



CMAQ/Article 3 Project Application

Project Applicant Information

Lead Agency or Organization: County of Ventura, Public Works Agency – Transportation Department		
Mailing Address: 800 S. Victoria Ave.		
City: Ventura	State: CA	Zip: 93009
Contact Person Name: Anitha Balan		Phone: (805) 654-2087
Title: Engineering Manager	E-mail: Anitha.Balan@ventura.org	

Project Information

1. <u>Project Name:</u> Casitas Vista Road Bike Lanes
2. <u>Project Type:</u> (Check all that apply) ☐ Transit ☒ Bicycle Facility ☐ Pedestrian Facility ☐ Other _____
3. <u>Project Description:</u> <i>(e.g. number of replacement or expansion vehicles including type, size, and purpose, for capital improvements include location, length, limits of work, size, etc. If bike lane, include length and class.)</i> The Casitas Vista Road Bike Lanes project involves pavement widening for installation of 1.42 Class II bike lane miles along Casitas Vista Road. The limits are from 53 feet west of Ventura Avenue to Santa Ana Road in the Casitas Springs area. This project is part of an effort to provide safe roadways for multiple modes of traffic and a continuous effort to construct bike lanes to promote and provide connectivity to regional routes within the Ventura and Ojai area. Casitas Vista Road serves an average of 2,500 vehicles per day.
4. <u>Project Location:</u> Casitas Vista Road, 53 feet west of Ventura Avenue to Santa Ana Road. ☒ Vicinity Map Attached: Exhibit 1 ☒ Project Site Map or Site Plan Attached: Exhibit 2 ☒ Photos Attached: Exhibit 3 ☒ N/A
5. ☐ Check Box if project is a stand-alone project ☒ Check Box if project is part of a larger project. If project is part of a larger project, please describe: Presently, there are no existing bicycle facilities on Casitas Vista Road and the bikeway network is disconnected. This project will provide for a well-connected regional, multimodal network characterized by continuous bicycle infrastructure from the Ojai Valley Trail on the south end to State Route 150 on the northern limits of Santa Ana Road and close a 3,750-foot gap between the recently constructed Santa Ana Road Bike Lanes and existing Ojai



Valley Trail (Exhibit 2). Casitas Vista Road Bike lanes and Santa Ana Road Bike Lanes are part of a four-phase project, with this Casitas Vista Road portion being the final phase. Santa Ana Road Bike Lanes (Phase I) were completed in July 2017. Phase II and III are expected to be completed by October of 2017. These improvements, when completed will provide a continuous 6.5 mile bike route.

6. Financial Information:

	CMAQ	Article 3	Required 11.47% Matching Funds (check box below)	Existing Funds	Total Project Cost
PE	-	\$11,991	-	\$80,000*	\$91,991
R/W	-	-	-	-	-
CON	\$488,686**	-	\$63,314	-	\$552,000
Total	\$488,686	\$11,991	\$63,314	\$80,000	\$643,991

Additional Financial Information

☐ Check Box if Requesting Toll Credits for CMAQ Local Match Requirements

*Existing 2016 TDA Article 3 funds

**Willing to accept TDA Article 3 funds in lieu of CMAQ funds

7. Project Schedule:

SCHEDULE			
(month/year)			
	Funds Obligated	Start Date	Completion Date
Preliminary Engineering	TDA Article 3 2016*	6/25/2015	01/2019
Preliminary Engineering	02/2018	02/2018	01/2019
Environmental	02/2018	03/2018	01/2019
Right-of-Way	-	-	-
Construction	03/2019	06/2019	07/2019

Note: Assuming funds are programmed 01/2018.

* The Project was initiated in 2015, 10% of Preliminary Engineering is complete

Project Screening Information

8. Project Readiness: Briefly describe (no more than 100 words) the project work plan and timeline:

This project has existing funding of \$80,000 from Article 3 TDA that is currently being used to fund a portion of Preliminary Engineering. The CMAQ/TDA funds will be used to fund the remaining preliminary engineering cost and construction phase of the project. No right-of-way or utility relocation issues have been identified at this time. There are no environmental impacts expected that will delay the execution of this project. Final design is expected to be completed early 2019, followed by construction in summer of 2019, once authorization to proceed with construction has been received. The project is expected to be completed within two years of funds being programmed for this cycle of CMAQ/TDA funds.



Check boxes for all items that have already been completed:

Preliminary Design

- ☒ Project Feasibility Study Completed
- ☒ Right-of-way needs and utility conflicts identified (underground utilities within project limits will be verified)
- ☐ Vehicle specifications identified
- ☒ Planning Level Cost Estimates

30% Design

- ☐ Dimensioned drawings showing existing and proposed improvements, topography, utilities and row etc.
- ☐ Revised Cost Estimates and Schedule

Environmental Clearance

- ☐ CE or Checklist Complete
- ☐ Draft Environmental Document Completed
- ☐ Final Environmental Document Completed

Final Construction Plans, Specifications, and Estimates or Vehicle Specifications

- ☐ Construction Plans, Specifications Completed
- ☐ Final Vehicle Specifications and Bid Packet Completed
- ☐ Ready to Advertise
- ☒ No Right of way needed or Right-of-Way Acquired
- ☒ No need to relocate utilities or Utilities Relocated

NA Number of Community Meetings Held (not including meetings to adopt community-wide master plans)

9. Safety and Security: Will the project improve safety and security at existing facilities or improve safety by building new facilities? Please list the specific improvements proposed and how they will improve safety.

Presently, there are no existing bicycle facilities on Casitas Vista Road and the bikeway network is disconnected. This project will provide for a well-connected regional, multimodal network characterized by continuous bicycle infrastructure by closing a 3,750 foot gap and connecting to the recently constructed Santa Ana Road Bike Lanes and existing Ojai Valley Trail (Exhibit 2).

Casitas Vista Road serves an average of 2,500 vehicles per day and has an 85th percentile speed of 41 miles per hour. County records indicate there has been one collision involving a bicyclist and vehicle over the past five years. A field investigation conducted during a one-hour, weekday morning period resulted in a count of 14 bicyclists within the project limits. Based on information provided in the 2007 Ventura Countywide Bicycle Master Plan (BMP), prepared by the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), an estimated 93 bicyclist per day potentially use the roadway. Exhibit 3 illustrates existing conditions with bicyclists using the travel way in absence of dedicated bicycle facilities.

The proposed project will construct facilities that are safe and comfortable to use by providing a dedicated space for bicyclists and thereby reducing conflicts between motorized and non-motorized modes of travel. Pavement widening will improve the overall safety of the roadway for both vehicles and bicyclists. Casitas Vista Road is a secondary route into Ojai Valley from Ventura. In addition to improving overall roadway safety during typical roadway conditions, this project will improve safety during high usage when Ventura Avenue (State Route 33) is impassible due to storm damage.



This non-motorized transportation infrastructure would provide additional safety on this roadway for users that intend to continue a multi-modal trip to other areas of Ventura County, Santa Barbara County, and Los Angeles County by using nearby transit services and the Park & Ride Lot located near the on/off ramps for State Route 33 and Casitas Vista Road.

Furthermore, this project would improve safety for bicyclists that use the roadway for a 50-mile loop via Ventura Avenue or the Ojai Valley Trail, Santa Ana Road, State Route 150 to Bates Road, and then south on US 101 and the Pacific Coast Highway (State Route 1). Studies show that more people are inclined to use bicycle for both commuting and recreational purposes if a facility is provided, thus increasing the number of trips made by bicycling. Studies have also identified that well-connected bicycle lanes seem to have an immediate effect of lowering risk to bicyclists.

10. Air Quality Improvement: Briefly describe how the project will improve air quality.

This transportation control measure is projected to reduce average annual auto vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 3,510 miles and reduce greenhouse gas emission by 21 metric tons of CO₂e through reduced vehicle trips shifted during bicycling. As the area becomes more inviting to bicyclists, increasing numbers of work, school, shopping, and recreational trips will be made on bicycle. Cumulatively, this pattern will reduce traffic in some areas and improve air quality.

- For bicycle and/or pedestrian projects please provide estimated new average daily trips.
 - As discussed in the 2007 BMP, on Pages 98 to 103, in Ventura County, 1.3% trips are made by commuter and utilitarian bicyclists. It is estimated that implementing new bikeways will result in an increase of future daily bicycle mode share from 1.3% to 7%. Based on 2015 census data and the BMP, this project has a potential to benefit 93 existing commuters and up to 500 future commuter and utilitarian bicycle users.
- For bicycle and/or pedestrian projects please provide average daily traffic volumes on adjacent or nearest parallel roadway.
 - Casitas Vista Road ADT (2016): 2,500
 - Santa Ana Road ADT (2016): 1,900
 - N Ventura Avenue ADT (2016): 800
- For transit, bicycle and/or pedestrian projects provide estimated annual VMT reduced.
 - The average annual auto VMT reduced is 3,510
 - Greenhouse gas emissions reduced by 21.0 MT of CO₂e (Calculated using the California Air Resources Board: GHG Emission Reduction Calculator Tool)
- Average projected ridership.
 - Not applicable
- Will the project improve the level of service of a transit system?
 - Not applicable
- For transit vehicle purchases, please provide vehicle type, fuel type.
 - Not applicable

11. Project's Potential to Increase Transit System Capacity and/or Ridership, Attract Active Transportation Users, Reduce Motor Vehicle Trips and Serve Destinations: Describe the project's direct relationship to streets, bicycle facilities, pedestrian facilities, transit systems, employment centers, and activity centers.



The proposed project has the potential to directly benefit approximately 400 to 500 persons in the Camp Chaffee Area and residents located immediately downstream of the Casitas Dam (between the end of Casitas Vista Road and Santa Ana Road). In addition, it would benefit residents living in the unincorporated areas of Casitas Springs, Live Oak, Oak View, and other users that utilize this route to access the Ojai Valley and northerly end of Ventura Avenue. For those residents that commute to work or school in Ventura, Oak View, and Ojai, this project will make the route safer and more comfortable for users.

As mentioned earlier, based on 2015 census data and the BMP, this project has a potential to benefit 93 existing commuters and 500 future commuter and utilitarian bicycle users, thereby reducing vehicular trips.

This project could benefit multi-modal travel combining driving or bicycling with other modes of travel such as transit, carpool, or vanpool. Gold Coast Transit District serves the area directly with Route 16 on Casitas Vista Road and N Ventura Avenue and several more transit stops within a 2-mile radius of the project limits. Additionally, there is an existing Park & Ride Lot beneath the State Route 33 freeway on/off ramps. Destinations served within a 2-mile radius of the project are listed in Exhibit 4.

Furthermore, this project would provide safe access to the 15-mile Ojai Valley Trail that parallels Highway 33 and Ventura River and the popular 50-mile loop via Ventura Avenue or the Ojai Valley Trail, Santa Ana Road, State Route 150 to Bates Road, and then south on US 101 and the Pacific Coast Highway (State Route 1).

12. Network Connectivity and Local or Regional Significance: Does the project serve more than one mode of transportation? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain how:

The presence of new bikeways will encourage residents to use existing transit facilities as an additional mode of transportation, attracting active transportation users. With proposed improvements, users will have multiple modes of travel available to use: vehicular, bicycle, and transit.

13. Local or Regional Significance: Is the project consistent with the local, regional or statewide plans, the District Air Quality Management Plan, or the Short Range Transit Plan? ☒ Yes ☐ No

14. Local or Regional Significance: Is the Project identified in an adopted Local or Regional Transportation Plan (Short Range Transit Plan, Bicycle, Pedestrian, Active Transportation, Strategic Plan, CMP, ITS plan, Signal Plan, SRTS Plan, Corridor Plan) or Capital Improvement Plan? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide the name(s) of the document(s):

- 2007 Ventura Countywide Bicycle Master Plan
- 2013 Transportation Department Strategic Master Plan
- 2017 Bicycle Wayfinding Plan
- 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 & 2017 Capital Improvement Plan

15. Bicycle Wayfinding Study: Is the Project Identified as a missing gap in the Bicycle Wayfinding Study? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide the route number from the Study <https://www.goventura.org/vctc-bicycle-wayfinding-plan>:



Route #9, Santa Barbara to Ojai

16. Local or Regional Significance: Briefly describe the public participation process (e.g. public meetings, public notices, project website, mailings, newspaper articles, etc...). How did the agency consider comments and responses from meetings when designing the project?

For this project, the Transportation Department received letters of support from the Channel Islands Bike Club. In addition, Gold Coast Transit District directly serves the project area and has also expressed support for the project with a letter of support. The letters of support can be found in Exhibit 5 for your reference. The Supervisor for District #1 also supports these improvement efforts.

Further public support has also been expressed through the approval of the Bicycle Master Plan in October 2007 by the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Ventura County Transportation Commission. Additional support is through BOS approval of the latest revision to the 2013 Transportation Department Strategic Master Plan (SMP) which lists and prioritizes all transportation-related projects in the unincorporated areas. Of the bike lane projects on the list, Casitas Vista Road Bike Lanes Project is ranked #2 in the SMP.

17. Transit Project Necessity: For Transit Projects, describe the Project's necessity in relation to the Continued Operation of the Existing Transit System with Reliable Equipment.

Not Applicable.



CEO CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the applications included in this submittal package represent this agency's complete proposal for projects recommended for funding at this time. Should the projects be approved for funding by the Ventura County Transportation Commission, this agency will commit the local match as specified in the applications, and will make a priority of meeting the stated project delivery deadlines.

This agency is willing and able to maintain and operate the projects contained in the applications, and hereby assures that it will do so, with the proviso that the agency is permitted to transfer this responsibility to another qualified agency that is willing to do so.

Signature

David Fleisch

Printed Name

August 17, 2017

Date

Director, Transportation Department

Title*

Public Works Agency Transportation Department

Agency

*Must be signed by City Manager, County Executive Officer, County Transportation Agency Director, or other organizational CEO.

LIST OF EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT 1: VICINITY MAP

EXHIBIT 2: LOCATION MAP

EXHIBIT 3: PHOTOS

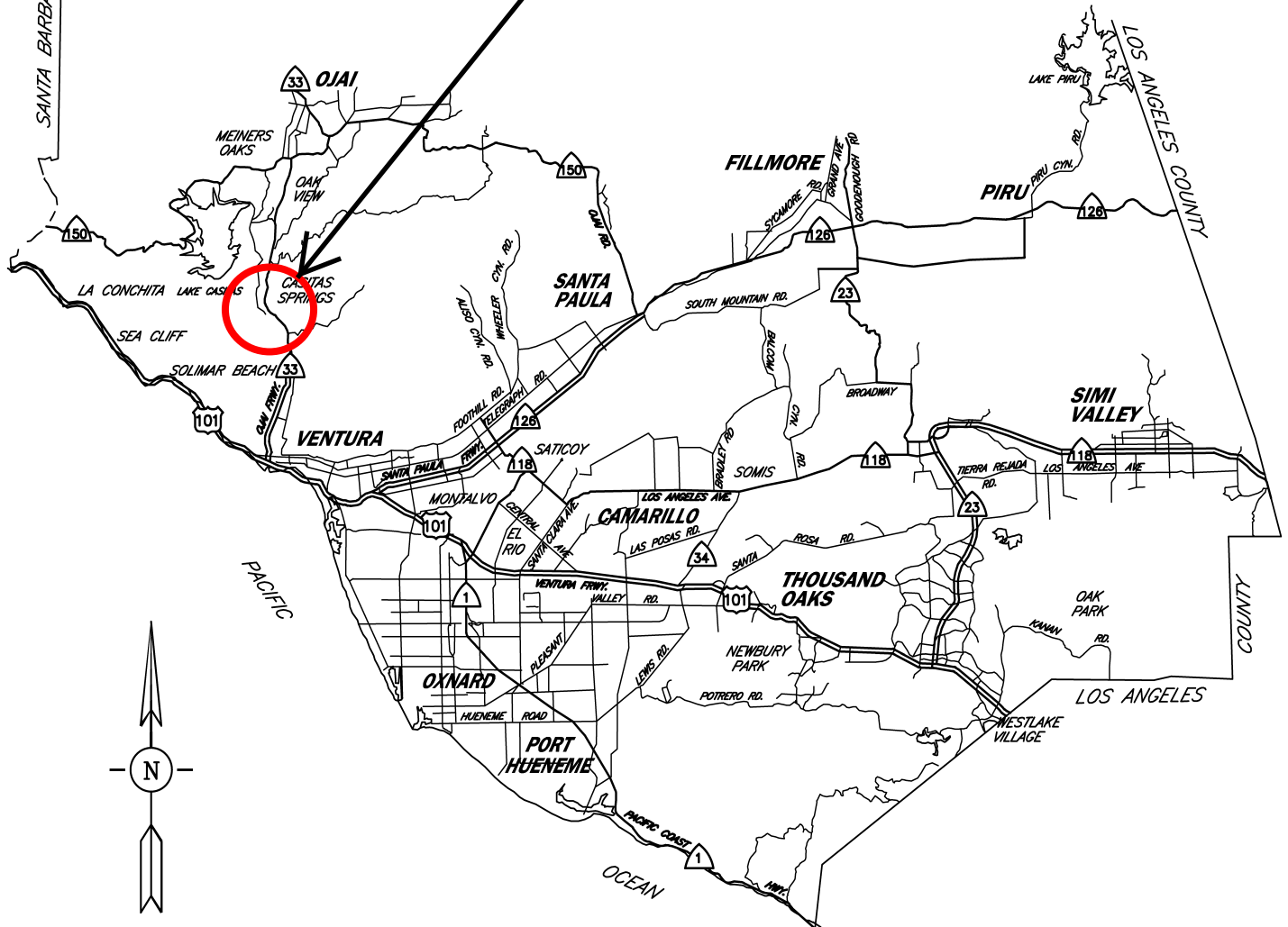
EXHIBIT 4: DESTINATION MAP

EXHIBIT 5: LETTERS OF SUPPORT

EXHIBIT 1

VICINITY MAP

PROJECT



VICINITY MAP

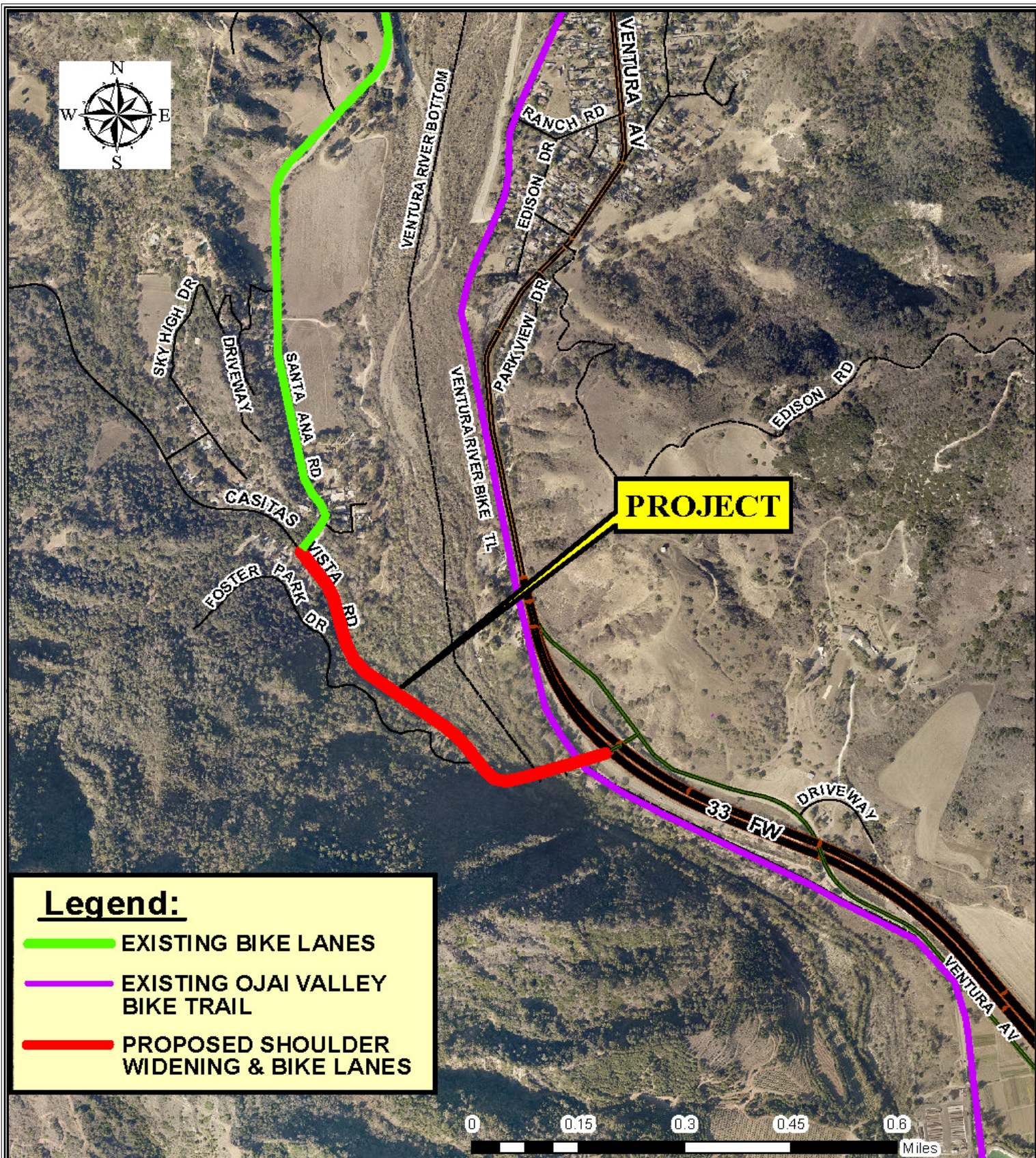
NTS

**COUNTY OF VENTURA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**
COMBINED CMAQ AND TDA APPLICATION - 2017
CASITAS VISTA ROAD BIKE LANES
FROM 53' WEST OF VENTURA ROAD TO SANTA ANA ROAD
VICINITY MAP

EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 2

LOCATION MAP



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CASITAS VISTA ROAD BIKE LANES
FROM 53' WEST OF VENTURA ROAD TO SANTA ANA ROAD
LOCATION MAP

EXHIBIT 2

EXHIBIT 3

PHOTOS



CASITAS VISTA ROAD - EXISTING CONDITION



CASITAS VISTA ROAD - PROPOSED CONDITION

COUNTY OF VENTURA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
 COMBINED CMAQ AND TDA APPLICATION - 2017
 CASITAS VISTA ROAD BIKE LANES
 53' W/O VENTURA AVENUE TO SANTA ANA ROAD
 PHOTOS (APPLICATION QUESTION #4, 9)

EXHIBIT 3
 1 of 2



CASITAS VISTA ROAD - TRAVELING SOUTH



CASITAS VISTA ROAD - TRAVELING NORTH

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COMBINED CMAQ AND TDA APPLICATION - 2017
CASITAS VISTA ROAD BIKE LANES
53' W/O VENTURA AVENUE TO SANTA ANA ROAD
PHOTOS (APPLICATION QUESTION #4, 9)

EXHIBIT 3
2 of 2

EXHIBIT 4

DESTINATION MAP

Bike Lane Legend:

- EXISTING BIKE LANES
- EXISTING OJAI VALLEY BIKE TRAIL
- PROPOSED SHOULDER WIDENING & BIKE LANES

Destinations Within 2-Mile Radius:

- 1 TEEN CHALLENGE
- 2 GCT ROUTE 16 - VENTURA AVE & TEEN CHALLENGE NB
- 3 GCT ROUTE 16 - VENTURA AVE & TEEN CHALLENGE SB
- 4 GCT ROUTE 16 - CASITAS VISTA RD & HWY 33
- 5 GCT ROUTE 16 - VENTURA AV & CASITAS VISTA RD
- 6 PARK AND RIDE
- 7 OJAI VALLEY TRAIL/VENTURA RIVER TRAIL
- 8 FOSTER PARK RECREATION AND CAMPING
- 9 BERNADETTE'S BOTANICALS
- 10 CASITAS MARKET
- 11 CASITAS SPRINGS COMMUNITY CENTER
- 12 SPRINGS OF LIFE CHURCH
- 13 NURSERY
- 14 GCT ROUTE 16 -HWY 33 & ARROYO SB
- 15 GCT ROUTE 16 - HWY 33 & ARROYO NB

PROJECT

0 0.15 0.3 0.45 0.6 Miles

**COUNTY OF VENTURA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**
COMBINED CMAQ AND TDA APPLICATION - 2017
CASITAS VISTA ROAD BIKE LANES
FROM 53' WEST OF VENTURA ROAD TO SANTA ANA ROAD
DESTINATION MAP

EXHIBIT 4

EXHIBIT 5

PUBLIC SUPPORT



Channel Islands Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 6481
Oxnard, California 93031

July 20, 2017

Mr. David Fleisch, Director
County of Ventura PWA Transportation Department
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Dear Director Fleisch,

We are writing in support of the grant application by the Ventura County Public Works Transportation Department to the 2017 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds to construct Class II bike lanes on Casitas Vista Road, from Ventura Avenue to Santa Ana Road.

We are seeing increasing numbers of cyclists commuting to Ventura from the Santa Ana Road area. Bike lanes on Casitas Vista would allow residents on Santa Ana Road to safely access the Ventura River Trail Class I bikeway. Unfortunately, Casitas Vista Road was not constructed with bicycle use in mind and it is a barrier to cycling for many.

Bicycle lanes would enhance the safety for both bicyclists and motorists.

Channel Islands Bicycle Club, CIBC, represents over 300 bicyclists who regularly utilize bicycles for commuting, daily errands, recreation, and exercise. We are very interested in working with the County to improve our local environment and facilities for bicyclists. If you wish our involvement on any project, please contact Kate Faulkner, CIBike Government Liaison, at 648-1426 or treasurercibike@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin Velarde".

Edwin Velarde
President



August 7, 2017

Mr. David Fleisch, Director
County of Ventura PWA Transportation Department
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: COUNTY OF VENTURA CMAQ/TDA APPLICATION FOR CASITAS VISTA
ROAD BIKE LANES PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Fleisch:

The Gold Coast Transit District (GCTD) offers its support on behalf of the County of Ventura's application for a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)/Transportation Development Act (TDA) Grant for the *Casitas Vista Road Bike Lanes* project.

Presently, there are no existing bicycle facilities on Casitas Vista Road. This project will provide for a well-connected, multimodal network characterized by continuous bicycle infrastructure by tying into the recently constructed Santa Ana Road Bike Lanes and existing Ojai Valley Trail.

GCTD serves the area directly with Route 16 bus stops at Casitas Vista Road and North Ventura Avenue. Route 16 provides service from the area to Oak View, Ojai, and the City of Ventura via Highway 33. Route 16 also serves the Ventura Transit Center (VTC) where there are connections available to a number of additional GCTD routes, as well as VCTC Intercity routes. This project would provide additional safety on this roadway for motorized and non-motorized users that intend to continue a multi-modal trip to other areas of Ventura County or Santa Barbara County by taking advantage of the ability to bring a bike along on transit services or by utilizing the Park & Ride Lot at the on/off ramps for Highway 33 and Casitas Vista Road.

GCTD supports its member agencies in projects such as the County of Ventura's *Casitas Vista Road Bike Lanes* project that will improve connectivity in the community and make taking transit a more viable transportation option.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Rauschenberger
Director of Planning and Marketing
Gold Coast Transit District

GOLD COAST TRANSIT DISTRICT