

City of

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TREETS

# **2019 Project Award Nomination**

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ewa Iake Boulevard Side Improvements City of Thousand Oaks



### Westlake Boulevard Sidewalks



Residents enjoy a stroll on the new, safe sidewalks

#### **Project Overview**

Westlake Boulevard (State Route 23) is a busy and active thoroughfare of the City. It is part of the City's "scenic highway system" and a popular bicycle and pedestrian route (designated Class II bike lanes in the City's Bicycle Facilities Master Plan). This corridor did not have continuous sidewalks, which required pedestrians to walk in the bike lanes or shoulder. At the U.S. 101 interchange, pedestrians and bicyclists had to navigate through the northbound and southbound on-ramps. Over the past four years there were multiple bicycle-vehicle collisions in this area. The City received Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant funding to improve pedestrian and bike safety on Westlake Boulevard from Triunfo Canyon Road to the northbound US 101 ramps (approximately 1.1 miles).

This \$1.45 M project addressed these important pedestrian and bicycle safety issues by providing:

- new continuous sidewalks
- enhanced green bicycle markings including bicycle box and bicycle loop detectors
- · curb ramp construction and rehabilitation
- · high visibility crosswalk marking
- rectangular rapid flashing beacons at all four US 101 on-ramps

The sidewalks provide pedestrians a safer travel way. High visibility crosswalks improve safety by enhancing the pedestrian route, and curb ramps were reconstructed to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. The enhanced bicycle markings will allow motorists and cyclists to travel in their respective lanes, thus avoiding confusion and lowering risk of collision at intersections and the US 101/Westlake Boulevard interchange. Rectangular rapid flashing beacons were installed at the US 101 southbound and northbound on-ramps to provide advanced warning for vehicles that a pedestrian is entering an uncontrolled crossing.

Since the project is located in a scenic corridor with a lot of public interest, special care was taken to manage and address the existing mature trees and landscape along the route. The project included meandering sidewalks, retaining curbs, slough walls and retaining walls to minimize impact to trees. Public outreach and community meetings were held which resulted in enhanced landscaping, a parallel decomposed granite path and vista sitting areas.

#### **Project Team**



**Project Owner** City of Thousand Oaks



**Design Engineer** MNS Engineers, Inc.

**Contractor** Toro Enterprises





Environmental Consulting
 Padre Associates, Inc.

LANDMARK DESIGN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

073

Landscape Architecture Landmark Design



### **Construction Management Techniques**



**Construction of sidewalks** 

Construction of the Westlake Boulevard project was substantially complete on-time in October 2018. Time was of the essence for completing construction due to time constraints associated with the federal grant.

Westlake Boulevard is State Route 23 south of US 101; therefore, the project was constructed via a Caltrans encroachment permit. The construction team coordinated diligently with Caltrans field staff to keep the project schedule on track. In addition, the project required coordination with three projects: Caltrans sidewalk rehabilitation project which preceded this project, Caltrans pavement rehabilitation which will follow this project, and the City's annual pavement rehabilitation project, which ran concurrently. As part of the close coordination and cooperation, the Caltrans pavement overlay project will install the Green Bike Lane striping on Westlake Boulevard.

To keep the project on schedule, the following management and control techniques were used:

- Utility companies with conflicts were notified and relocation plans were prepared prior to the start of construction so they could start work earlier and lessen impacts to the contractor's work.
- · The project schedule was monitored daily.

 Constant coordination with the contractor including weekly meetings and timely review of submittals and RFIs kept the project on track.

Temporary lane closures along Westlake Boulevard were required throughout the project. The traffic control plan was developed and approved prior to construction to minimize delays and impacts to the commuting public. This corridor is a popular route for pedestrians and bicyclists, so the construction team worked to open the sidewalks to the public as quickly as possible.

#### **Project Schedule**

Ac	,	Bid Item	Activity Name	Original Duration	Stallt	Finish	8         May 2018         June 2018         July 2018         August 2018         S         October 2018         N         D         January 2019         F         March 1           22         29/06         13/20         27/03         10/17         24/01         08         15/20         29/06         13/20         27/03         10/17         12/40
	💼 # 8854 WESTLA	KE BL	VD SIDEWALK PROJECT	199	23-Apr-18 A	25-Jan-19	▼ 25-Jan-19, # 8854 WE
	A1000		TRAFFIC CONTROL	128	23-Apr-18 A	20-Oct-18	TRAFFIC CONTROL
	A1010		STORM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL	128	23-Apr-18 A	20-Oct-18	STORM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
	A1020		MOBILIZATION	1	23-Apr-18 A	23-Apr-18 A	NOBILIZATION
	A1025		PROJECT IDENTIFICATION SIGN	2	07-May-18 A	08-May-18 A	
	a1030		CLEARING AND GRUBBING EAST SIDE	10	02-May-18 A	21-May-18 A	CLEARING AND GRUBBING EAST SIDE
	a1031		CLEARING AND GRUBBING WEST SIDE	5	11-Jun-18 A	19-Jun-18 A	CLEARING AND GRUBBING WEST SIDE
	a1040		REMOVE CURB RAMP EAST SIDE	10	21-May-18 A	21-May-18 A	I REMOVE CURB RAMP EAST SIDE
	a A1041		REMOVE CURB RAMP WEST SIDE	10	12-Jun-18 A	23-Jul-18	
	A1050		REMOVE CURB & GUTTER	5	12-Jun-18 A	12-Jun-18 A	I REMOVE CURB & GUTTER
	a1060		REMOVE SIDEWALK	10	12-Jun-18 A	14-Jun-18 A	REMOVE SIDEWALK
	a1070		REMOVE PAVEMENT	2	24-Jul-18	25-Jul-18	I REMOVE PAVEMENT
	A1080		REMOVE TREE (ALEPPO PINES)	2	01-May-18 A	09-May-18 A	REMOVE TREE (ALER PO PINES)
	a1090		REMOVE MONUEMENT SIGN	1	12-Jun-18 A	12-Jun-18 A	I REMOVE MONUEMENT SIGN
	📷 A1100		ADJUST TRAFFIC SIGNAL PULLBOX TO GRADE	5	15-Jun-18 A	09-Jul-18	ADJUST TRAFFIC SIGNAL PULLBOX TO GRADE
	🕳 A1110		REPLACE TRAFFIC SIGNAL PULLBOX	5	10-Jul-18	16-Jul-18	REPLACE TRAFFIC SIGNAL PULLBOX
	🕳 A1120		6" HOT MIX ASPHALT (HMA)	5	02-Jul-18	09-Jul-18	6" HOT MIXASPHALT (HMA)
	📹 A1140		CONCRETE CURB & GUTTER	5	14-Jun-18 A	15-Jun-18 A	CONCRETE CURB& GUTTER
	a1149		SIDEWALK EXCAVATION EAST SIDE	5	07-May-18 A	29-May-18 A	SIDEWALK EXCAVATION EAST SIDE
	a1150		CONCRETE SIDEWALK EAST SIDE	12	30-May-18 A	11-Jun-18 A	CONCRETE SIDEWALK EAST SIDE
	📷 A1151		SIDEWALK EXCAVATION WEST SIDE	10	12-Jun-18 A	23-Jul-18	SIDEWALK EXCAVATION WEST SIDE
	📷 A1152		CONCRETE SIDEWALK WEST SIDE	10	18-Jun-18 A	06-Aug-18	
	a1160		CURB RAMP EAST SIDE	12	31-May-18 A	15-Jun-18 A	CUR RAMP EAST SIDE
	📷 A1161		CURB RAMP WEST	10	15-Jun-18 A	06-Aug-18	CURB RAMP WEST
	a1170		DETECTABLE WARNING SURFACE EAST SIDE	12	31-May-18 A	15-Jun-18 A	DETECTABLE WARNING SURFACE EAST SIDE
	👜 A1171		DETECTABLE WARNING SURFACE WEST SIDE	10	24-Jul-18	06-Aug-18	DETECTÁBLE WARNING SURFACE WEST SIDE
	A1180		MASONRY RETAINING WALL (TYPE 6A)	23	04-May-18 A	24-May-18 A	MASONRY RETAINING WALL (TYPE 6A)
	a1190		SIDEWALK RETAINING CURB (TYPE A1-8)	10	30-May-18 A	11-Jun-18 A	SIDEWALK RETAINING CURB (TYPE A1-8)
	a A1200		PEDESTRIAN PUSH BUTTON FOUNDATION	18	17-Jul-18	09-Aug-18	PEDESTRIAN PUSH BUTTON FOUNDATION
	👜 A1201		POLE DELIVERY	0	03-Aug-18*		◆ POLE DELIVERY, 03-Aug-18*
	a1210		2" STABILIZED DECOMPOSED GRANITE (DG)	5	02-Jul-18	09-Jul-18	2" STABILIZED DECOMPOSED GRANITE (DG)
	a1220		6"X6" CONCRETE MOW CURB	12	30-May-18 A	11-Jun-18 A	
1	💼 A1230		CITY BENCH AND TRASH RECEPTACLE	2	02-Jul-18	03-Jul-18	D CITY BENCH AND TRASH RECEPTACE
	📷 A1250		TREE PLANTING	10	04-Sep-18	17-Sep-18	TRE PLANTING
	📷 A1260		LANDSCAPING	20	04-Sep-18	01-Oct-18	
ſ	a1270		TURF	10	02-Oct-18	15-Oct-18	
	a1280		IRRIGATION EAST SIDE	20	03-May-18 A	30-Jul-18	IRRIGATION EAST SIDE
	📷 A1281		IRRIGATION WEST SIDE	20	07-Aug-18	03-Sep-18	IRRIGATIÓN WEST SIDĘ
	📷 A1300		INSTALL LOOP DETECTORS	2	10-Aug-18	13-Aug-18	INSTALL LOOP DETECTORS
	📷 A1310		TRAFFIC PULLBOX AND CONTROLLER CONNECTION	5	10-Aug-18	16-Aug-18	TRAFFIC PULLBOX AND CONTROLLER CONNECTION
	a1320		RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACON		10-Aug-18	16-Aug-18	RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACON
	📷 A1330		SIGNING	10	17-Aug-18	30-Aug-18	SIGNING
_	Asheell and af Eff						Date Revision Checked Approve
	<ul> <li>Actual Level of Effort</li> </ul>		emaining Work			P	Page 1 of 2 Date Revision Onecred Approve





### Sustainable Commitment



Purple Majesty/Sage

The City of Thousand Oaks supports and actively implements sustainability through many programs to help achieve its environmental goals. The Public Works Department has a Sustainability Division called "Go Green". They develop ongoing programs for energy, water and waste reductions as well as administering the Community Enhancement Grant program. Sustainability and "green" methods are a priority in community development as well as in the way projects are managed.

Examples of the commitment to sustainability on this project include:

- · Minimized impacts to existing trees
- Developed a native plant palette

- Used high efficiency irrigation facilities to replace the existing irrigation system
- Used a pervious surface treatment (decomposed granite) where feasible, reducing stormwater runoff and promoting groundwater recharge
- Diverted 65% of construction and demolition waste materials from landfill disposal through re-use and recycling



# **Environmental Considerations**



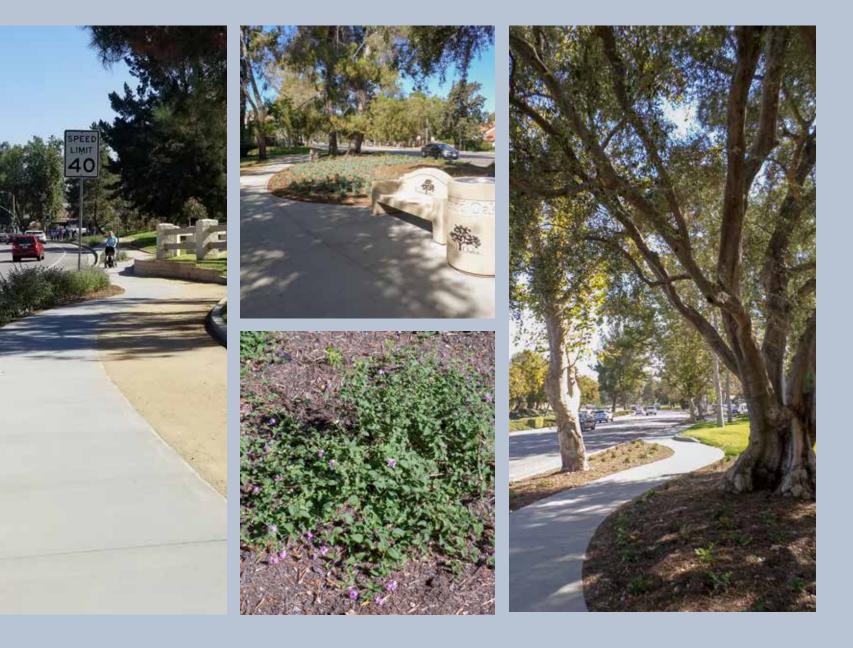
Native plantings

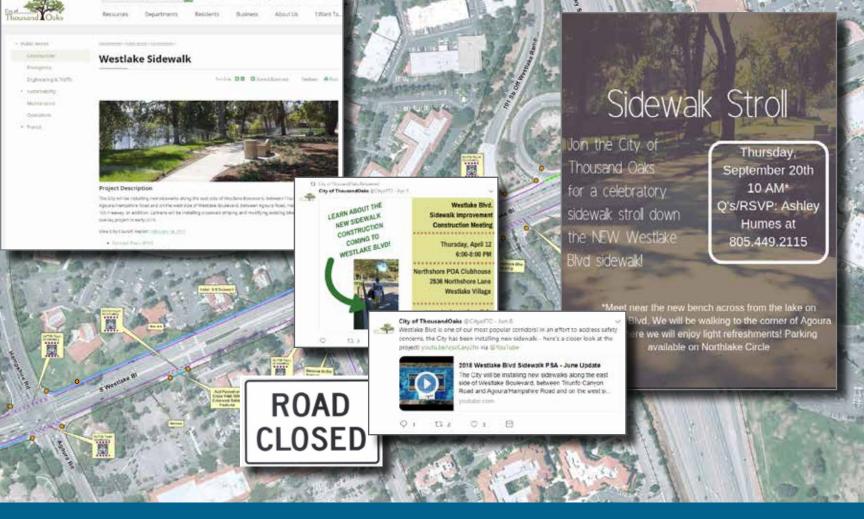
The Westlake Boulevard corridor project site has many mature trees along the roadway, including Aleppo Pines, Sycamores and Oaks. The City took special steps with this project to determine the least amount of disturbance to the environment and landscape, including:

- An arborist investigation evaluated the project to minimize impacts on trees and recommend locations where replacement trees could be planted.
- A tree survey was conducted which identified Oak trees protected under the City's Oak Tree Preservation and Protection guidelines and Sycamore trees protected under the Landmark Tree Ordinance along the proposed sidewalk/walking path alignments. The sidewalk/walking path alignments were designed in a meandering fashion to avoid the protected trees. The City conducted extensive public outreach to the adjoining property owners, and secured permanent and temporary easements to install and maintain the sidewalk outside of Caltrans right-of-way. Due to the shallow nature (mostly less than 12 inches) and limited width (six feet) of required excavation for the sidewalk, encroachment into the root zones of protected trees was minimal. The project removed six landscaping trees (Aleppo pines), which are not protected.
- A public information and outreach program were developed to address these issues.

After receiving public input, these key items were addressed to enhance and improve the project corridor:

- Enhanced landscaping
- Meandering sidewalks which helped minimize the removal of trees
- · Decomposed granite path
- · Vista area benches
- · Designated bike box





### **Community Relations**



Sidewalk Stroll Celebration

The City provided many opportunities for community involvement and input on this important project on one of its main and busiest corridors. Area residents provided input on the design concept alternatives via public outreach meeting. Multiple community meetings were held to provide opportunities for input as well as discuss design and construction impacts.

Prior to and during construction, the City kept the community well informed about the project and any potential delays using multiple methods of communication. Changeable message signs, project identification boards, the project website, and social media were used to keep the community well informed about temporary lane closures and project progress.



# **Unusual Accomplishments**



The meandering sidewalks required permanent easements from four Homeowners Associations (HOAs). As opposed to single property owners, City staff needed to coordinate with each of the HOA boards to gain consensus. With attorney involvement and HOAs apprehension of a City easement within their property, the project was in jeopardy of reverting back to a straight sidewalk which would ean losing many mature trees and affect the ability to provide enhanced aesthetic elements. Early stakeholder identification and collaboration between City staff, the HOAs, and attorneys resulted in permanent easements from the HOAs.

In addition, excavating, grading, and installing the improvements next to mature tree roots posed a challenge. A full time arborist observed the work and provided direction to the construction crew while working around trees, trimming, and cutting roots.



# **Additional Considerations**



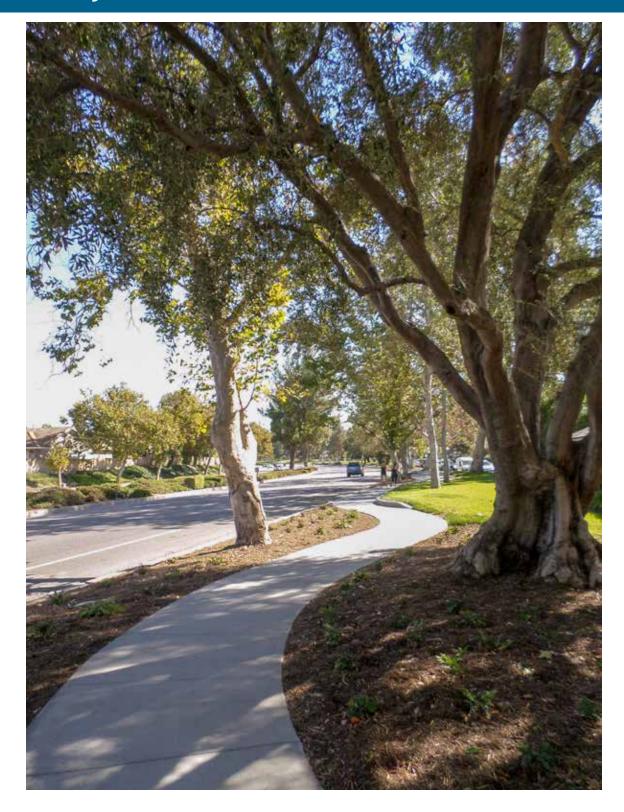
Tree-lined Westlake Boulevard

Westlake Boulevard is designated as part of the City's "scenic highway system" in the Scenic Highways Element of the Thousand Oaks General Plan (1974). This policy ensures that new development occurring along designated scenic highways be visually compatible with scenic highway standards. Steps were taken on this project to ensure that it is aesthetically pleasing and visually compatible with surrounding residential development. Examples include:

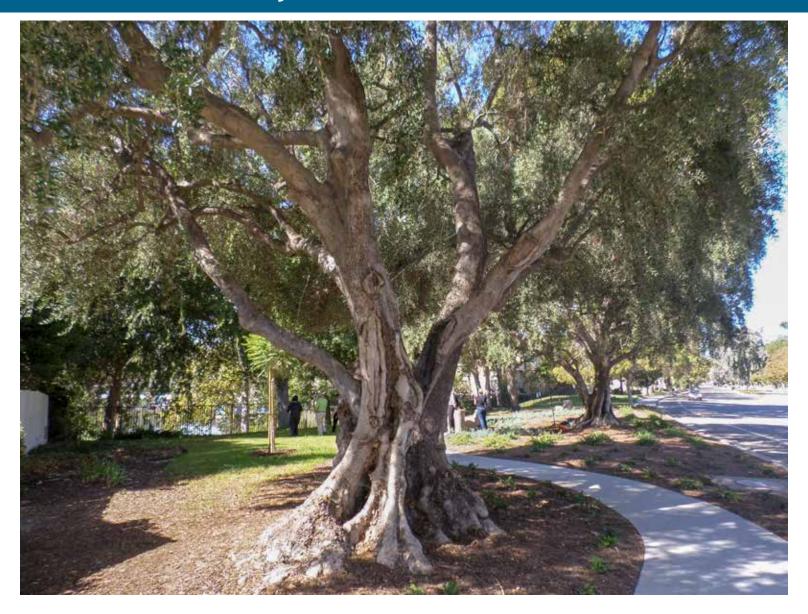
- Right-of-way landscaping was preserved to the extent feasible, and the six trees removed were replaced at a greater than 4:1 ratio. 29 trees were planted.
- The removal of mature trees was minimized.
- Permanent easements were obtained to construct meandering sidewalks with enhanced landscaping.

- Retaining curbs, slough walls and retaining walls were constructed to minimize impacts to trees and root systems.
- Parallel decomposed granite path was constructed where feasible

# **Project Photos**



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# **Project Photos**

