Del Rey Oaks Community Outreach Event
On FORTAG Route Alternatives
April 13, 2019

INTRODUCTION

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), in partnership with the City of Del Rey Oaks, hosted an outdoor public outreach event on April 13, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM to present the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway (FORTAG) concept and alternatives to the nearby community, including residents of Angelus Way. This outreach event was the second opportunity where TAMC solicited feedback on the Angelus Way alignment following a public workshop on February 5, 2019.

The outdoor public workshop was held at Del Rey Oaks Park near the end of Angelus Way. There were approximately 25 people in attendance, including the City Manager Dino Pick, Police Chief Jeff Hoyne, City Council Member Pat Lintell, Stefania Castillo and Rich Deal from TAMC, FORTAG Co-founder Scott Waltz, Alta Planning + Design staff and residents of Angelus Way and Carlton Drive. The meeting was publicized through Del Rey Oaks email lists and on various social media platforms.
The event began at 10:00 AM with an open-house style booth that included five poster boards, comment cards, and an opportunity to sign in to continue to receive FORTAG updates. Additionally, the project team was on site to discuss project information, project updates, alternative routes, and lead walking tours with Angelus Way residents. Each poster board contained the following information:

- **Poster 1: Project Goals & Overview.** Discuss the history, vision, and benefits of a continuous FORTAG system with one of its founders.
- **Poster 2: Carlton Drive & Frog Pond.** Review alignment, design options, and provide input on Highway 218 crossing and pocket park opportunity.
- **Poster 3: Angelus Way.** Discuss the trail concept plan update specific to Angelus Way. Including changes to the concept from the separated bike lane to shared bike lane.
- **Poster 4: Alternative Consideration to Angelus Way.** This poster provided brief descriptions on all four possible routes, including benefits and constraints.
Police Chief Hoyne was present at the event to address comments on homelessness activity and safety for residents along the FORTAG Route. Furthermore, Jeff Knowles from Alta Planning + Design was able to provide personal walk tours to six local Angelus residents about specific concern associated with the project and take pictures of creek issues.

Attendees were encouraged to submit comments cards to provide additional feedback on recent changes and overall feedback. Comments cards can be viewed in Appendix A. This document serves to summarize oral and written public comments received by the project team during the Community Outreach event. The primary goals include:

- Document the major categories of comments identifying key community needs, priorities, and concerns regarding the FORTAG alignment, alternatives routes, and design.
- Outline the project’s next steps and future opportunities for public engagement.
- Include scanned comment cards and feedback heard at the Del Rey Oaks Community Outreach event.

Figure 2: Local residents were able to meet with Police Chief Hoyne at Del Rey Oaks Park to discuss patrol and enforcement along the proposed trail corridor
Public Input

Key themes heard at the event and through written comment cards include:

- **Concern of Highway 218 Underpass Concept.** A number of residents are concerned that the proposed underpass connecting Del Rey Oaks Park with Frog Pond would present flooding and safety issues, and may be used by people experiencing homelessness. Some residents proposed alternatives such as an improved at-grade crossing or overpass over 218. Many thought the underpass is too expensive and that an improved at-grade crossing might be more efficient and less expensive.

- **Excitement for Trail’s Recreational Use.** Many residents were excited for the recreational benefits the trail would bring to the area. One resident noted that she was an avid runner, and the trail through Del Rey Oaks Park and Frog Pond would give her new running opportunities.

- **Impact to Frog Pond.** Some people were concerned that the alignment through the Frog Pond Preserve and the presence of bicyclists riding through this area would change the quiet and peaceful character of the area and potentially impact wildlife. One resident suggested that bike traffic be routed on 218 next to Frog Pond and routed back to the trail at a roundabout at Jim Moore.

- **Reflect Previously Heard Public Input.** Residents stated that information presented on the poster board was not a complete reflection of comments that came from the first public workshop. For example, the benefits and constraints shown on the Alternatives Board did not fully summarize public feedback.

- **Provide a Detailed Safety Strategy.** Local residents were interested in hearing how the Del Rey Oaks Police Department would address safety on the trail. One resident was interested in having the department develop a written safety strategy regarding the FORTAG trail that could be publicly available.

- **Provide Creek Stabilization and Safety Benefits.** Project staff walked with some residents of Angelus Way along the proposed on-street alignment. Residents voiced concerns of current creek destabilization next to Angelus, and were concerned that trail users (especially children) may hurt themselves on residents’ driveway bridges. Residents were interested to see any improvements related to the trail include creek stabilization efforts and the possible installation of a split-rail fence along Angelus Way.

**Next Steps**

TAMC and Alta will present project updates at Del Rey Oaks City Council meetings as the project progresses. Additional outreach will be conducted throughout the project area, through Fall 2019. Locations for further outreach will include CSU Monterey Bay, the Monterey Peninsula Recreational Trail, and the City of Marina.
APPENDIX A
Comment cards and written feedback
Can we put gates on either side of the newly proposed trail tunnel.
Beth

1. Want the pros/cons to better reflect what was heard at last meeting for Angelus

2. Can police write down to display their strategy for dealing with safety concerns near the trail. More transparency on this process
I'm so happy about this trail. I look forward to running this trail - my kids will love riding their bikes. Thank you for providing us with so much input. Opportunity to speak. I appreciate your alternatives but still favor your original plan. I'm curious about the tunnel.世界各国 favors the safest path that impacted the at-risk habitat the least.
Love the idea of coming through DRO past park. Still curious about options for crossing 218, overpass vs. tunnel.

Gary Kroeger
CLEAN OUT ALL "greenbelts" IN PARK ALONG CREEK

Scott Morgan
Great Ideas and I'm very excited about the whole plan. Would like to see alternatives for the expensive tunnel examined, such as signaled crosswalk at 2185 Carlton. Would be very helpful as crosswalk and also to allow left turns from Carlton onto 218. This can be a dangerous and stressful turn much of the rush hour times. Thanks for all your hard work!!!
gates at start of party baf
to open/close at high/low tides
I am enthusiastic about this project.

Thumbs up.

- Plumas Trail
- Carlton/218 Concepts to Improve Safety
- Tunnel Location, Safety Plans...Chief Hoyne's ideas are excellent. Info should be highlighted...a pamphlet with concepts, photos, etc.

Good work...interested in what the final plan will look like...why don't we look at the lot of course, or I should say "trail"?
Don Gruber. All interesting & possible as proposed. EXCEPT bicycles through the Fort Pond. That part is not acceptable, as it materially alters the core attributes of the place. Thus bicycles not necessarily thru bikers must be routed around the F.P. Please put them on 218. A roundabout at Jim Moore would get the bikers back to the right side of the road.
I feel this would be a terrible deal - disruptive to neighbors on Angeles - disruptive to natural habitat - ducks and birds (who come yearly) would be impacted - Nostacles...