

Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail

1.1 Executive Summary

1.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail Preliminary Alignment Plan establishes the preferred alignment for a design of a Class I bicycle trail within the City of San Luis Obispo. The multi-use pathway for bicycling, walking, and roller-blading is intended to promote alternative forms of transportation and provide new recreational opportunities consistent with the goals set forth in the City's *Bicycle Transportation Plan*.

The Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail traverses 5.0 kilometers (3.1 miles) paralleling the San Luis Obispo and Perfumo Creek corridors. The San Luis Obispo Creek portion stretches between Madonna Road and Los Osos Valley Road crossing both privately and municipally owned property. The Perfumo Creek reach links Calle Joaquin's northern terminus to the Laguna Lake Park entrance at the intersection of Madonna Road and Dalidio Street, crossing privately owned agricultural land. Eventually, the Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail will connect to the County's portion of this trail, effectively linking the City of San Luis Obispo to the sea in the town of Avila Beach.

In 1993, the City of San Luis Obispo completed and adopted the *Bicycle Transportation Plan*, which formally established the framework of goals, policies, procedures, and standards for the development of a citywide bicycle transportation network. That document is the impetus behind the preparation of this Preliminary Alignment Plan.

The planning effort for this Preliminary Alignment Plan has been conducted within the context of a public outreach program designed to involve all those interested and affected by the proposed trail. Interviews with key City staff, public agencies, advisory committees, adjacent property owners, and public workshops were used to fully engage and explore issues important to interest groups and the public at large.

This document, in tandem with the Preliminary Alignment Plan, identifies the most promising trail alignment and serves as the framework for the phased implementation of the multi-use trail. The Trail Design Standards described in Section 2.6 contains clear standards for trail design on a wide range of topics, which meet the practical, recreational, and operational requirements of the trails.

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1.2 Project Background

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In 1993, the City adopted the *Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP)* that calls for the completion of a rich network of bikeways that link all parts of our community and serves people using bicycles for everyday transportation and for recreation. The BTP identifies a network of off-street bike paths that adjoin selected creek corridors. These paths are intended to link neighborhoods with major destinations in San Luis Obispo *and* provide opportunities for recreational bicycling, walking, and roller-blading, free from conflicts with motor vehicles.

This plan presents goals, policies, standards, and maps that direct the installation of parts of the Class I bikeway network, including the Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail. These specific bikeway segments are consistent with the adopted Bicycle Transportation Plan. Their installation is also supported by the *General Plan Circulation Element*, which states:

The City will complete a continuous network of safe and convenient bikeways that connect neighborhoods with major activity centers and with county bike routes as specified by the Bicycle Transportation Plan (reference page 14, policy 3.3).

In May 2000, the City of San Luis Obispo hired a team of consultants, headed by the RRM Design Group, to identify opportunities and constraints, evaluate alternative alignments, and prepare specific recommendations for the paths' design and location. This document presents the results of that consultant and City-staff planning effort.