

CITY OF LARKSPUR Bon Air Bridge Replacement Project

FACT SHEET | FALL 2014



Spanning Corte Madera Creek, Bon Air Bridge is one of the main entrances to the City of Larkspur and is a vital thoroughfare linking Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur's main street, and the northeast side of the City.

Motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists make thousands of daily trips across the bridge to access businesses, Marin General Hospital and other medical facilities, and the popular multi-use path along the creek.

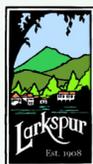
WHY IS THE BRIDGE BEING REPLACED?

Key components of the bridge support system are deteriorating and recently required emergency repairs. Replacing the bridge, originally built in 1958, is a long-term and cost-effective solution to secure this critical link for both the City and the Corte Madera Creek trail network.

The community vetted designs for a "signature" replacement bridge in 2008, and the project completed environmental review in 2012. The City is relocating utilities and will soon begin partial demolition of the existing structure, and construction of its replacement.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CHANGES TO THE BRIDGE?

The bridge will be replaced by a new precast concrete girder bridge that reflects the community's extensive design input, meets current seismic design and safety standards. Designed to accommodate continued capacity needs, it will provide for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety. Each side of the bridge will feature barrier-protected multi-use paths and Class II bike lanes. Downcast lighting will meet International Dark-Sky requirements, improve pedestrian safety, and protect neighboring houses from light pollution.



For more information visit:
bonairbridge.com

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WHAT WILL THE NEW BRIDGE LOOK LIKE?

The City listened to the community’s requests for an aesthetically pleasing bridge design that would accentuate the natural landscape. The new bridge will serve as a gateway to the community with ornamental “acorn” light post pedestals. Details like the green wave form on the handrails are intended to mimic the movement of the grass fields that surround the bridge.



Ornamental “Acorn” Light Post Pedestals

- Similar to those installed on Arroyo Holon (Doherty) Bridge
- Reduce light pollution and glare impacts
- Improve pedestrian safety



Decorative Green Wave Handrails

- Preserve views of surrounding hills
- Mimic the movement of the surrounding grass fields



Bridge Design

- Reflects wide, flat stream and surrounding wetlands



Reduced Bridge Piles

- Fewer than half the number of existing piles
- Improve creek flow and conditions for fish
- Reduce susceptibility to flooding



Dedicated Bike Lanes & Protected Multi-Use Paths

- Improve bike and pedestrian safety



Connection to Corte Madera Creek Pathway

- Provide seamless connection for recreational use

HOW ARE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS BEING MITIGATED?

The City is undertaking related improvement projects on Magnolia Avenue and in City parks near Bon Air Road and Corte Madera Creek to improve wildlife habitat and access to the Creek:

- Landscaping enhancements to improve stormwater runoff on Magnolia Avenue
- Relocation of City Dog Park within Piper Park, and creation of new tidal marsh habitat and educational overlook in its place
- Rehabilitation of walkways and docks at Bon Air Landing Park and Marin Rowing Club

Construction schedules will be based around the nesting season of the endangered California clapper rail. Project biologists will monitor fourteen target species throughout construction and will replant native flora along the creek’s tidal zone.

HOW WILL CONSTRUCTION IMPACT BRIDGE USERS?

Phased construction is anticipated to begin in Spring of 2015 and last about four years. Strategic traffic shifts will ensure that motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians continue to have safe access across the bridge throughout construction. Three full closures of the bridge are anticipated, and notification will be provided when these are scheduled. Every effort will be taken to minimize inconvenience to bridge and creek users, including carefully orchestrated traffic management.

HOW IS THE PROJECT BEING FUNDED?

Approximately 89% of the \$16 million construction cost is funded through the federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation (HBRR) Program. Utilities will pay for all utility relocations, and the balance will come from the City Bridge Fund.