge were built, they would use it more often and walk/bike to school every day.
- Concerned with the aesthetics of the bridge (feels the rendering is ugly)
- Concerned with allocation of resources/funds to the bridge
- Would like to help kids/elderly
- Supports a safer route for school children
- Concerned with the bike/ped accidents that have occurred in the neighborhood; would like studies done on those locations as well
- Feels that people want the bridge but will not use it

- Supports bridge as it will help traffic congestion, be healthier option to travel, avoid cars traveling 40+ mph, and it will be a good alternative from Foothill (loud due to trucks on road)
- Would like an elegant structure like the 280 bridge (Don Burnett Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge, now called the Mary Avenue Bridge which is a cable-stayed bridge over Interstate 280)
- Hates rendering bridge image
- Will the City build a bridge at Foothill and other crossings for school children?
- Felt that the survey framed Carmen Rd as the only option. Would like to explore other alternative locations
- Feel that the bridge would cause congestion as people will drop off at the bridge
- Wants the City to make a good decision
- Finds Carmen Road very narrow, especially when there are cars parked on both sides of the street—causing neighbors to drive in the middle of the road
- Privacy concern—does not want people on bridge looking to resident backyard
- A bridge would enable and/or increase home break-ins in the neighborhood. With more foot traffic, resident feels more vulnerable.
- Feels a better option would be fixing the light/crosswalk at Phar Lap
- Feels that a bridge would be an eyesore and would invite graffiti; cleanliness and maintenance of the bridge stated as a concern
- South side of Carmen Road has a steep grade. Worried about backing up car and hitting a bicyclist or pedestrian due to limited visibility
- Concerned about bridge cost
- Would it cost more to build a bridge or to fix grade and then do a ramp?
- Neighbor cannot turn left and finds it difficult to back up car from driveway
- The cul-de-sac on Carmen Road south of Stevens Creek Boulevard is crowded as three homes share a driveway—making it difficult to exit driveways. This is further compounded when there are cars constantly parked on trash/recycling day
- The bridge would create more crowding in the neighborhood.
- Stated an alternative to the bridge structure - providing a staircase for people to access Stevens Creek Boulevard from either side of Carmen Road and providing a traffic light for the crossing.
- Does not want to see more people walking/biking in the area. Will disturb the peace of the neighborhood.
- Building the bridge would help open the neighborhoods. Parents would have the option to walk instead of drive and won't need to compete with commuters. In the morning SR 85 is very bad which is why commuters prefer Stevens Creek Boulevard.

The bridge will help remove cars from the roads and reduce the need to drive in the morning.

- There was a lot of opposition in the initial stages of the project to the ped/bike bridge over Interstate 280. Would be good to investigate what kind of impact it had on the neighborhoods.
- Concern about graffiti and collection of debris on bridge over time.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
**CARMEN ROAD PEDESTRIAN-
BICYCLE BRIDGE FEASIBILITY STUDY**

The City of Cupertino Public Works Department invite you to attend the first public meeting for the Carmen Road Pedestrian-Bicycle Bridge Feasibility Study. This initial meeting will be conducted in an open house format where attendees can drop in any time during the event window. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the project, the study's goals and objectives, and to provide feedback to City staff and project consultants.

Date: Thursday, January 24, 2019
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Location: Monta Vista Recreation Center,
Multi-Purpose Room
22601 Voss Ave, Cupertino

For additional information, please visit www.cupertino.org/carmenbridge. Questions or comments can also be directed to:

City Contact: Jennifer Chu,
Associate Civil Engineer
Email: JenniferC@cupertino.org
Phone: (408) 777-3237



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The City of Cupertino Public Works Department invites you to attend the first public meeting for the Carmen Road Pedestrian-Bicycle Bridge Feasibility Study. The project was identified in the 2016 Cupertino Bicycle Transportation Plan and envisioned to provide a grade-separated bicycle and pedestrian connection across Stevens Creek Boulevard by continuing the existing alignment of Carmen Road. City staff has retained Mott MacDonald as the design consultant to develop the feasibility study for the bridge.

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The above rendering is for illustrative purposes only and is not representative of the actual design. The final bridge design will be informed by community feedback, available funding, and engineering considerations.





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COMMENT FORM

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 1/24/2019

Affiliation (if applicable): Resident

Address: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Comments:

Thank you for holding this informative meeting. I would like to stay informed & connected to the status of this project. Can you please add me to any appropriate email lists?

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____

Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Comments: The location is reasonable, and I agree with the concept. However, the "rendering" on computer is an ugly bridge. I would support a more aesthetically pleasing one

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: [REDACTED] Date: Jan. 24

Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Comments: instead of adding a new bridge we
should spend resources on improve existing
crossing at Phalap, making it safer and
more accessible

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: [REDACTED]

Date: 1/24/19

Affiliation (if applicable):

Address: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Comments:

- ① Optimize Taxpayer's money -
 - is this the best place to spend \$5M - \$10M?
 - are there other alternatives
- ② Suggest to make thing transparent
- ③ Mixup foot traffic with bike traffic
& seniors means danger
- ④ Other problems @ Cupertino -
 - 1/ Elderly killed crossing foothill Blvd
 - 2/ high school kid hit by big rig -
 - 3/ Encourage these

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 1/24/19

Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Comments:

① Safety Issue. Carmen Road (south) is very narrow. When both sides have cars parked, drivers can only drive in the middle of the road. There's an "uphill" portion on the ~~road~~ road, and drivers can hardly see people/bike/car from the other side.

② I live few houses away from the proposed bridge location, and I don't want people see my front/back yard from the bridge.

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: [Redacted] Date: 1/24/19

Affiliation (if applicable): Resident

Address: [Redacted] Cupertino CA
95014

E-mail: [Redacted]

Comments: I live in Montavista South & and
have experienced the congestion and
gridlock. Any opportunity that enables
people to walk and bike^{now} will make
the neighborhood safer, and cut down on
cars.

Cupertino is a very fragmented city. People
will be able to connect more.

Thank you.

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: _____ Date: 1.24.19

Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Comments:

I support this concept (crossing
Stevens Creek Blvd.) more safely
for students, cyclists, & pedestrians.
Please move forward expeditiously.

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: [Redacted] Date: 1/24/19

Affiliation (if applicable): Resident of Stevens Creek Parent.

Address: [Redacted]

E-mail: [Redacted]

Comments:
The community supports a healthy "living" and the school would like to promote "Walk n Roll" to school. I live behind Stevens Creek ^{Bwd} and have for 40+ years. With the increase in traffic (drivers) commuters use Stevens Creek as a short cut to by pass BS. Because of that, the traffic is horrendous and I refuse to have my child cross and walk to school - it is not safe. Limited opportunities to cross the streets. We need a comfortable, safe route to school -> A Bridge!

Please continue on back if necessary.

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COMMENT FORM

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 1/24/19

Affiliation (if applicable): Stevens Creek Elem? - resident of Cupertino

Address: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Comments:

My family and I both need & want this bridge. I am a mother of 3 kids, two of whom attend SCE, & one more who will 3 years from now. In an effort to support healthy habits & to get cars off the road in the mornings, we participate in "Walk & Roll" to school each wed. morning. To get there we need to cross SC Blvd. We go via Carmen St... and take our chances crossing during a break in traffic. Phar Lap & Foothill are too far out of the way to get us to school on time. This bridge would make our route to school SAFE & EASY for our family. Were it built, we would absolutely walk/bike more often, removing another car from morning traffic.

Please continue on back if necessary.

Additionally, a few more thought... there used to be a road →

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there before SC Blvd. existed. #2. Foothill, with all of the big trucks & traffic, is not a road we want to walk/bike along. #3. The crossing at Pham Lap is dangerous...I've seen many a car not stop going 40+ mph as a pedestrian waits to cross, even with the (now nonfunctioning) lights flashing.

Please build this bridge!!!

Thank you!

