BRISCO-HALYCON ROAD INTERCHANGE MODIFICATIONS PROJECT
4A. Problem, Deficiencies, Justification

The purpose of the project is to provide congestion relief, alleviate queuing, and improve the traffic operations of the regional and local street system in the vicinity of US 101. The purpose is also to continue to accommodate access to existing and planned local development. To achieve this stated purpose to an adequate degree this project should:

- Provide direct access from US 101 to and from the commercial, governmental, and recreational facilities along West Branch Street.
- Reduce congestion and queuing at the Brisco Road undercrossing intersections and along Grand Avenue.
The project is needed to correct existing operational deficiencies in the project area. Increasing traffic demand due to increasing development in and around the city, lack of alternative routes, limited freeway crossing opportunities, and non-standard existing roadway geometrics combine to cause escalating congestion and safety concerns within the project area.

The level of service at the ramp intersections of the Brisco Road and Halcyon Road interchanges are forecast to deteriorate to unacceptable levels by year 2020.

The purpose of the project is to maximize the efficiency of the existing State and local roadway systems to better serve the needs of commuter traffic within the city. Existing interchange and ramp spacing on US 101 do not meet current standards.

Ramp closures and associated improvements to adjacent interchanges have been evaluated as a means of improving traffic operations. Therefore, the purpose of the project is also to correct ramp and mainline operations on US 101 at the US 101/Brisco-Halcyon Road interchange to improve traffic flow and enhance safety for the local and interregional movement of people and goods.
Both Alternatives:

- Remove the existing northbound US 101 ramps at Brisco Road to eliminate the very tight spacing between the northbound ramp intersection and the adjacent Brisco Road/West Branch Street intersection.
  - Alt 4 moves ramps to Rodeo
  - Alt 1 does not replace them and makes improvements to adjacent interchanges (E. Grand and Camino Mercado).

- Realign the southbound on-ramp from Grand Avenue to improve the operation of the signalized ramp intersection on Grand Avenue.

- Construction of soundwalls on the southbound side of US 101 between Oak Park Boulevard and Stonecrest Drive and between the Halcyon on-ramp and the Grand Avenue off-ramp. The soundwalls would be constructed at the existing Caltrans right of way boundary and would not preclude the ultimate six-lane configuration of US 101.
Brisco Undercrossing (Both Alternatives)

- At the Brisco Road/El Camino Real intersection, restriping to provide for one exclusive left turn lane and one shared through-right lane for the southbound Brisco Road undercrossing approach to El Camino Real.
- With this improvement, the existing Brisco Road three-lane undercrossing will be re-striped to accommodate two southbound lanes and one northbound lane.
- At the Brisco Road/West Branch Street intersection, one left-turn lane and one shared left-right turn pocket (at least 100 feet long) will be constructed for the northbound approach.
- Preliminary operational analysis indicates that the existing three-lane undercrossing, with the above-noted restriping modifications, will provide acceptable operating conditions at the intersections with El Camino Real and West Branch Street.
Alt 1 – Northbound Ramp Closure

• Construction of an additional left-turn lane on the northbound off-ramp at the East Grand Avenue/US 101 northbound ramps intersection and provision of an exclusive right-turn lane on the westbound approach.

• Relocation of the US 101 southbound on-ramp at East Grand Avenue to opposite the existing US 101 southbound off-ramp approach, and associated traffic signal phasing modifications.

• This will also include installation of a double 54-inch concrete pipe culvert to carry storm water under the realigned ramp.

• Widening Grand Avenue, including the Grand Avenue Overcrossing, through both ramp intersections to provide standard lane, shoulder and sidewalk widths.

• Reconstruct US 101 SB lane and shoulder to provide 15’-0” vertical clearance to the Grand Ave. Overcrossing.

• Improvements to the northbound US 101 on-ramp/Camino Mercado/West Branch Street intersection. These improvements include widening and restriping the northbound West Branch Street approach to provide a second northbound left-turn lane to the US 101 northbound on-ramp and modifying the northbound on-ramp to provide dual receiving lanes that merge to a single lane with a 950+ foot auxiliary lane on northbound US 101. Provisions for future ramp metering would be provided on the US 101 northbound on-ramp.
Alt 4C – Northbound Ramp Relocation

- Construction of new US 101 northbound on- and off-ramps to intersect with West Branch Street across from Rodeo Drive (The street name is being changed to Grace Lane as part of this project), and installation of a single-lane roundabout at the West Branch Street/Rodeo Drive/US 101 northbound on- and off-ramps intersection.

- Realignment of West Branch Street to provide separation between the ramps intersection and the mainline. Retaining walls will be required along the north side of West Branch Street and between the Rodeo Drive off-ramp and West Branch Street.

- Construction of a new bridge adjacent to the Brisco Road undercrossing to carry the northbound Rodeo Drive on-ramp onto US 101.

- Construction of US 101 northbound mainline auxiliary lanes between the on-ramp from Grand Avenue and the off-ramp to Camino Mercado.

- Construction of a left-turn lane for the eastbound West Branch Street approach to the County Government Center driveway.
Alt 4C cont.

- Reconstruction of Rodeo Drive on a new alignment and profile to intersect West Branch Street opposite the Rodeo Drive ramps.
- Reconstruction of the existing Grace Lane/Rodeo Drive intersection north of the ramps to provide a larger radius curve on Grace Lane. This will convert Grace Lane to a “through street” and Rodeo Drive to a “side street”. A retaining wall or cut slope will be required at the realigned intersection.
- A Park-and-Ride lot with landscaping will be constructed on the City-owned lot between the West Branch Street/Rodeo Drive intersection and St. Patrick’s School.
- Relocation of a temporary building and reconfiguration of parking at the Library/County Government Center. The project would remove approximately 46 existing parking spaces from the County Government Center and would construct a new parking lot on the same parcel with 46 new parking spaces as well as Handicap parking spaces and ADA accessibility.
- Bus pull-out and pedestrian access improvements along Rodeo Drive in front of St. Patrick’s school.
Project Information

- Draft Project Report and Environmental Documents can be found at:
  - https://www.arroyogrande.org/561/Brisco-Road-Interchange-Project
  - http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/brisco/

- Public Hearing at City Council in March 2019
Considerations

- Findings from the closure study
  - Impacts to adjacent interchanges without improvements
- Future land use
- Potential phasing of improvements to reduce costs
- Costs
  
  ALT 1 = $12.3 M
  ALT 4C = $22.7 M
Potential Area for Phasing – Alt 4C

- W BRANCH ST
- END SOUNDWALL
- REMOVE RAMP
- PROPOSED STATE RIGHT OF WAY
- VE
- O OFF-RAMP

Public Information Meeting Presentation - 2/13/2019
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Brisco-Halcyon Road Interchange Modifications Project

Two feasible build alternatives have been identified for the project, as well as the required no-build option. The City Council is tentatively scheduled to consider the project at the March 26, 2019 Council meeting. Sign up for notifications at www.arroyogrande.org under the Notify Me tab.

ALT 1
Northbound Ramp Closure
- Close the northbound on and off-ramps at Brisco Rd and US 101
- Complete intersection improvements at Camino Mercado and US 101
- Complete intersection improvements on the north and southbound ramps at Grand Ave and US 101
- Complete bridge widening on Grand Ave
- Estimated cost $12,300,000

PROs
- Alleviate congestion at Brisco Rd and US 101
- Lower cost alternative

CONs
- Loss of on & off ramp and connectivity to core commercial area
- Diverts traffic to existing ramps

ALT 4c
Northbound Ramp Relocation
- Relocate the northbound ramps at Brisco Rd to W Branch St at Rodeo Dr
- Complete intersection improvements at Grace Ln and Rodeo Dr
- Complete intersection improvements on the southbound ramps at Grand Ave and US 101
- Estimated cost $22,700,000

PROs
- Maintains connectivity and on & off ramp
- Alleviate congestion at Brisco Rd and US 101

CONs
- Higher cost alternative

No Build
- No build - Brisco ramps would remain as is
- No changes to intersection at Camino Mercado and US 101
- No changes to intersection at E Grand Ave and US 101
- No Cost

PROs
- No cost alternative

CONs
- Does not alleviate congestion at Brisco Rd and US 101

Project Background

The Brisco Road Interchange Project has been underway for approximately 15 years. The purpose of the project is to provide congestion relief, alleviate traffic backups (queueing), and improve the traffic operations at Brisco Road and US 101. The purpose is also to continue to accommodate access to existing and planned local development.

Numerous design alternatives have been developed and analyzed. Currently the project is in the Project Approval and Environmental Determination (PA&ED) phase. The next phase will be the design phase once an alternative has been selected. Construction is programmed to begin in 2023.

Public Information Meeting Presentation - 2/13/2019

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