



**NEWS FROM**  
**PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY**  
January 21, 2005

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## **Bancroft Avenue Bike Lanes – Closing the Gap**

**Oakland, CA** –East Oakland

The City of Oakland's Public Works Agency proposes to construct bicycle lanes on Bancroft Avenue between 66<sup>th</sup> and 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenues, closing a one-mile gap in an East Oakland bikeway that extends from 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to the San Leandro city limits. Bancroft is the first section of an ambitious bikeway project that will eventually connect with Foothill Boulevard at 42<sup>nd</sup>, creating the Bancroft/Foothill Bikeway from San Leandro to Lake Merritt. When completed, this facility will be almost 8 miles in length, one of the longest continuous bikeways in the Bay Area.

To install the new bicycle lanes, the street would be reconfigured from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction, with a center turn lane. The Public Works Agency completed a feasibility study for the project, which showed that there would be no significant impact, with the exception of two intersections, Havenscourt and 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. To maintain adequate traffic flow, the existing traffic lane configuration will not be changed, and no bicycle lanes will be installed at these two intersections.

The proposed project showcases a street reconfiguration that calms traffic, while providing better access for bicyclists and pedestrians. Councilmember Desley Brooks supports the project, which "will help reduce air pollution and encourage cycling in my district," noting that more residents may be willing to ride to Eastmont Town Center and Mills College, if cycling conditions were improved.

The project also improves opportunities for local recreation and exercise on weekends; several parks and recreation centers are located in the vicinity. Local cyclists have expressed enthusiasm for completing the Bancroft bike lanes. "We use this corridor frequently, and the bicycle lanes make a big difference," said Al Joseph, President of the Oakland Yellowjackets cycling club.

In recent years, the Public Works Agency installed bicycle lanes on various sections of Bancroft Avenue; in 2002, from 42<sup>nd</sup>-66<sup>th</sup> Avenues and from 82<sup>nd</sup>-98<sup>th</sup> Avenues. In 2003, the City completed the gap between the bicycle lanes in Oakland and San Leandro, by installing bike lanes between 98<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the San Leandro city limits. That left only the gap between 66<sup>th</sup> and 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenues, the segment currently proposed for bike lane striping. The project makes the street design more consistent with the adjoining street sections, providing a more distinctive identity

If you have questions or would like to comment on this project, e-mail Councilmember Desley Brooks at [dbrooks@oaklandnet.com](mailto:dbrooks@oaklandnet.com), or phone her office at 239-7006. A flyer from the Public Works Agency inviting comment is also being sent to area residents. For specific questions or comments about the project design, you may e-mail [bikeped@oaklandnet.com](mailto:bikeped@oaklandnet.com).

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