

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** March 22, 2023  
**To:** Landmarks Preservation Commission  
**From:** Farid Javandel, Deputy Director, Public Works

**Subject: Hopkins Corridor Improvements Project – Request for Comments**

Public Works is planning improvements on Hopkins Street between San Pablo Avenue and Sutter Street. The project will maintain the historical features of the City Landmark North Brae Improvements, including the pinkish-colored sidewalk pavement at the intersection of Hopkins Street and the Alameda (please see attached rendering).

This is an informational memo being provided to the Landmarks Preservation Commission at the request of City Council to ensure that the Commission has seen the proposed plans and been given an opportunity to provide comments to the design team so that the roadway improvements can support the aesthetic character of the historic elements in this area to the extent feasible. The project is in the public right of way, not on a City owned property like the North Branch Library, so it does not require any kind of permits. As a roadway maintenance and pedestrian and bicyclist safety project, this work is also categorically exempt from CEQA. The construction activities associated with the project will only need routine administrative approval from Public Works' Engineering Division.

The improvements at the intersection of Hopkins and the Alameda will make it safer for people to cross the street and reduce conflicts between drivers, pedestrians, people with disabilities and bike riders. Specifically, the improvements include new ADA curb ramps, left-turn traffic signal heads and sidewalk bulb-outs on all four corners, all of which reduce pedestrian exposure and the likelihood of a walker or other vulnerable road user being in a collision with a vehicle. At this intersection, Hopkins Street and the Alameda are each 60-feet wide. The safety improvements will make Hopkins 38-feet wide and the Alameda 48-feet wide, a much shorter crossing for pedestrians. The project will remove the traffic islands installed six years ago at this intersection, and the new bulb-outs on the west side of Hopkins and the Alameda will preserve the existing historic columns.

Public Works' plans ensure that all replaced and new sidewalk concrete will match the existing rose-colored concrete in this historic area. The sidewalk and curb line will be extended on all

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Re: Hopkins Corridor Improvements Projects – LPC Presentation for Comments

four corners of the intersection, shortening pedestrian crossings and improving safety. In some areas, this will allow the expansion of existing planting areas.

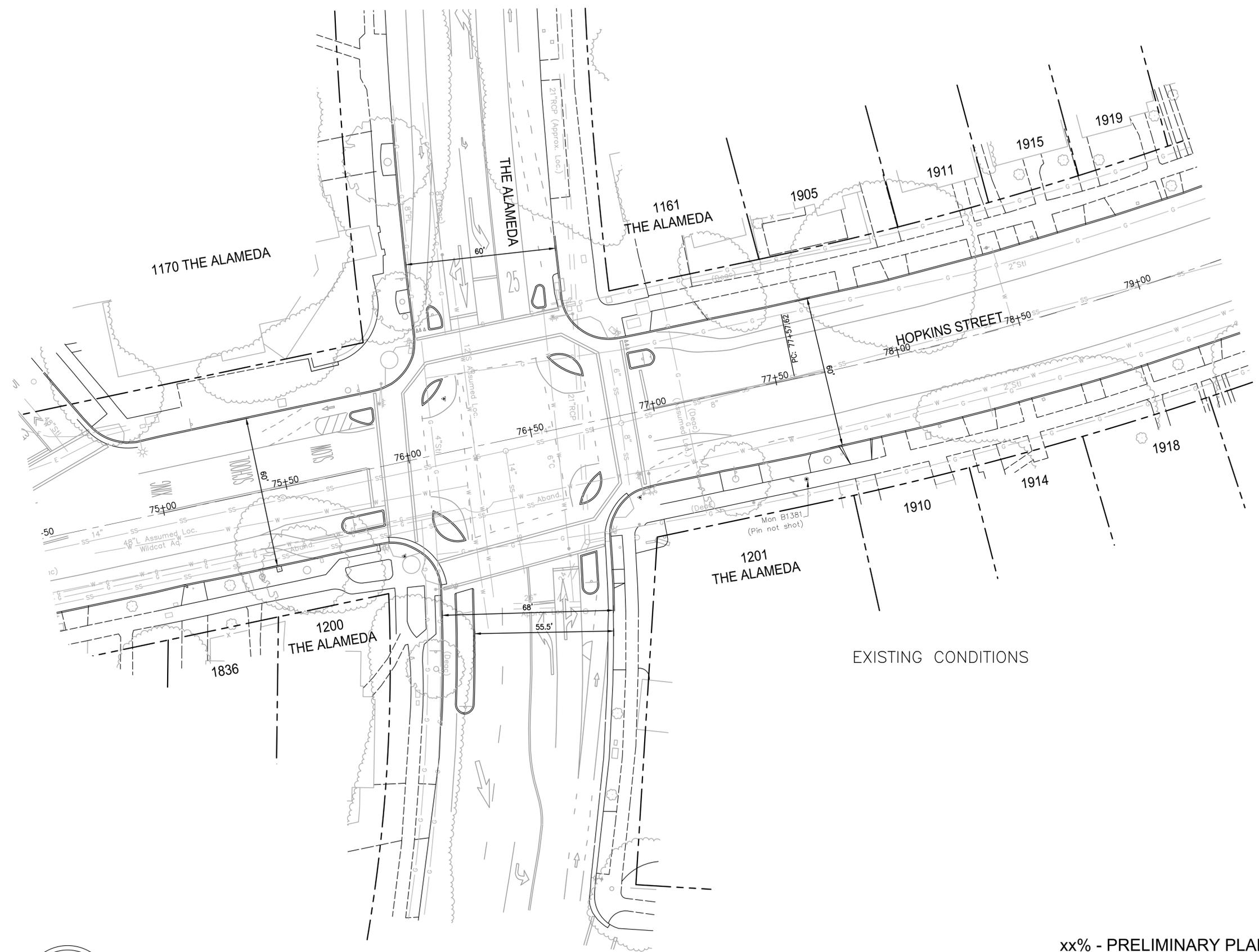
The Hopkins Corridor project is a Complete Streets and Green Infrastructure project. The pavement will undergo a complete reconstruction for most of the corridor. The length of the project also includes pedestrian and bicyclist safety improvements, transit improvements and landscaping improvements. The landscaping will help reduce pollution from stormwater discharge. The project is in the final design phase, with a tentative construction date of Summer 2023.

Please contact me with any questions.

**Attachments:**

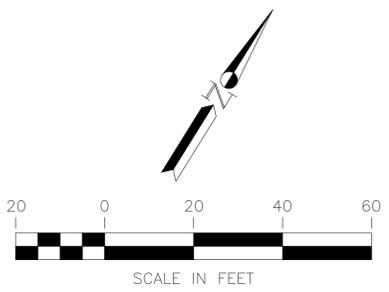
1. Conceptual The Alameda Intersection rendering
2. CEQA Notice of Exemption





EXISTING CONDITIONS

xx% - PRELIMINARY PLANS  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION - 03/16/23



**LPC** ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC.  
930 Estudillo Street  
Martinez, California 94553-1620  
(925) 228-4218 Fax (925) 228-4638  
www.lpc-inc.com

PROJECT MANAGER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPICTION OF MONUMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
SURVEY PARTY CHIEF: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
WATERSHED REVIEW: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR REDUCED PLANS - ORIGINAL SCALE IS IN INCHES

SUBMITTED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERVISING CIVIL ENGINEER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY ENGINEER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESIGN: **MMV**  
DRAWN: **NBC**  
CHECK: **CMP**  
AS BUILT: \_\_\_\_\_

HORIZ. \_\_\_\_\_  
VERT. \_\_\_\_\_  
BOOK \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: **xx/xx/22**

**CITY OF BERKELEY**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

**HOPKINS STREET CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS**  
**HOPKINS STREET - LAYOUT & GRADING PLAN**

REVISION	MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION	APPROVAL

PLAN: **XXXX**  
FILE: **XXX-XXX**  
**C-8**  
SHEET: **X** OF **XX**



**LEGEND**

- RAISED CONCRETE
- CONCRETE BUS PAD
- PLANTING
- DRIVEWAY
- EXISTING SIDEWALK
- COBBLE PAVER
- CHANNEL DRAIN



Print Form

**Notice of Exemption**

**Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044  
County Clerk  
County of: Alameda  
1106 Madison Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

From: (Public Agency): City of Berkeley  
1947 Center Street  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
(Address)

Project Title: Hopkins Corridor Project

Project Applicant: City of Berkeley

Project Location - Specific:  
Hopkins Street between Sutter Street and San Pablo Avenue; Monterey Avenue from Hopkins Street to 200 feet north of Hopkins Street.

Project Location - City: Berkeley Project Location - County: Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:  
Planned work includes bicycle and pedestrian improvements such as Class 4 and Class 2 bicycle lanes, sidewalk curb bulbouts, raised crosswalks, traffic signal modifications, and high visibility crosswalks. The purpose of the work is to improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Berkeley

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Berkeley

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: CCR Title 14 Section 15301(c), 15304(h)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Section 21080.25(b)1

Reasons why project is exempt:  
Project will improve roadway, sidewalk, and bicycle lanes on public right-of-way. Project is not subject to exceptions listed in 15300 (a-f); will not affect biological/cultural/visual resources; will not create cumulative impacts over time; has no unusual circumstances that would cause a significant effect; is not on/near a scenic highway; does not contain hazardous waste; has no visual impacts.

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: Beth Thomas Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 510-981-7068

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

Signature: Beth Thomas Date: 6/7/2022 Title: Principal Planner

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_