

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 24, 2018 CONTACT: Nikki Jimenez (619) 236-6655 njimenez@sandiego.gov

Infrastructure Committee Advances Agreement to Complete SR-56 Bike Path

San Diego –Today, the <u>Infrastructure Committee approved a cooperative agreement</u> between the City of San Diego and Caltrans to complete the missing most westerly segment of State Route 56 Bike Path.

The 56 Bike Path is a 10.5 mile closed multi-use pathway parallel to SR-56. Its completion will provide a safe corridor for pedestrians and cyclists traveling between Interstate 5 and Interstate 15.

"Extending the current bike path under I-5 will go a long way in enhancing the bike and pedestrian connectivity across the northern part of the City," said Councilman Mark Kersey, who chairs the Infrastructure Committee and represents communities along SR-56. "This project will give peace of mind to the many San Diegans who utilize the SR-56 bike path for both commuting and recreation."

In its current configuration, the bike path starts at Rancho Carmel Drive in the east, and dead ends at a dirt path approximately 200 feet from I-5. The proposed project would ensure the path extends underneath I-5 and connects to the Coastal Rail Trail at Old Sorrento Valley Road. Cyclists and pedestrians will no longer have to cross busy streets such as El Camino Real and Carmel Valley Road.

Under the agreement, the City will contribute up to \$2.25 million for construction. Caltrans will be responsible for the remaining financial obligations and completion of the project. The item will go before the full City Council at a later date.

Councilmember Mark Kersey chairs the Infrastructure Committee of the San Diego City Council. He represents the City of San Diego's Fifth District which includes Black Mountain Ranch, Carmel Mountain Ranch, Miramar Ranch North, Rancho Bernardo, Rancho Encantada, Rancho Peñasquitos, Sabre Springs, San Pasqual, Scripps Miramar Ranch and Torrey Highlands.

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Location of extended bike connector under I-5:



Map of current SR-56 bike path: