



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of San Diego Park Boulevard Repaving Project Improves Safe Multimodal Access through Balboa Park

COMMUNITY INPUT HELPED SHAPE FINAL DESIGN; STREET PROJECT COMPLETION ANTICIPATED THIS DECEMBER

SAN DIEGO – Following extensive community engagement and planning, the City of San Diego is moving forward with a major road repair project on Park Boulevard that will repave the road and include new transit-only lanes and bikeways to enhance efficiency, safety and accessibility for all San Diegans. The bikeway and transit priority lanes on the newly repaired street will link recently completed bike lanes and transit investments in the communities of Uptown, University Heights, Downtown and North Park and provide safe and efficient multi-modal access to Balboa Park.

“Park Boulevard is a major thoroughfare in our city and I’m excited that the City is finally going to fix the road and make improvements for all types of transportation – driving, biking, and transit,” said Mayor Todd Gloria. “This is part of our continued efforts to fix our streets and give San Diegans more choices on how to get around our city – choices that are safe, feasible, and good for the environment.”

The Park Boulevard project will overlay the street with new asphalt following a water pipeline replacement. The City will then reconfigure the street to reserve one lane going each way for transit and provide a new separated bikeway on both sides of the street from Morley Field Drive to Presidents Way through Balboa Park. Taking a “complete streets” approach to street design, City staff worked with MTS to improve access for public transit while maintaining some street parking at key locations, including ADA spaces and certain loading zones.

A dedicated bus lane will improve efficiency for public transit and will ensure general traffic flow through the busy Balboa Park corridor. According to the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), ridership has increased on bus routes throughout the City. MTS route 215 and route 7, the busiest route on the network, serve the neighborhoods adjacent to Balboa Park, providing daily rides between Downtown and stops near SDSU and La Mesa.

Once construction on the street is completed, a majority of Park Boulevard will have three travel lanes on each side of the street: the separated bikeway, a lane dedicated to MTS bus travel and a general travel

lane. Turn lanes and turning pockets will also remain at intersections to keep ingress and egress into the park flowing. In some sections of the street, including near the World Beat Center, Centro Cultural de la Raza, and the Rose Garden, busses will share the general travel lane to preserve on-street parking where off-street spaces are limited.

The Park Boulevard project maintains a total of 67 parking spaces along the route: 55 spaces on the west side, 12 spaces on the east and four loading zones. The City is currently planning to add approximately 100 spaces during an upcoming repair of Balboa Park Drive.

“I thank everyone who weighed in during months of community discussions on the striping of new lanes on Park Blvd,” said Councilmember Stephen Whitburn. “That input is reflected in the final design and in plans for upcoming improvements to Balboa Park. I want bicyclists and pedestrians to feel safe, buses to run efficiently, and Balboa Park institutions to be well-attended. Safe and efficient modes of transportation are essential to the future of our City.”

As a priority project of the City’s [Bicycle Master Plan](#), the Park Boulevard project connects to new separated bike lanes in several neighboring communities, including the Eastern Hillcrest Bikeways regional bikeway.

Investments in separated bike lanes can save lives. San Diego had the highest number of deaths for people riding bikes in 2021 than the City has seen in the six years prior. Bike lanes are key to creating more safe road conditions by giving bicycle and scooter riders dedicated space and greater visibility.

The project design team incorporated feedback from the public and stakeholders, such as the Balboa Park Committee, park institutions and residents in neighboring communities, into the final design.

For more information about the Park Boulevard bikeways project, visit sandiego.gov/bicycling/projects.

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