



City of Grover Beach

PRESS RELEASE
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West Grand Avenue Enhancements Take Shape

GROVER BEACH, CA — The City of Grover Beach recently began working on an ambitious project to transform the west end of Grand Avenue into a distinct city gateway and to create an attractive streetscape between downtown and the beach. The project will not only set precedence for future streetscape along West Grand Avenue, but will also develop a "brand image," improving the public realm and gathering places for the community, businesses and visitors for the City of Grover Beach.

Located on West Grand Avenue, between Second and Fourth Streets, the project involves installing new sidewalks, pedestrian bulb-outs, decorative crosswalks, landscaped medians, ornamental plantings and "statement" palm trees in tree grates, ornate lighting fixtures and benches. While there are many attractive elements to the project, a defining feature is the architectural concrete paving being used for the sidewalks and crosswalks. Designed to resemble the color and texture of the ocean lapping onto the beach, the paving combines concrete with colored glass crystals, seashells and beach pebbles to create a unique hardscape unlike any other on the Central Coast. "The enhanced colored glass concrete paving is inspired by Grover Beach's connection to the Pacific Ocean and the Oceano Dunes," explains Brandon Medeiros, urban design and planner from RICK Engineering Company. This unique paving can be observed from the windows of the existing businesses located in the construction area. Grover Beach Mayor John Shoals stated, "We are thrilled to see the project taking shape and believe the community will be proud of the improvements. Our goal was to create something uniquely Grover Beach."

Work is presently occurring on the south side of West Grand Avenue and will move to the north side of the street in the coming weeks. Work on the landscaped medians in the center of the street will begin in late may. The entire project is expected to be completed before the end of June. The City and its design / construction team, RICK Engineering Company and Souza Construction, are making every effort to complete the project before the summer travel season begins to minimize impacts to local businesses. The City would also like to remind everyone that all of the businesses located in the construction area are open. Residents are encouraged to patronize these businesses while the work on the improvements is underway.

Total project costs are estimated at \$1.5 million dollars with funding coming from a variety of sources including \$856,000 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act obtained with the assistance of the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments and \$258,000 in federal funds secured by Congresswoman Lois Capps. The remaining funds are being made available from the City's Improvement Agency and the Street Rehabilitation Program.

For further information, please contact City Manager Bob Perrault at 473-4567.

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