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## **Construction Underway for Foothill Expressway Bicycle Lane Improvements in Los Altos**

*Community members and bicycle advocates played key role in design*

**Santa Clara County, Calif.** – Construction for bicycle lane improvements on Foothill Expressway, between San Antonio Road and El Monte Avenue in Los Altos, began in mid-September. The County Roads and Airports Department collaborated with the City of Los Altos on community workshops to collect public input on bicycle movement and transitions at the two expressway intersections, and then incorporated the feedback into the project design. Construction is anticipated to be completed around Oct. 22.

The bicycle lane improvements include an extension of the painted transition zone to 250 feet; green paint striping before and after the bicycle transition zone; and additional lighting in the bicycle transition zone. Drivers can expect construction activities to include electrical work, pothole repair, removing some of the existing striping, adding new markings and micro-surfacing.

Community feedback was collected at several public meetings and through email. The County held a community workshop on July 27 and presented options to revise the traffic lane markings to improve the safety and comfort for cyclists that use Foothill Expressway. The options were discussed at a meeting of the City of Los Altos Complete Streets Commission on Aug. 10. The County also worked with the California Traffic Control Devices Committee to gain approval of the wide green paint skip-striping

concept. This concept, which was designed by the County, incorporates engineering standards and input from the community.

The bicycle lane improvements further enhance recent roadwork completed this summer as part of the overall [Foothill Expressway Auxiliary Lane Project](#), which provided operational and safety improvements between San Antonio Road and El Monte Avenue intersections. Those changes included adding a second through lane on westbound El Monte Avenue, while maintaining the dedicated right turn pocket; adding a second right turn lane from southbound Foothill Expressway onto westbound El Monte Avenue; squaring all four corners at the intersection of Foothill Expressway and El Monte Avenue to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety; road widening; modification of traffic signals; pavement treatment; landscaping; irrigation; and other related improvements.

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