



**CITY OF NOVATO**  
CALIFORNIA

# NOVATO BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS

3 LANE & 5 LANE PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

Novato City Council Meeting  
June 12, 2018

# CITY COUNCIL REQUEST

1. Review 3-lane layout for Novato Blvd. from Diablo to Grant
2. Select the 3-lane layout as the preferred alternative
3. Authorize staff to file a Notice of Preparation under CEQA



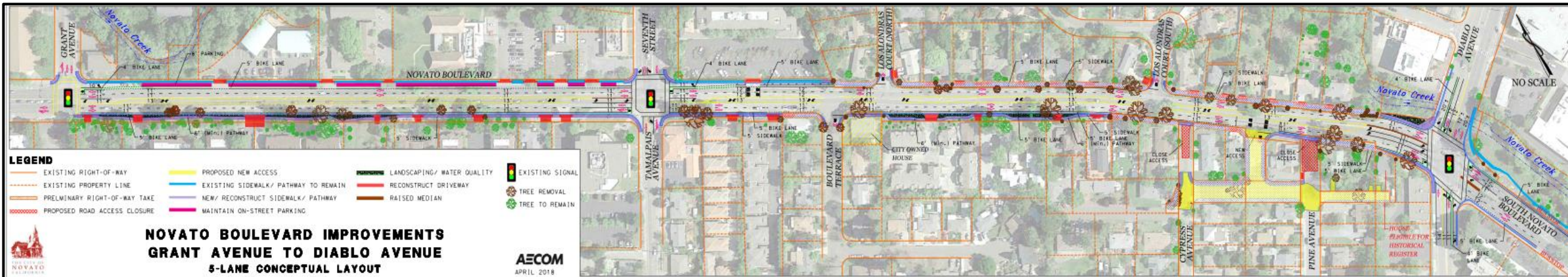
# NOVATO BLVD. PROJECT BACKGROUND

- A Countywide Congestion Management Plan (CMP) was prepared in the early 2000's
- The CMP projected Novato Blvd. to fall below operational standards in the future
- City evaluated existing conditions in consideration of issues
- To address issues, a 5-lane layout was proposed and an EIR was started
- Further progress was slowed by the recession & limited staff resources
- Consultant team has been hired to complete the project



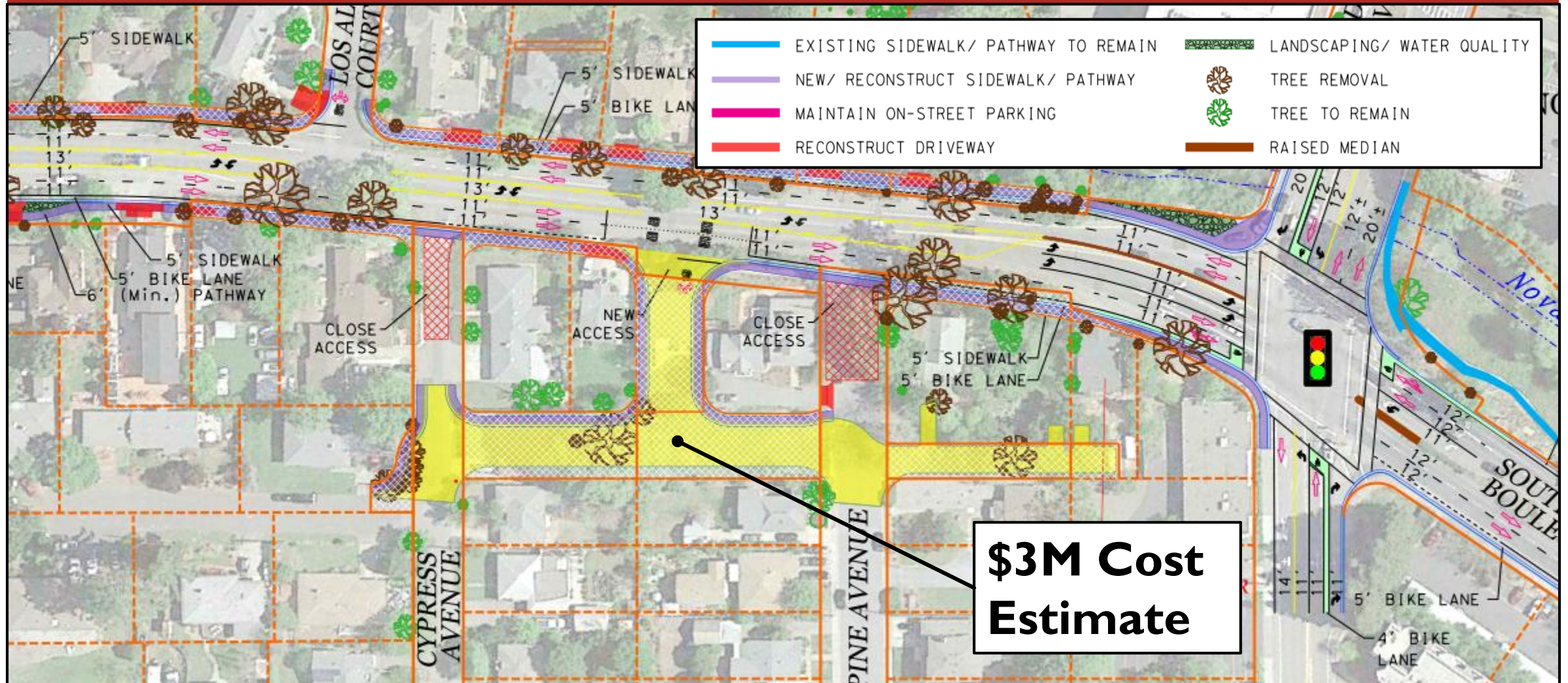
# 5-LANE LAYOUT – CURRENT PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

- Maintains two through-lanes in each direction
- New connector street between Pine Avenue and Cypress Avenue
- Sidewalks and Bicycle Lanes also included





# 5-LANE OPTION: PINE & CYPRESS CONNECTOR





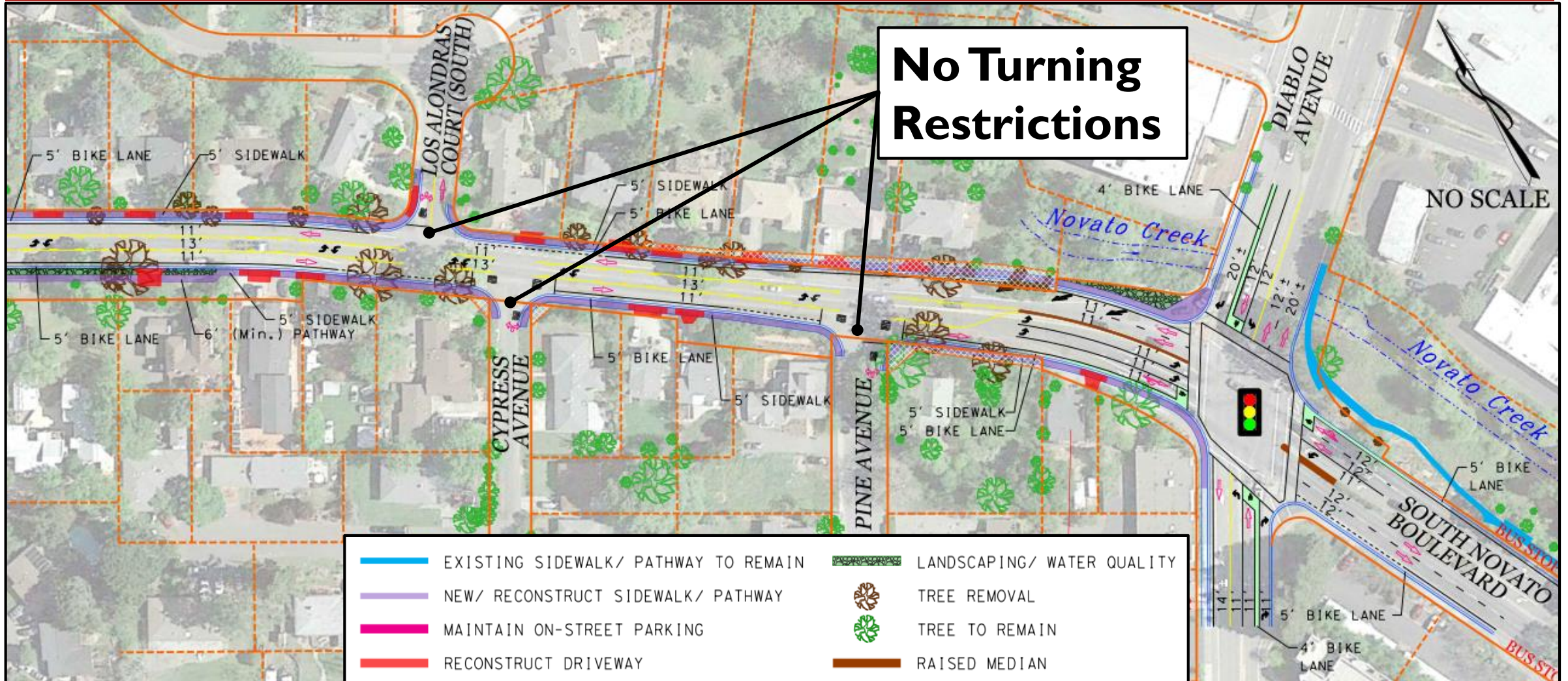
# NEW 3-LANE LAYOUT - RECOMMENDED

- One through-lane in each direction between Diablo Ave. & Boulevard Terrace
- Two lanes northbound from Boulevard Terrace through Grant Ave.
- Continuous center turn lane for access to driveways and side streets
- Sidewalks and Bicycle Lanes included from Grant Ave. to Diablo Ave.



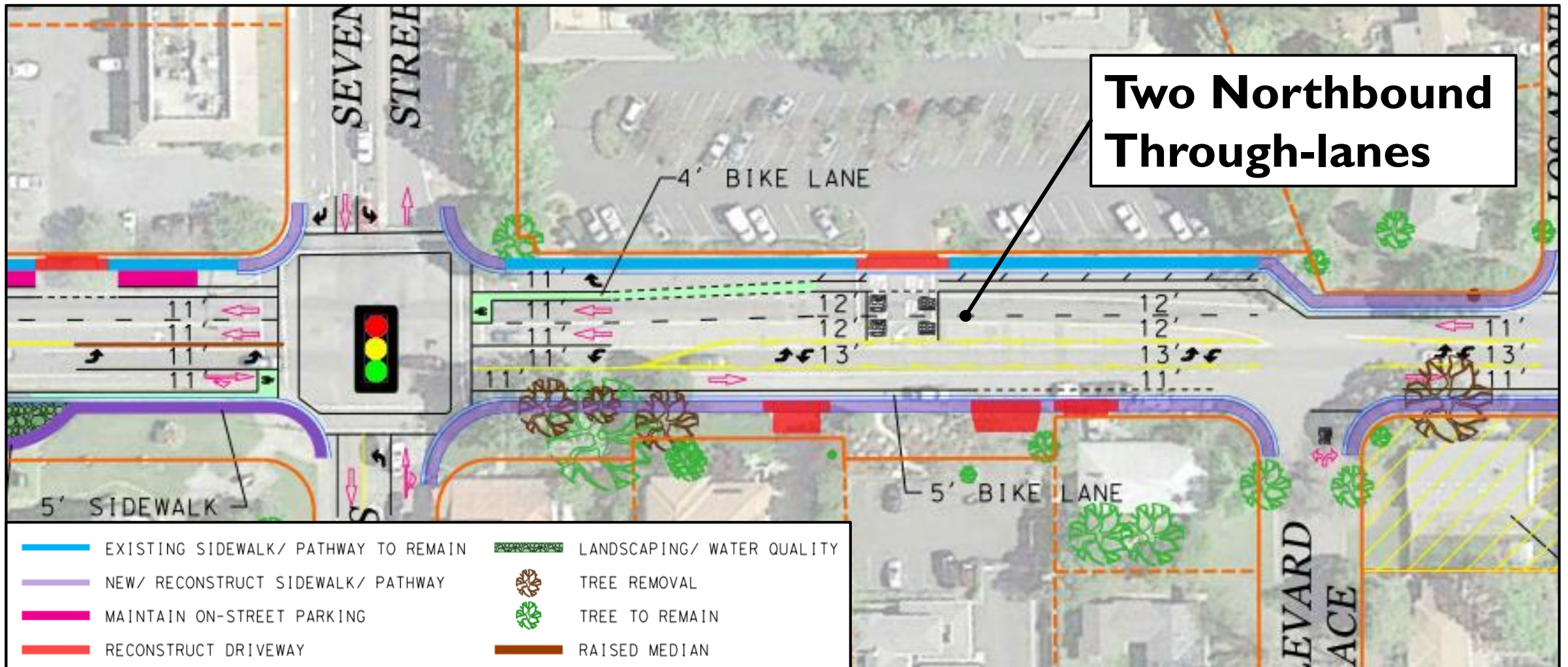


# 3-LANE OPTION: SOUTH END





# 3-LANE OPTION: BOULEVARD TER. - 7<sup>TH</sup>/TAMALPAIS





# 3-LANE OPTION: NORTH END



## LEGEND

|  |                               |  |                                      |  |                |  |                 |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|----------------|--|-----------------|
|  | EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY         |  | EXISTING SIDEWALK/ PATHWAY TO REMAIN |  | TREE REMOVAL   |  | EXISTING SIGNAL |
|  | EXISTING PROPERTY LINE        |  | NEW/ RECONSTRUCT SIDEWALK/ PATHWAY   |  | TREE TO REMAIN |  |                 |
|  | PRELIMINARY RIGHT-OF-WAY TAKE |  | RECONSTRUCT DRIVEWAY                 |  | RAISED MEDIAN  |  |                 |
|  | MAINTAIN ON-STREET PARKING    |  | LANDSCAPING/ WATER QUALITY           |  |                |  |                 |

# 3-LANE & 5-LANE LAYOUT COMPARISON

## Current 5-Lane Layout

Removes approx. 51 mature trees

Wider "footprint" may impact Novato Creek

Acquires land from 27+ properties

Demolishes at least 3 houses

Preliminary cost estimate: \$20-25M

## Recommended 3-Lane Layout

Removes approx. 28 mature trees

Narrower "footprint" avoids Novato Creek

Acquires land from approx. 6 properties

No houses are demolished

Preliminary cost estimate: \$10-15M





# TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

- Level of Service (LOS) analysis during peak traffic hours:



**LOS - A**  
Free-flowing



**LOS - B**  
Nearly free-flow



**LOS - C**  
Stable flow



**LOS - D**  
Acceptable flow



**LOS - E**  
Unstable flow



**LOS - F**  
Highly congested

- Traffic projected to year 2043 assuming full buildout of General Plan
- Traffic volumes increase by 21-23 percent over existing volume



# ALTERNATIVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS

## Current Conditions

- Generally LOS D during peak hours
- Drivers making left turns onto side streets or driveways can cause LOS E/F

## Future (2043) "No Project"

- LOS F - Violates City's General Plan policies
- Violates TAM's Congestion Management Plan policies

## Future with 3-Lane Layout

- LOS D with more stable flow than today
- Left-turning vehicles will no longer block through traffic

## Future with 5-Lane Layout

- LOS C - Stable flow during peak hours





# INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements planned for Novato Blvd. between Diablo and Grant:

- “Keep Clear” legends on Novato Blvd. at Pine Ave. and Cypress Ave.
- New or relocated “No Outlet” signs to deter cut-through traffic
- Extension of northbound right turn lane from Novato Blvd. to 7<sup>th</sup> St.
- Placement of channelizers along the shoulders between Fawn Ct. and Pine Ave.
- Minor tree pruning near the north end of Los Alondras Ct.



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# PROJECT NEXT STEPS AND TIMEFRAMES

City Council selects a preferred option

June 12, 2018

Complete studies, update draft EIR, & interim improvements

June 2018 – Spring 2019

Detailed design work & property acquisition

Mid-2019 through Mid-2021

Construction

Mid-2021 through 2022



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# QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

PROJECT UPDATES AT: [novato.org/novatoblvd](https://www.novato.org/novatoblvd)