



**PRESS RELEASE**

**Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony**  
**Dedication of Bay Road Improvement Project, Phase I**  
**City of East Palo Alto, California**  
**October 21, 2008**

The City of East Palo Alto is pleased to announce the completion of construction work on the Bay Road, Phase I, Improvement Project. The City will celebrate this accomplishment by holding a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, October 23, 2008, at 10:00 AM. The event will include presentations to be held at the Government Center, 2415 University Avenue, East Palo Alto and, a brief tour of the project.

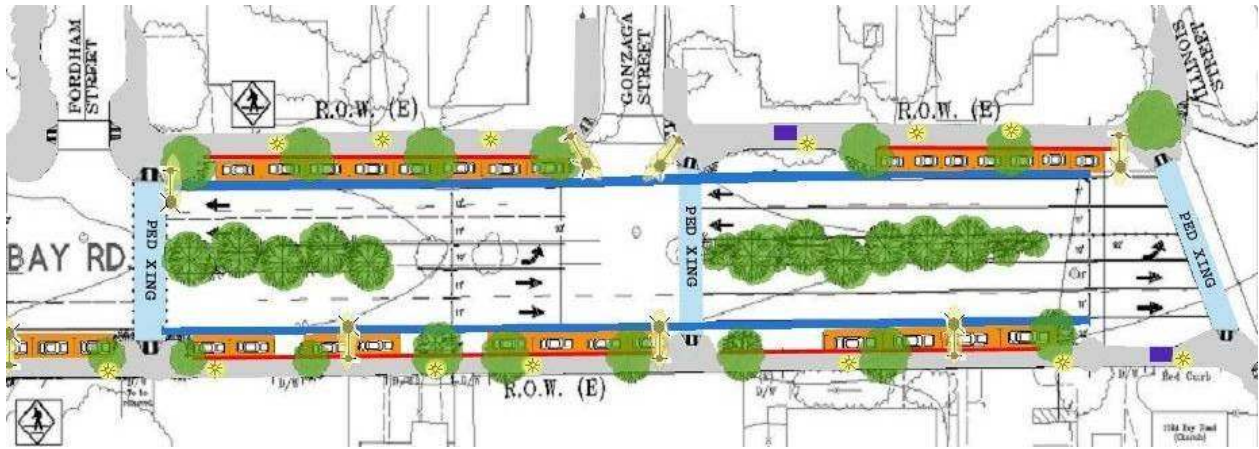
The Bay Road Phase I project created a signature gateway for East Palo Alto by developing a tree lined boulevard that will improve the safety and experience of pedestrians, drivers, bicyclists, and enhancing the quality of life in the area. Bay Road between University Ave and Illinois Street, is designed to support the concepts of smart growth and livable communities and, is now a safer and more attractive place to walk, ride a bicycle, take the bus, and drive.

Traffic calming is important to the residents of East Palo Alto because, it is estimated that almost 10% of East Palo Alto residents walk, ride a bike, or take transit to work. The project encourages non-vehicular travel by improving the walking experience and adding bus stops and bus shelters. The sidewalks have been widened to provide more room for pedestrians. Bicycle lanes were also added on both sides of Bay Road to encourage people to ride their bicycles and connect it to a regional network of bike lanes. New traffic calming bulb out curbs were added to create a sense of separation between the pedestrians and the cars, and new decorative pavement as well as four manually operated LED pedestrian crosswalks were installed to enhance pedestrian safety. The installation of decorative and energy efficient street lights enhances the streetscape and makes the street safer for walking at night. Finally, it is now easier and more convenient to catch a bus at the three new bus shelters that will shield bus riders from unpleasant weather. Finally, project design characteristics will contribute to improving the environment by reducing smog and, by enhancing the walking experience, thereby improving the physical health of community residents.

The Bay Road, Phase I project overall cost was 2 million dollars. The funding sources include federal grants obtained through the efforts of the city's congressional representatives, supplemented by various state and local sources, including Caltrans, Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), and Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) funds.

The Project consists of three phases:

1. Bay Road Improvements Project, Phase I, from University Avenue to Clarke Avenue
2. Bay Road Improvements Project, Phase II, from Clarke Avenue to Tara Street
3. Bay Road Improvements Project, Phase III, from Tara Street to Cooley Landing



**Bay Road Improvement Project, Phase I**



**Bay Road – Construction Phases**