City of Sonora

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 6, 2018
TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Paula M. Daneluk, AICP, Planner
SUBJECT: Stockton / Washington Corridor – Downtown Transit & Accessibility Improvement Project (Bus Stop Location)

RECOMMENDATION:

City staff requests that the City Council give direction to staff regarding the location of the proposed bus stops as part of the Stockton / Washington Corridor Downtown Transit & Accessibility Improvement Project.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Sonora applied for and received a grant for the Stockton / Washington Corridor – Downtown Transit & Accessibility Improvement Project. The City executed a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. on June 18, 2018, for the project's design engineering services including engineering, field survey work, landscape and electrical design services, and public outreach. Engineering services must be fully completed on or before April 1, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., has developed conceptual layouts for two possible locations of the transit stop within the project location area (as designated in the grant application). On July 23, 2018, the public was invited to an Open House to solicit input on three elements of the proposed project: location, transit stop shelter design and sign design. The concept boards were left on display at City Hall through July 31st for public comment.

The public was asked to give comments and vote on the three elements. At this time, direction is needed from the City Council on the location of the transit stop to enable the project engineers to engage the consultants necessary to provide the detailed data for the next stage of design such as surveying. As stated previously, the engineering services must be completed before April 2019, so this is the critical path item at this time. With the additional data, Kimley-Horn will proceed to next level of design and detail including the geometric and lane layouts. The design elements of the transit stop and sign will be brought to City Council for direction at a later meeting.

The public provided comments and voted on the two location options. In no particular order, the votes / comments received are attached and listed below:

Stockton – Washington Corridor Concept 1 (Washington Street)

- Better pedestrian facilities on this concept location
- Is it true that the RFP stated that this project was to have a negative declaration with an assessment?
- Love the welcome to Historical Sonora.
- Remove this element (sign).
- No landscaping. City cannot maintain landscaping.
- Location has great sight lines (good for bus shelter).
- Bus stop too wide- constrains traffic.
- Move bus stop away from high use intersection – only adds congestion to already too busy location – what are you thinking?
- Losing the two lanes of traffic is BAD and will negatively impact the downtown.
- Tight turn in trucks.
- Please don't do this project keep our town the same.
- Agreed with previous comment.
- This layout has safety issues and will create severe congestion. Leave the curblines and laning as is.
- Anti-diagonal parking.
- Diagonal parking is a REALLY bad idea.
- Too many spaces for parking lost.
- Install Bromley stone here- historical location.
- This (bus stop) needs to be in front of Bank of America.
- Buses parked in front of Yosemite Title will create a HUGE safety issue with pedestrians crossing Washington at Church Street – HUGE SAFETY CONCERN!!!
- I agree with previous comment.
- Shorter crosswalk then there is now.
- Needs 2 lanes of traffic in each direction between Stockton and Church Street.
- Tight turn issue. Diagonal parking dangerous backing into traffic.
- Concern with coming off Church Street turning left onto Washington. Blind corner – you need to pull out further to see to turn. Diagonal parking would block more.
- Move bus parking to Shepherd Street and Theall Street.
- Why do this project? The public does not want it. Two votes against it.
- Yes! Pedestrian friendly!
- A lot of safety concerns with buses blocking view of motorist and pedestrians trying to cross.
- Where is slate or limestone? Looks like everywhere USA. Cult of the new and improved.
- Looks like ugly terrible traffic jam. Not Historic. Over-done. Town is finally doing better – so don't take away parking.

Stockton – Washington Corridor Concept 2 (Stockton Street)

- Concept 2 – Yes
- Move bus parking to Shepherd Street at Theall – only use up 2 parking spaces avoid danger
- Yes! Very thoughtful.
- BAD IDEA - NOT SONORA - STOP IT!
- Terrible design for traffic at peak times
- This design is sure to cause accidents. Will increase income for Body Shops. Maybe station a tow truck here.
- Seems tight – backing out into traffic?
- Like the idea of sprucing up Stockton Street. Diagonal parking dangerous.
- Diagonal parking is a really BAD idea.
- This concept seems to be less intrusive and doesn't block local businesses.
- Remove landscaping. City can't maintain.

- Diagonal parking is dangerous – don't make drivers back into oncoming traffic.
- Move bus stop in front of Trado's – out of high use intersection.
- These pull-in parking spots would be hard to back out of (both concepts).
- Needs a crosswalk
- Tis layout has safety issues and will create severe congestion. Maintain two lanes in each direction between Washington and the Savemart entrance. Leave existing curblines.
- Needs to be closer to original sidewalk.
- Makes Green Street crossing MORE dangerous.
- Crosswalk?
- Some should Doug Kennedy regarding his parking lot being reduced.
- Can't support this without a crosswalk. You're adding too much pedestrian traffic! Must have crosswalk west intersection (Green Street / Washington)
- Option 2 – yes
- Like better #2. Do not like to see historic main change so much on other Option 1. But do not like either.
- Hotel parking is already limited, eliminates crucial parking spots.
- Bad design – very dangerous
- Reduce bulb-out.
- Keep two lanes of traffic. Remove landscaping – 0 maintenance of landscaping
- Add crosswalk on Green Crossing Stockton
- Bus stop too wide. Constrains traffic – causes congestion.
- Bulb-outs on Stockton and Washington cause a concern of collision.
- Potential collision area – reduces the ability of large trucks to make a right turn on to south bound Washington Street.
- I agree with previous comment.
- Love the welcome to "Historical Sonora"
- Remove the sign. Not needed. Does not relate to bus parking.
- Remove bulb-outs-keep existing sidewalks.

VOTE FOR A LOCATION

Washington
Option 1

I prefer #1 - more room

Yes, more functional!
for buses, less conflict

X - Washington - better access

X - better pedestrian accessability & flow of traffic as option 2 narrows traffic corridor too much

Stockton
Option 2

X

Better - more room & less impact on Wash. St.

X

✓!

✓

#2 if have to - but none!

X

X (SEEMS BETTER TO IMPACT STOCKTON THAN WASHINGTON—AND TO REMOVE FEWER PARKING SPACES)

X

X

Option 3

Shepherd St
@ The all

Option 4

No ~~put~~ project
keep curblines
as ~~they~~ are ✓

Both have serious deficiencies—designer only wants to argue and not listen.

X Why so big?

X Why Both sides of road?

X

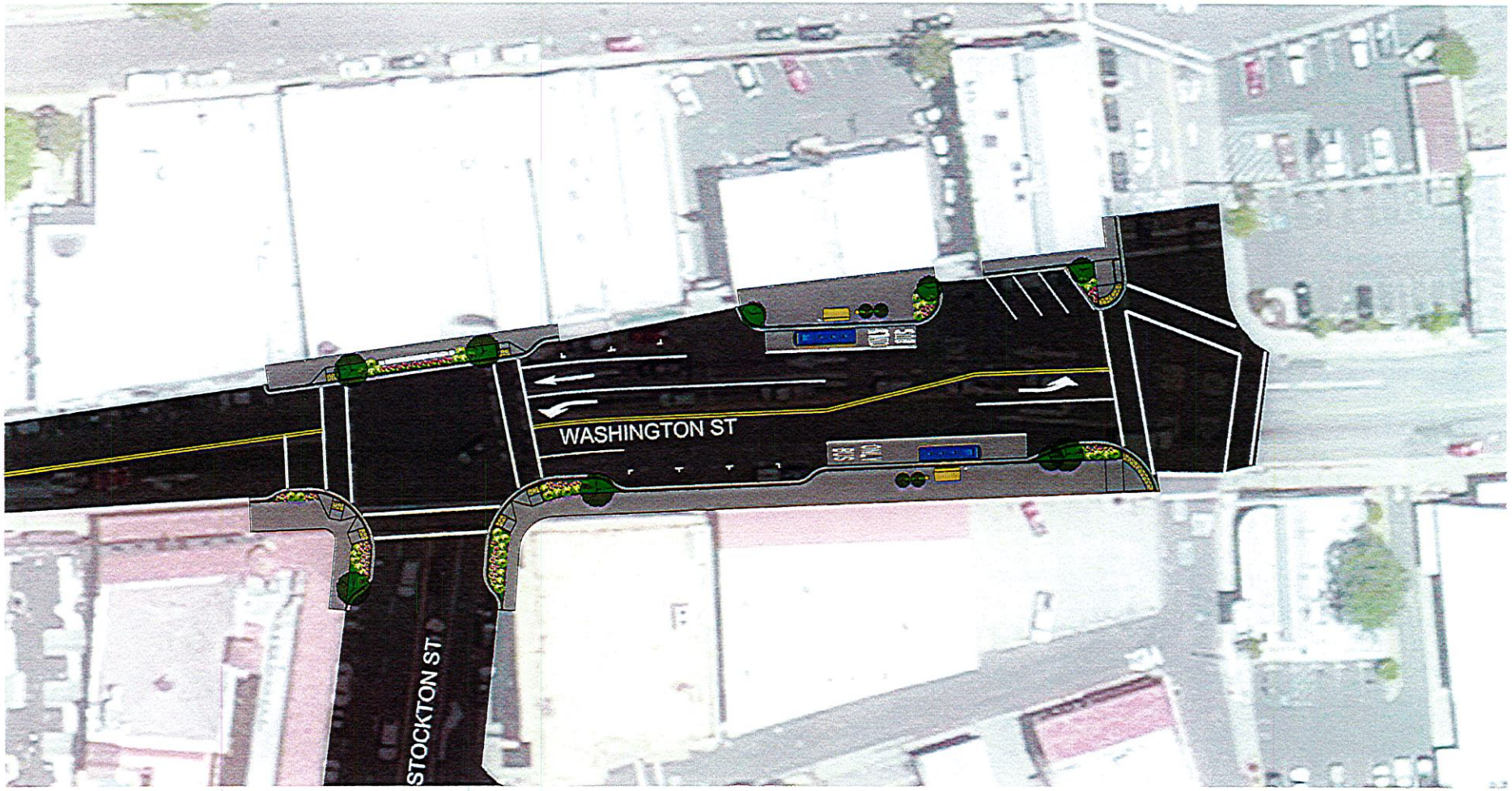
X

X

X

STOCKTON-WASHINGTON CORRIDOR

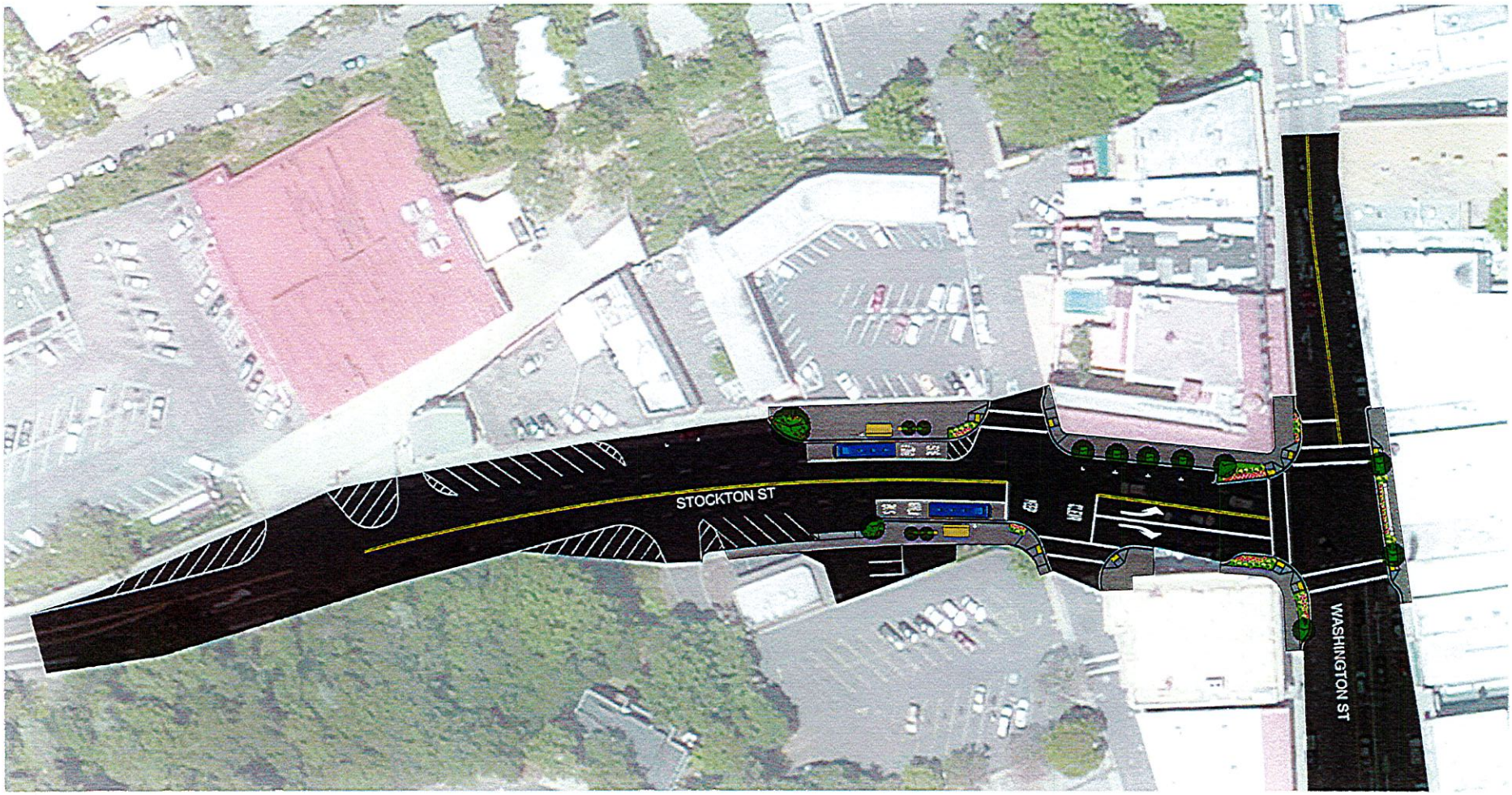
Downtown Transit & Accessibility Concept 1



Kimley»Horn

STOCKTON-WASHINGTON CORRIDOR

Downtown Transit & Accessibility Concept 2



Kimley»Horn