



MEMORANDUM

TO: HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FROM: MATTHEW DOWNING, PLANNING MANAGER

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF BRIDGE STREET BRIDGE SIDEWALK MATERIAL; LOCATION – BRIDGE STREET BRIDGE; APPLICANT – CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE

DATE: DECEMBER 9, 2016

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Historical Resources Committee (HRC) consider material options for sidewalks along the Bridge Street Bridge (the “Bridge”) and make a recommendation to the Community Development Director.

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:

Natural timber sidewalk planks will require additional maintenance costs when compared to composite material planks. However, maintenance and upkeep of the natural timber planks is remains minor.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

The Bridge Street Bridge currently has natural timber planks on either side for pedestrian use. As part of the Bridge project, these planks are being reviewed to determine if natural wood planks are the most appropriate for use. If natural timber planks were not to be used in the future, a composite material meant to resemble natural timber planks would be anticipated for use.

Several concerns have been identified regarding the use of natural timber planks, including:

- They are required to be periodically replaced due to warping, damage, decay, etc.;
- Warping and shrinkage routinely cause gaps between the planks and potential trip hazards; and
- Longevity of timber planks requires ongoing maintenance.

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While composite materials would alleviate these issues, the use of composite materials does raise concerns regarding the use of a newer material than what might have been used in the past.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:

The agenda was posted at City Hall and on the City's website in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

Attachment:

1. Examples of composite wood materials

ATTACHMENT 1



