RESILIENTSR37

Resilient State Route 37
Program Update

November 2024 | Report No. 2

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I. PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The purpose of this report is to summarize the progress of delivering the Resilient SR37 Program. The report covers July 1 to October 31, 2024.

Highlights / Milestones Completed	Current Activities / Upcoming Actions Needed
Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project	
• Issued request for proposals for Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) to improve design and construction planning, minimize environmental impacts, facilitate phasing of the project, and to mitigate known risks with early coordination with the contractor. • Toll Program—Completed MTC's Travel Diary which updated and expanded the understanding of SR 37 travel and traveler demographics. Completed Means Based Collaboration review of existing pilot programs and the proposed SR 37 program. Began travel demand modeling. • Obtained environmental clearance on the Tolay Creek Bridge Replacement. • Advanced environmental studies to inform the Strip Marsh East design. • Began traffic and revenue analysis for tolling SR 37. • Leaders from MTC, CA State Transportation Agency and CA Natural Resources Agency lobbied in Washington, D.C. for funding from the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant program.	• Circulate Strip Marsh East Draft Environmental Document (anticipated in Fall 2024). • Submit application for CTC's SB 1 funding opportunities (Fall 2024). • Will run additional traffic and revenue analysis to account for equity considerations.
Fairgrounds Drive Interchange Project	
• Advertised bid solicitation in September 2024.	• Bid opening and award construction contract in October 2024. • Issue Notice-to-Proceed in November 2024. • First working day of construction in December 2024.
State Route 37 Flood Reduction Project	
• Submitted application for USDOT's Bridge Investment Program Grant Opportunity (August 2024).	• Complete Design by Spring 2026. • Submit application for USDOT's PROTECT Grant Opportunity (Fall 2024).
SMART Rail Service	
• Accepted into the FRA's Corridor Identification and Development Program. • Completed preliminary draft Project Study Report (PSR) in May 2024.	• Anticipate approval of the PSR in Winter 2024/2025.

Highlights / Milestones Completed	Current Activities / Upcoming Actions Needed
Transit	
• Solano Transportation Authority completed the SR 37 Express Bus/Transportation Demand Management Plan (STA).	
Habitat Restoration Projects	

<u>Tolay Creek and Strip Marsh East</u>
• State of the Estuary Conference Session entitled *State Route 37 and Habitat Restoration,* with talks on the PEL and Partnership Agreement by David Ambuehl and Larry Goldzband; project design and regulatory coordination by Kevin Chen and Xavier Fernndez; and the Novato Creek Baylands Strategy by James Muller and Jeanette Weisman. May 28. (link)
• Caltrans biologists are analyzing the need for improved wildlife connectivity north and south of SR 37 at Sears Point Hill, Tolay Creek, and Strip Marsh East.
 	
<u>Novato Creek Baylands Strategy</u>
• Contracts with Marin County and SFEI were executed to support the development of the strategy.
• Workplan for the strategy has been completed.
• Initial discovery meetings with landowners and vested parties, including:
  • Novato Sanitary District, State Coastal Conservancy, US Army Corps of Engineers, Marin Audubon Society, MTC Bay Trail staff.
• Letters sent to North Bay Tribes to inform them of the project and to solicit participation.
	<u>Tolay Creek and Strip Marsh East</u>
	• The Tolay Creek Baylands Restoration Planning Project is in the process of engaging with landowners, collecting baseline data, and refining goals and objectives.
	• Strip Marsh East—LiDAR, topographic, and bathymetric surveys are underway this quarter to inform project design. Soil sampling is being undertaken to identify contaminants and characterize geotechnical properties for construction. Bird monitoring will start together with collecting winter water levels and salinity monitoring. Reference sites have been identified to aid the analysis of monitoring data.
	
	<u>Novato Creek Baylands Strategy</u>
	• Additional discovery meetings with landowners including:
	  • Marin County, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Lands Commission, Transportation (TAM, MTC, Caltrans, Marin County), SMART, Bel Marin Keys Community Services District, City of Novato, and Bay Trail staff.
	• Meet with CA Department of Fish and Wildlife to discuss mitigation credit agreements and how the Strategy could support them in the Novato Baylands.
	• Draft existing conditions and preliminary restoration alternatives.
	• Meet with the Advisory Team to share draft products and get initial feedback.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure for SR 37	
• MTC has contracted with San Francsico Estuary Institute to explore the possibility of using green infrastructure to meet stormwater permitting requirements for SR 37. • The San Francsico Estuary Partnership is supporting the Institute in the planning efforts and is convening meetings to help plan the workshop that will explore this topic.	• Continue planning Green Stormwater Infrastructure for SR 37 workshop.

Highlights / Milestones Completed	Current Activities / Upcoming Actions Needed
Program Management & Communications	
• Innovative Finance and Project Delivery- Clarifying assumptions for financing and funding opportunities for long-term SLR adaptation projects.	• Draft financial and funding plan targeted for winter 2025. • Conduct international research in winter 2025 to learn from similar projects how best to fund and deliver mega projects ahead of sea level rise.
Operations and Maintenance of Existing Corridor	
• 04-0Y190 (Highway Maintenance paving) Repaved SR 37 between the SON/SOL county line and the Napa River bridge. Completion in spring 2024. • 04-2K740 (Capital Maintenance – pavement rehabilitation in Marin County) completed design and is expected to begin construction in spring 2025. This project proposes pavement rehabilitation on SR 37 from the US-101 interchange to the Petaluma River Bridge. • 04-3W760 (Napa River Bridge polyester overlay). Completion in fall 2024.	• 04-0P760 (Pedestrian Enhancements) completed the design phase. This project provides Pedestrian Enhancements at Wilson Avenue and Fairgrounds Drive. Construction is expected to begin in winter 2024. • 04-2Q500 (Petaluma River Bridge rehab) is expected to begin construction in summer 2025. • 04-4W830 (Clean California Fencing Project) is in the construction phase and completed improvements to the Mare Island interchange in fall 2024. Napa River Bridge and the Lewis Brown and Mini Drive OC construction completion expected in fall 2025.

II. PROGRAM DELIVERY

A. Schedule

Project	Baseline Completion	Forecast Completion
Near-Term Transportation Projects		
Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project	Phase 1 (Tolay Creek Bridge and SR 121) – Summer 2027 Future Phases – 2029	Summer 2029
Fairgrounds Drive Interchange Improvement Project	July 2025	July 2025
Multimodal/Public Access Improvements		
Transit	Summer 2029	Summer 2029
Long-Term Transportation Infrastructure Projects		
State Route 37 Flood Reduction Project (Hwy 101 to Atherton – PEL Segment 2)	Phase 1 (Novato Creek Bridge Replacement) – Fall 2029 Future Phases – 2050	Phase 1 (Novato Creek Bridge Replacement) – Fall 2029 Future Phases – 2050
Long-term SR-37 SLR Adaptation Projects (Entire Corridor)	2050	2050
SMART Rail Service	TBD	TBD

B. Public Communications & Outreach

Major Updates

The SR-37 Integrated Communications Team, comprised of all partnership agencies, continues to meet weekly. This team has held two focused workshop meetings to develop a corridor-wide communications plan that will be updated annually. The plan is in development and is expected to be completed and initiated in November and December of 2024.

The following is a list of public meetings scheduled over the next six months:

Description	Date	Time	Location
Resilient SR37 Policy Committee Meeting	November 7, 2024	9:30am	Hybrid
Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project – Draft Supplemental Environmental Improvement Report: Strip Marsh East Ecological Enhancement	Target: December 10, 2024	Target: 6:00pm	Target: Solano County, Hybrid