



# El Camino Real Complete Streets Study

San Mateo County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

August 15, 2024

Phase 1 Summary

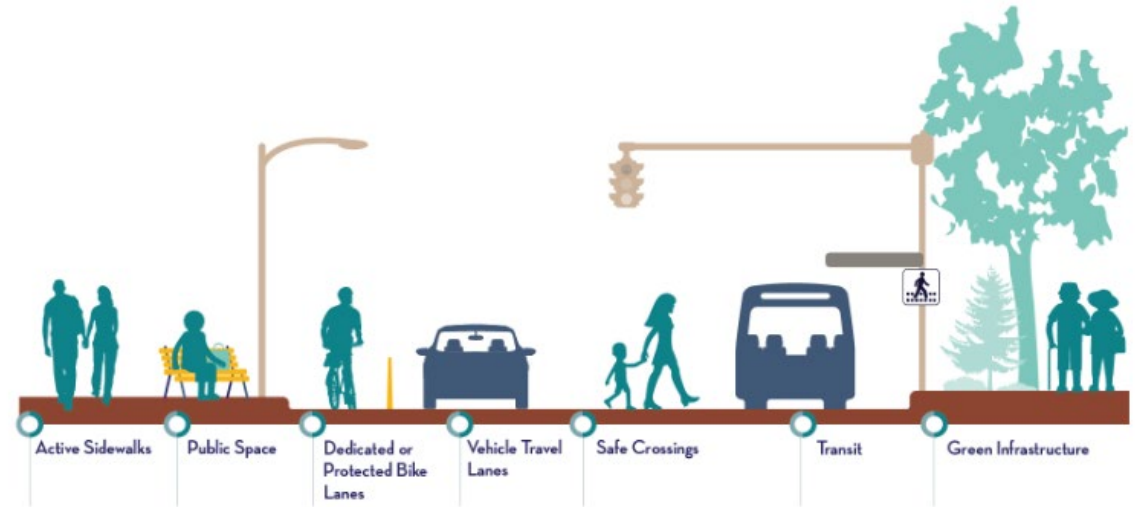
# Study Overview



# What are “Complete Streets”?

A complete street provides mobility options for people of all ages and abilities, particularly people who are walking, biking, using personal mobility devices, and riding transit.

Complete streets offer several benefits, including enhanced safety and quality of life by providing a balanced variety of options for travel.

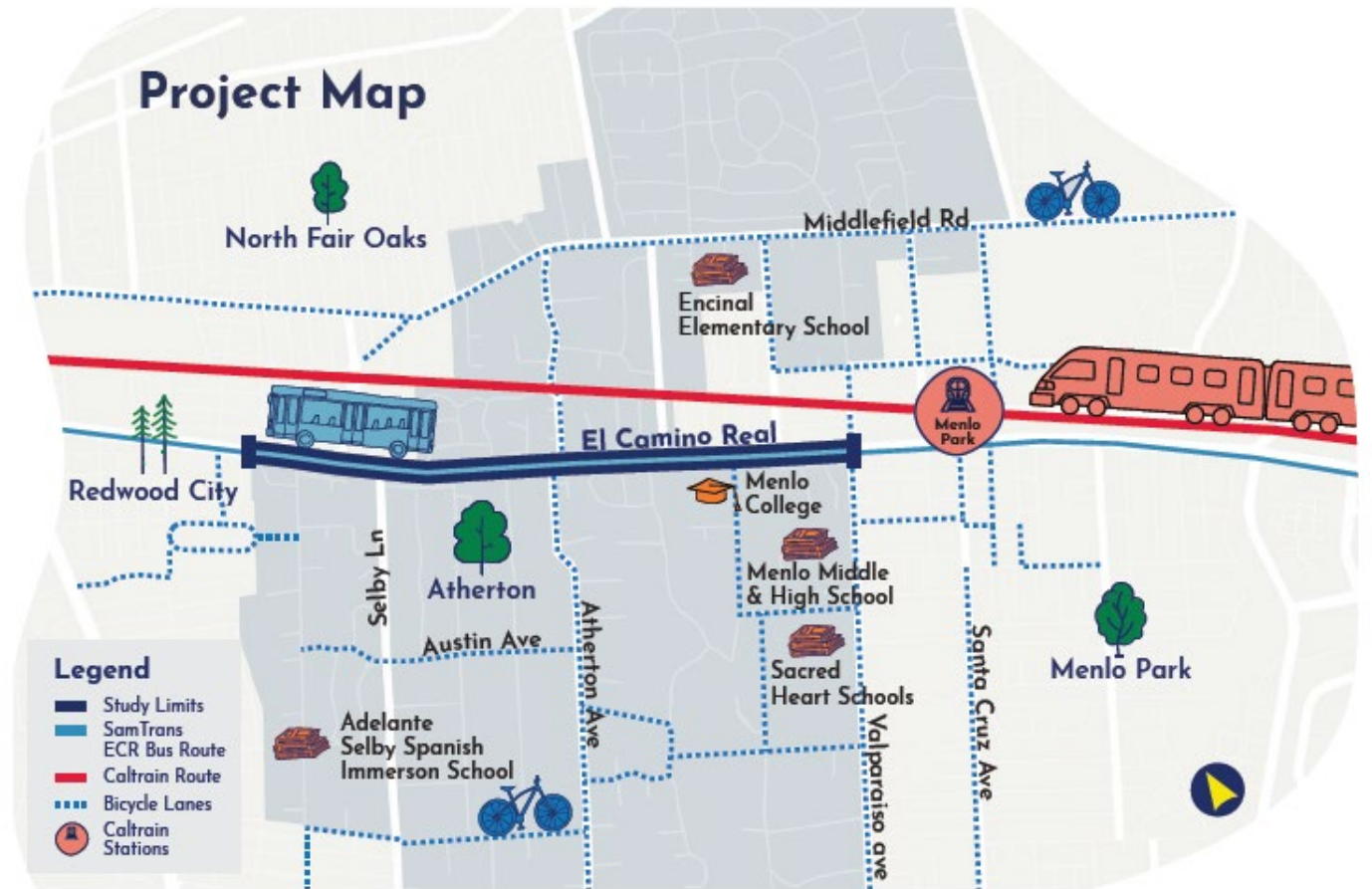


Source: City of Santa Fe, NM



# Background

- Town of Atherton received Funding from TA Cycle 6 Pedestrian & Bicycle Program to Complete Street options for El Camino Real (ECR)
- ECR through Atherton lacks dedicated pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- El Camino Real is a State Highway under the purview of Caltrans
- Prepare for Project Initiation Document (PID) phase



# Project Overview

## Project Goals:



Improved Safety and Quality of Life



Improved Connectivity



Enhanced Equity and Access

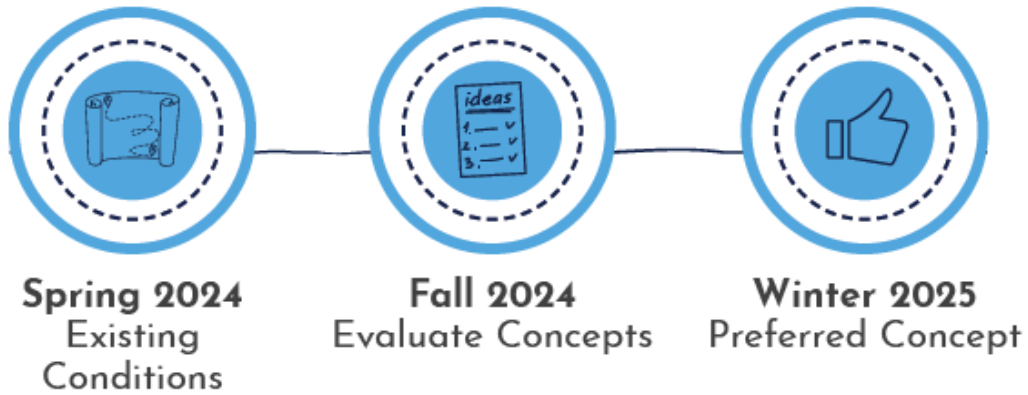


Expand Travel Options



# Project Overview

## Timeline:



## Funding Sources:






- Measure A funding through the 2022 SMCTA Pedestrian and Bicycle Program
- Town of Atherton
- City of Menlo Park
- SamTrans



# Existing Conditions



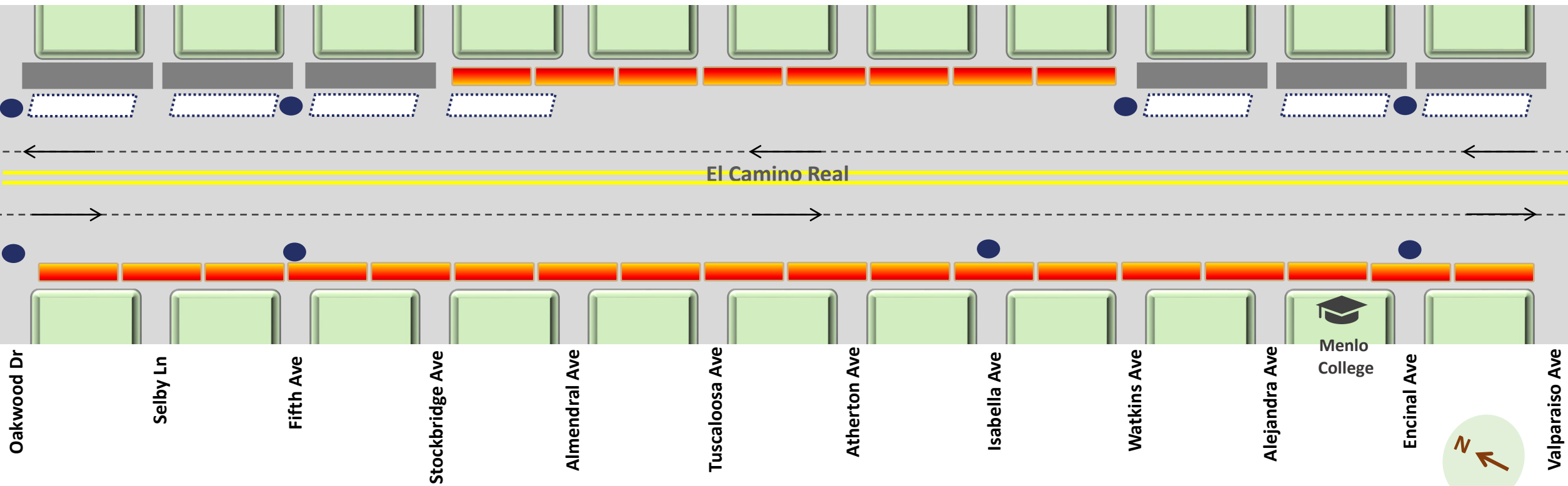
# Existing El Camino Real Roadway Characteristics - Sidewalk Gaps

-  Vehicle Lanes
-  Sidewalk
-  No sidewalks
-  On Street Parking
-  SamTrans Bus Stop

North Bound Traffic

El Camino Real

South Bound Traffic







**Existing El Camino Real Roadway Characteristics**



# Crash Analysis

Data:  
January 1, 2018, to  
December 31, 2022



# Phase 1 Engagement Results: What We Heard



# Public Engagement

## Phase 1 Objectives

- Establish why the study is needed and what problems it aims to address
- Gain insights on experiences along El Camino Real, challenges, and opportunities to improve
- Answer questions about the study

## Engagement Tactics:

- Project webpage
- Multilingual factsheet and FAQ
- Online survey + interactive map
- 3 Focused Listening Sessions
- 3 Pop up events
- 2 CBO Meetings
- Technical Working Group Meeting #1
- Virtual Community Meeting



# What We Heard: Pedestrian Safety and Infrastructure

- The quality of pedestrian infrastructure
- The risks of crossing multiple lanes of traffic and being ignored by drivers
- Walking along corridor at night and early morning

The community called for:

- Continuous sidewalks along both sides of corridor
- Improved street level lighting
- More crosswalk protections
- Safe, accessible paths to bus stops along corridor

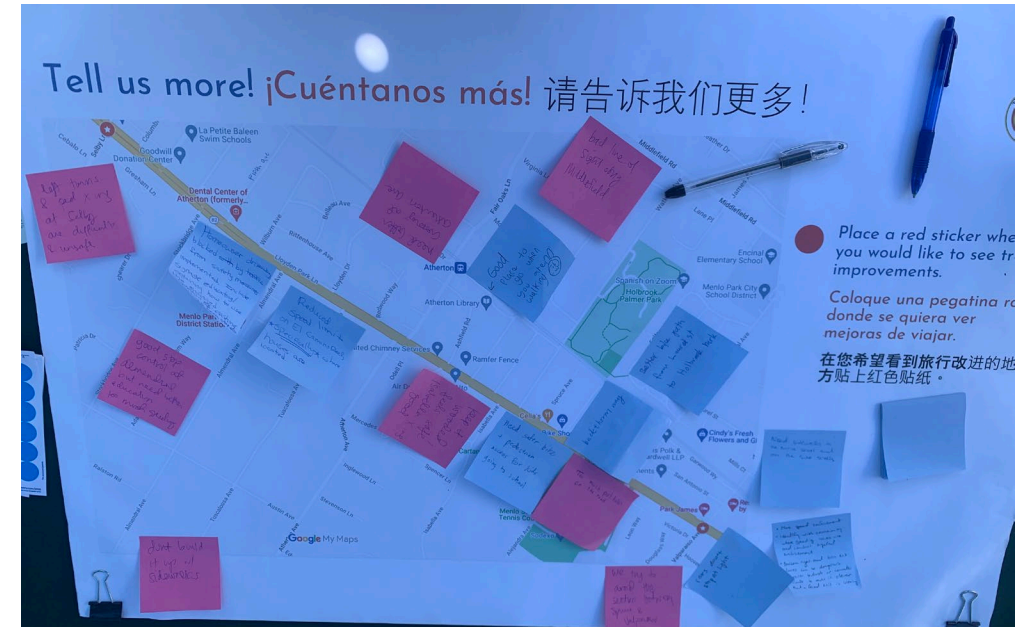


Image: Mapping Exercise at Pop Ups

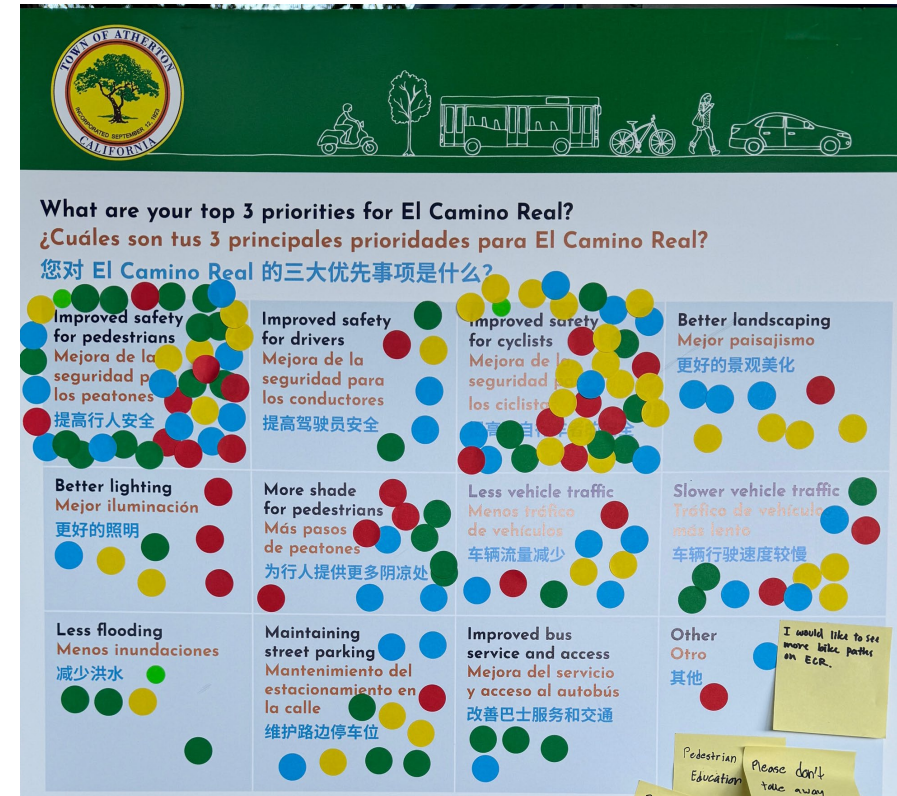


# What We Heard: Bicycle Lanes and Safety

- Many community members expressed that they would travel more by bike if it felt safe to do so.
- Parents and school administrators cited safety concerns for students biking to school regardless of whether bike lanes were to be installed.

Key suggestions to make the corridor more bike-friendly include:

- Replacing dirt paths with paved sidewalks
- Improving street level lighting
- Adding protected bike lanes and improving connectivity to other segments of the corridor
- Narrowing or reducing traffic lanes to make space for bike lanes



Graphic: Talled Results from Pop Up Activity: What are your top 3 priorities for El Camino Real?



# What We Heard: Public Transportation and Bus Stops

- Many community members from North Fair Oaks and surrounding equity priority communities depend on El Camino Real bus service to commute to work and move through the larger area.
- Community members shared concerns about:
  - Lack of visibility and lighting surrounding bus stops
  - Difficulty accessing bus stops during the rain
  - Unreliable bus service, including delays and inaccurate schedules



Photo: Focus Group Partnered with El Concilio



# What We Heard: Flooding on El Camino Real

- Worsens traffic and the experience commuting by car
- Forces pedestrians and cyclists onto the road from the road shoulder
- Turns the dirt paths on the corridor into mud
- Makes some of the bus stops along the corridor inaccessible



Photo: Atherton Earth Day Festival Pop Up





# What We Heard: Traffic and the Driver Experience

- Difficulty seeing pedestrians walking along the road shoulder
- Congestion caused by drivers attempting to turn left along the corridor
- Visibility issues when turning on to El Camino Real due to parked cars, overgrown landscaping, etc.
- Unsafe driver behavior such as speeding and ignoring pedestrian hybrid beacons
- Parking on the corridor



Photo: Focus Group Partnered with Acterra



# Survey and Activity Map



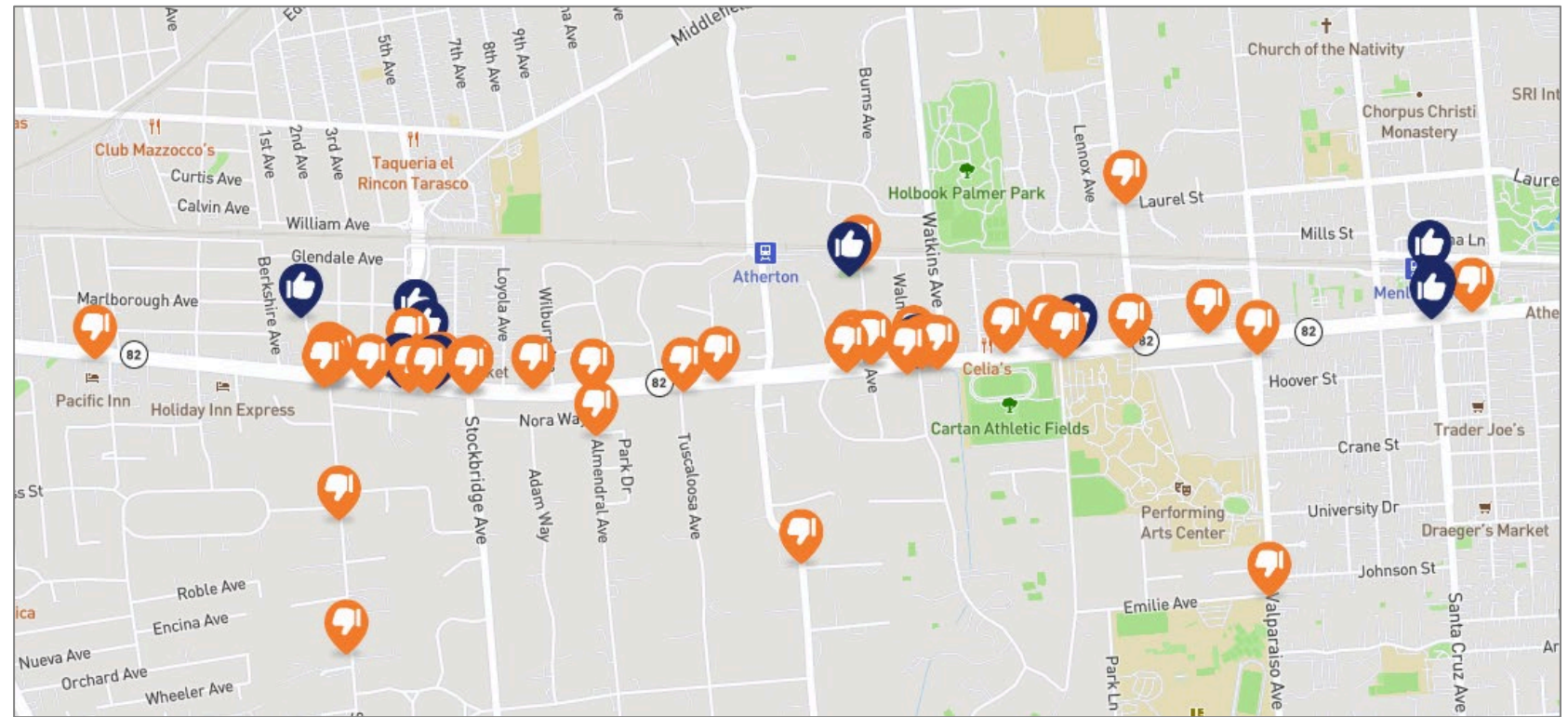
April to June 2024



320 responses to the online survey



59 markers added to the map



# Activity Map

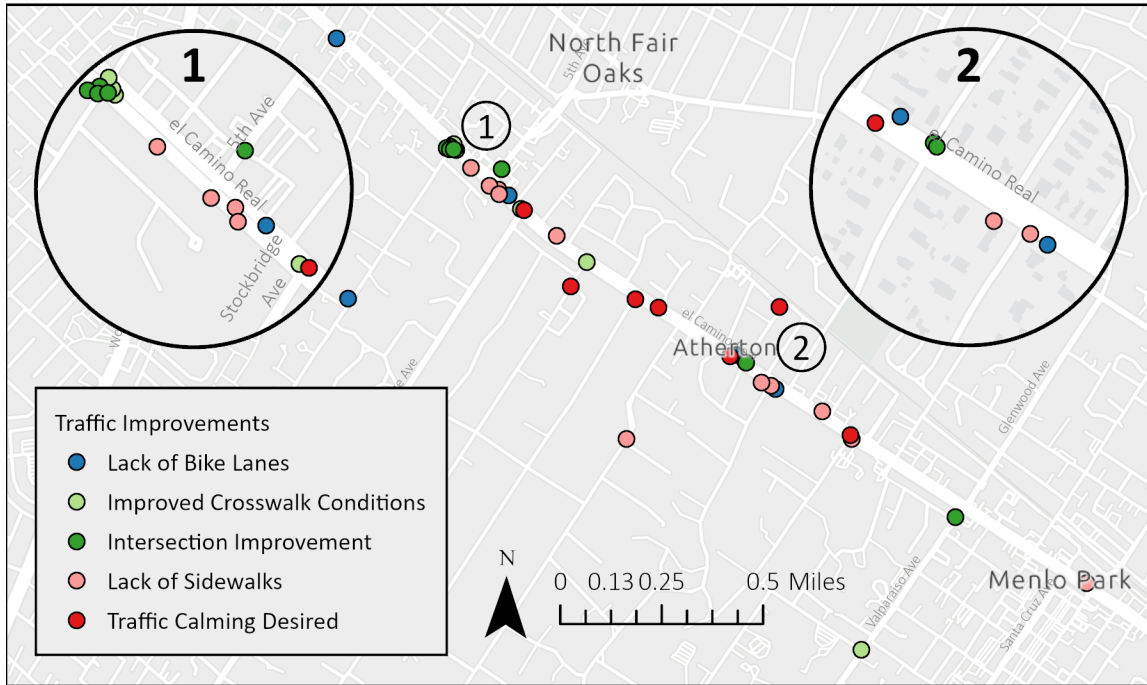
Markers on the map were combined with data from the survey to map collisions or near misses as reported by the public.

## Atherton Phase 1 Survey Responses: Collisions & Near Misses

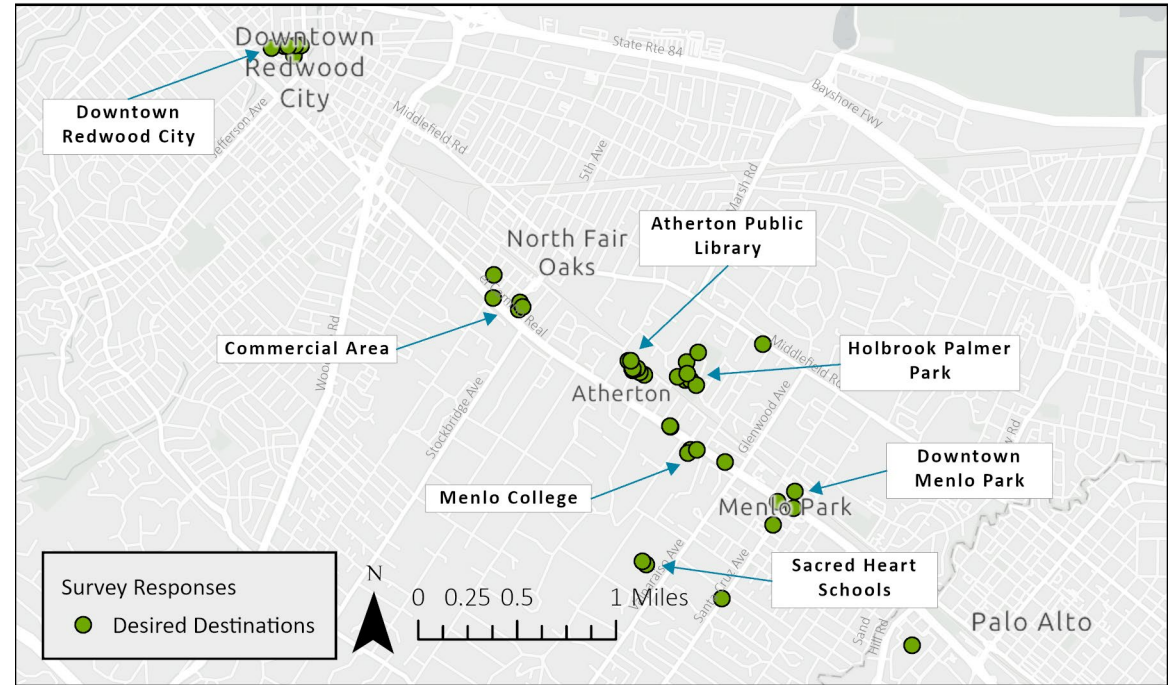


# Activity Map

## Atherton Phase 1 Survey Responses: Traffic Improvements

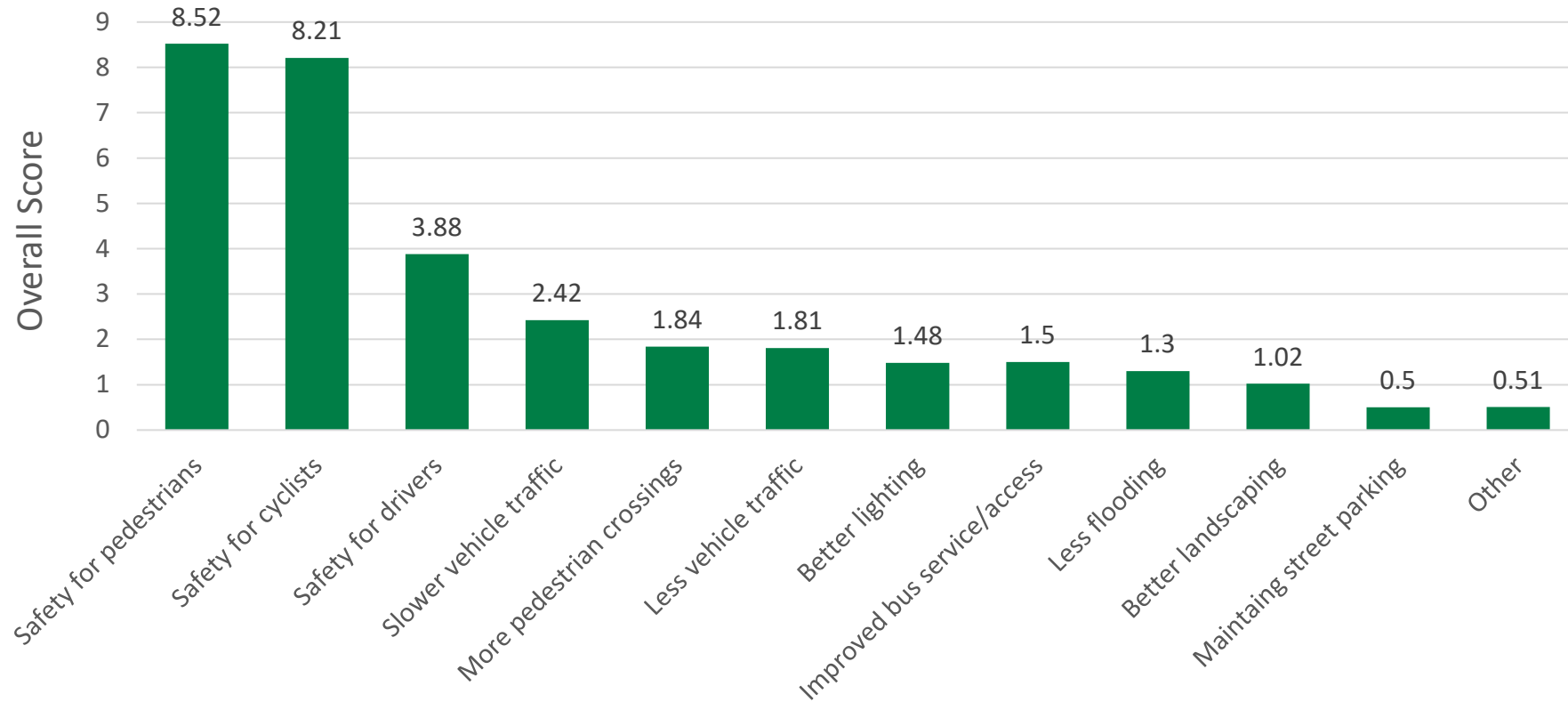


## Atherton Phase 1 Survey Responses: Desired Destinations



# Survey

## Top Priorities for Travel on El Camino Real



# Next Steps



# Next Steps

- The project team is preparing a report of the Existing Conditions and Mobility Profile analysis.
- In Phase 2 of engagement, the project team will ask for feedback on concept design alternatives.





# Thank You!

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