

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** September 16, 2020  
**TO:** Recreation and Park Commission  
**FROM:** Brian Abbanat, Senior Transportation Planner  
**SUBJECT:** Anderson Road – Chavez ES Improvements Grant Application

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### **Recommendation**

Provide feedback on potential conversion of an approximately 18' by 150' area of turf to parking in Redwood Park immediately adjacent to the Chavez Elementary south driveway between the multi-use path trail connection to the school and the tennis courts.

NOTE: Any potential conversion is not imminent. Staff seeks preliminary input from the commission to help balance competing needs for a capital grant application for street design, safety, and parking on Anderson Road between Villanova Drive and Amherst Drive, with a focus on the Chavez ES frontage.

### **Background and Analysis**

The Anderson Road -Chavez ES Improvements project is a street improvements project on Anderson Road between Villanova Drive and Amherst Drive. In 2018, the City concluded a planning and outreach process to establish a long-term vision for the corridor. This project builds upon prior planning and outreach efforts, including the 2014 Walk Bike Audit Report and the 2018 planning & outreach process to establish a vision for improving the corridor between Covell Blvd and Russell Blvd.

The City and Davis Joint Unified School District are partnering on a SACOG Regional Funding grant application due in December for a first phase project that would focus on safety and design improvements for the segment fronting Chavez Elementary school (approximately Amherst Drive to Villanova Dr). If the project is funded, the project will proceed to more formal engineering work in 2021, followed by construction no sooner than summer 2022.

#### *Anderson Road Conditions:*

Anderson Road plays a critical role in multi-modal transportation. Nearly 2,200 cyclists, 11,000 vehicles, and over 100 buses transit riders travel through the corridor on a typical weekday. Major destinations served by Anderson Road include the western portion of the main UC Davis campus, the newly built West Village, UC Davis Silo Transit Terminal, several central Davis residential neighborhoods, downtown, and access to Hwy 113. Thus, Anderson Road serves as a primary north-south arterial in Davis.

A particularly challenging segment is between Rutgers Drive and Amherst Drive where Chavez ES fronts onto Anderson Rd on the west side. During morning and afternoon school peaks, parents/caregivers who drive their children to school must do so at the curb on Anderson Road. The volume of different users, particularly at the morning peak, results in multiple crossing conflicts between people on bikes, school drop-off, and buses. These safety concerns have been well documented throughout the formal processes conducted to date. A summer 2020 community

survey indicated that 2/3 of respondents believed improving safety on Anderson Road was either very or extremely important. More information about traffic conditions including crash statistics on Anderson Road can be found at the below link:

<https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/improvement-projects/anderson-road-improvements>

*Design Solutions, Parking, and Redwood Park:*

A design solution under consideration is to convert the current staff parking lot on the school site into a combined parking lot/parent drop-off zone (see Attachment 1). This will reduce traffic congestion on Anderson Road and improve safety for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and buses. However, it also results in a substantial loss of parking for Chavez ES staff and parking recovery is a condition of the school district's support for partnering on this project. While some on-site parking can be preserved some on-street parking can be dedicated for staff during school hours, a 16-space deficit remains.

For the project to proceed, the lost parking spaces must be recovered. Options are limited considering Chavez ES and Redwood Park are surrounded by single family residential homes. A potential option being explored is to convert an approximately 18' by 150' area of turf immediately adjacent to the Chavez ES driveway at the school's south border. Staff proposes this location as a natural extension of the school site, is supported conceptually by DJUSD facilities staff, and is potentially less active location in Redwood Park. Ownership/easement issues have not been determined at this stage, but are not considered significant obstacles.

**Community Outreach and Commission Review**

As stated, this project is a product of the 2014 Walk Bike Audit Report and the 2018 planning & outreach process for the Anderson Road Improvements project, both of which involved substantial community input. More recently, a recorded workshop and survey were released in summer 2020 and a live workshop is scheduled for September 24, 2020. This project will also be brought to the Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission on October 8, 2020 and City Council this fall prior to submitting the grant application.

**Recommendation**

Staff seeks input from the commission on the potential conversion of turf to parking adjacent to the Chavez ES south driveway. Commission input will be included in future staff reports to other commissions and City Council.

**Attachment**

1. Exhibits

# Anderson Rd-Chavez ES Improvements: Phase 1

## Grant Application

### Attachment 1

Recreation & Park Commission

9/16/2020



# Background

**Purpose:** Improve overall safety, reduce conflicts between transit, bicyclists, cars, and pedestrians. Improve safety and organization of Chavez E.S. pick-up/drop-off.

**Boundary:** Phase 1 street design improvements on Anderson Road between Villanova Dr. and Amherst Dr.

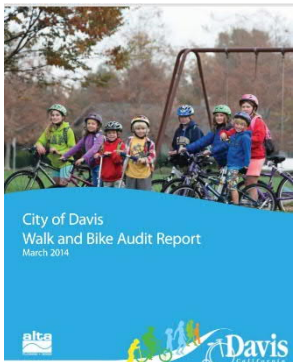
**Why:** 1) History of corridor safety concerns, 2) Joint interest between City and DJUSD to improve condition, and 3) Biennial SACOG grant funding cycle for construction projects.



# Anderson Road – Chavez E.S. Improvements History

2013-14: Walk Bike Audit Report (Chavez E.S.)

- Safety Improvements



2015 SACOG Grant Application (not funded)

- Design and construct safety improvements

Project Title	Anderson Road Improvements Phase 1
Client/Agency	City of Davis
Lead Person and Contact Information (phone, email, meeting address)	Andy van Vleet, Senior Civil Engineer 620.742.4000 andyv@cityofdavis.org
Public Organizations	City of Davis
Other Funding	\$1,987,200
Community Strategic Plan	City of Davis
Local Communities (use project name)	Chavez E.S.
Local Funding and other funds	\$1,987,200
Estimated Construction Cost (provide outline construction Materials Manual or Contract Project Description)	\$1,987,200
Project Description	The Anderson Road Improvements project is a multi-phase project planned for the 2018-2019 school year. The project will include safety improvements for students and staff, including crosswalks, bike lanes, and other safety features. The project will also include landscaping and other improvements to the school site.

2017-18 Streetscape Improvements Planning & Outreach

- Extensive community input process
- Established long-term street design vision



ANDERSON ROAD Streetscape Improvement Project

2020 Joint City/DJUSD SACOG Grant Application

- Phase 1 improvements between Villanova Dr. & Amherst Dr.



# Background

**Vehicles:**  
10,900 vehicles/day

**Bikes:**  
>2,100/day

**Buses:**  
>100/day

**Speed:**  
Limit: 30 mph  
Avg: 32 mph  
Critical: 36 mph

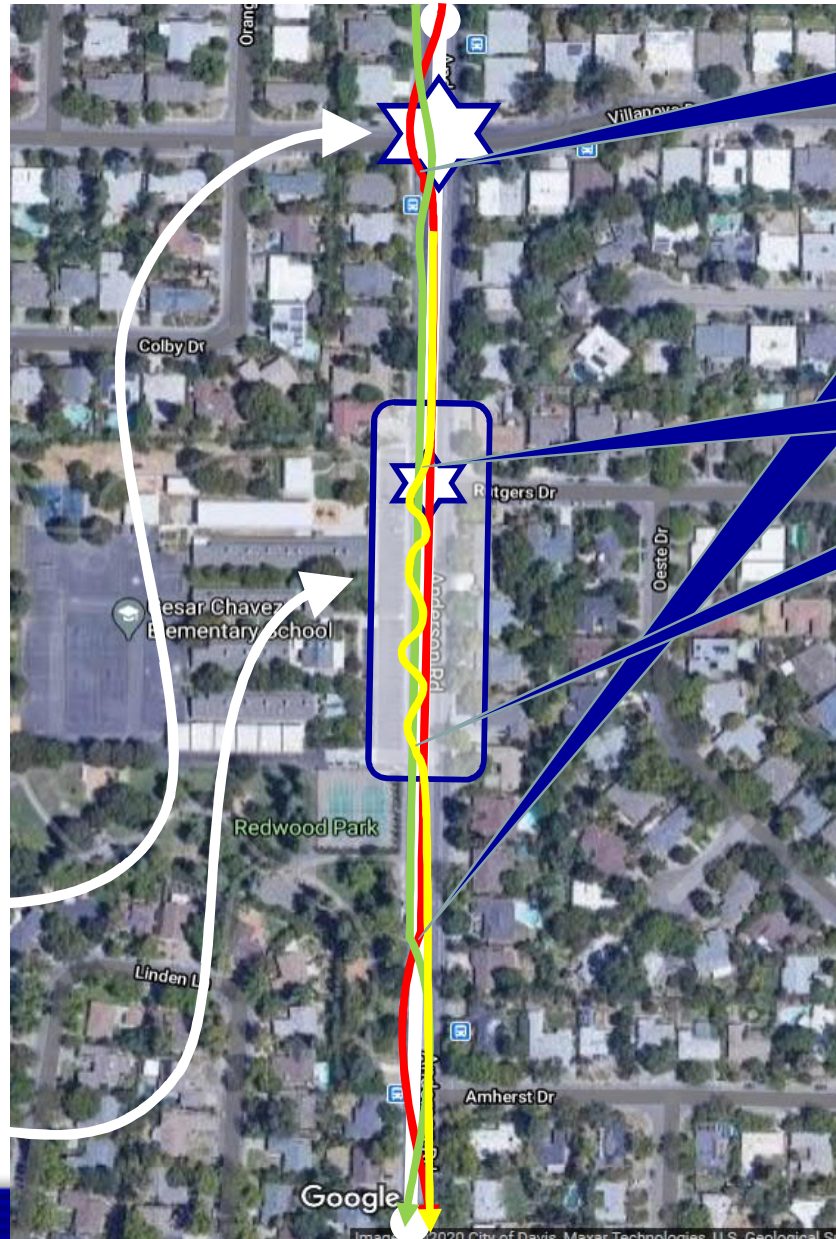
- Crashes (2009-19):**  
Russell - Covell
- 106 Total
  - 53% involve bicyclists
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rate in Davis

## "Hot Spots"

- Covell Blvd
- Russell Blvd
- Villanova Dr

## Problem Areas

- Chavez ES frontage
- Rutgers Drive



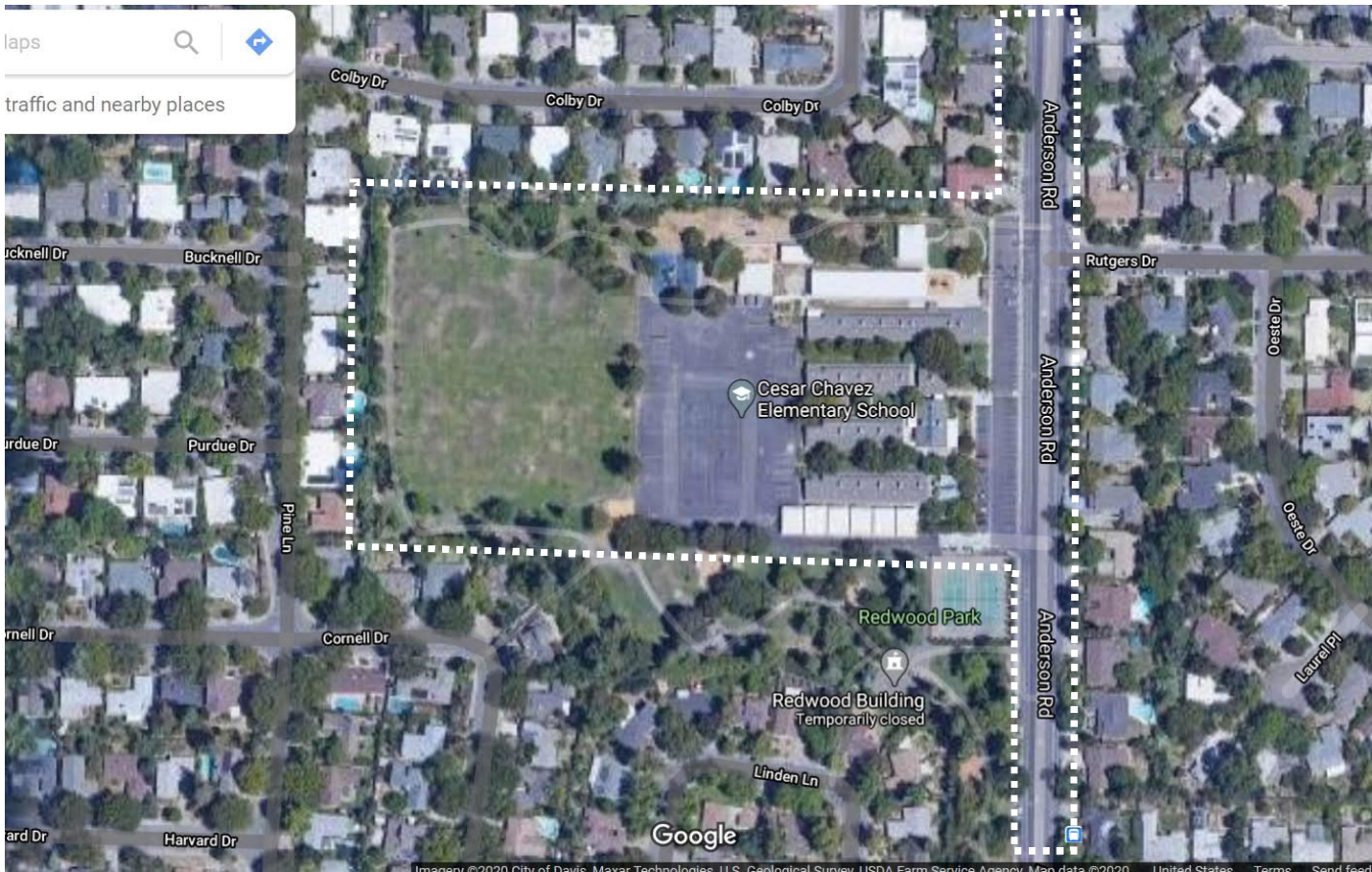
**Conflicts:**  
Bicyclist/Bus

**Conflicts:**  
Bicyclist/Car

## Other Risk Factors:

- Level of Traffic Stress: 3
- Wide travel lanes encourage higher speeds
- Long crossing distances
- Wide intersection corner radii encourage higher turning speeds
- Single family homes fronting street

# Anderson Rd - Chavez ES Project Vicinity



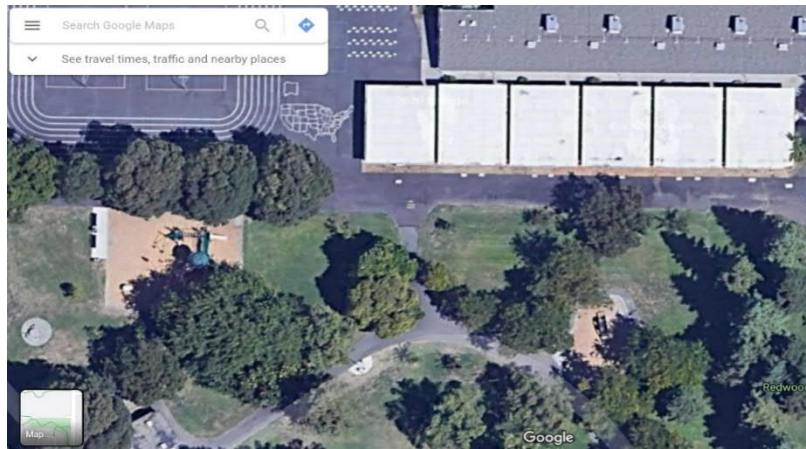


# Existing Parking / Drop-Off Areas

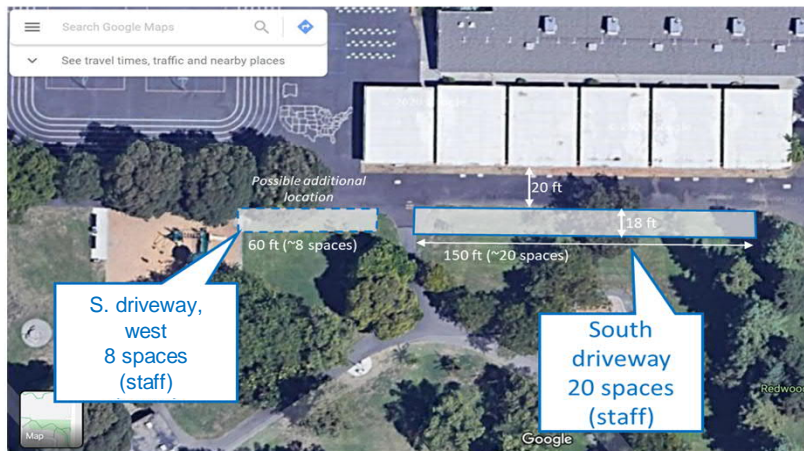
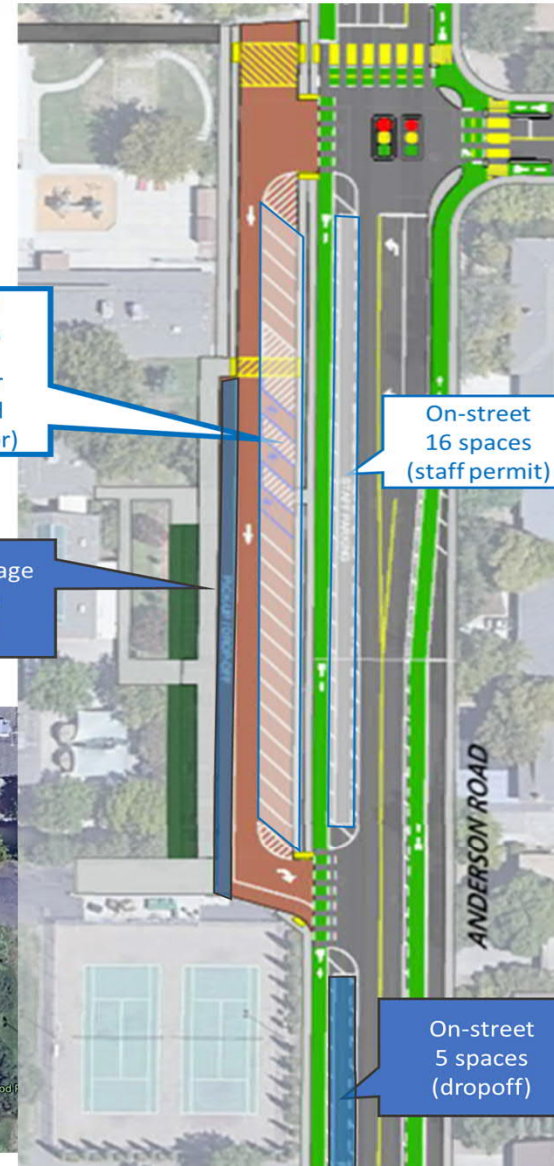




# Potential Anderson / Chavez ES Parking Lot & Street Reconfiguration



Scenario	Staff	Net	Drop -Off	Net
Existing	53	NA	16	NA
Proposed				
Base	21	-32	13	-3
+ on-street	+16	-16	+5	+2
+South driveway	+20	+4	NA	NA
+S. driveway, west	+8	+12	NA	NA





# Chavez ES South Driveway (existing)



# Chavez ES South Driveway (w/parking rendering)





# DISCUSSION

