

From: [Philip Mooney](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Cc: [Mayor Kate](#)
Subject: Agenda item 4. Open Time for Public Expression
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 9:00:16 PM

9/10/2024

Transportation Authority of Marin
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Dear Members of the TAM BPAC,

I am writing to recommend that the Transportation Authority of Marin apply for funding from the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) grant program for a feasibility study on the Canal Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing. Given that TAM will already be applying for an RCN grant for the Bellam Boulevard improvements, it is both logical and efficient to apply for additional funding for the Canal Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing concurrently. This project aligns perfectly with the goals of the RCN program, which is dedicated to addressing the impacts of legacy highways like Highway 101 and reconnecting communities that have been severed by such infrastructure.

The Canal Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing is a top priority outlined in San Rafael's 2022 Canal Neighborhood Community-Based Transportation Plan (CBTP). The need for connectivity north of the Canal neighborhood has been a consistent and vocal community request, and the most recent community engagement efforts demonstrated overwhelming support for this improvement, with the canal crossing listed as the #1 priority project and receiving more votes than any other proposed project. The 2018 San Rafael Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan also highlights the necessity of a bridge crossing to enhance access to Third Street and improve connectivity within the community.

To move forward with the project, a feasibility study is required. In the 2022 Canal Neighborhood Community-Based Transportation Plan (CBTP), the Reconnecting Communities Grant is mentioned by name as a funding source to look at for their #1 solution of a canal bridge (Table 7, Item 1). The Monitoring Progress section of the plan's #1 goal is to secure funding for and complete a feasibility study on the canal bridge by 2027 (Table 8, Item 1).

I urge you to consider this recommendation and take the necessary steps to apply for the RCN grant for the feasibility study of the Canal Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing at the same time you're applying for the Bellam Blvd Improvements project. This approach not only leverages the opportunity to address multiple community needs but also maximizes the potential impact of the RCN funding.

Thank you for your continued commitment to enhancing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in our community.

Sincerely,

Philip Mooney
San Rafael, CA