

**CITY OF MERCED
Development Services**

TO: Bicycle Advisory Commission
FROM: Kim Nutt, Housing Program Specialist (Housing Division)
DATE: December 11, 2018
SUBJECT: Active Transportation Elements of Childs Ave. and B St. Affordable Housing Project

BACKGROUND

The City of Merced Housing Division is currently working on obtaining funding sources in relation to a planned affordable housing project at the northwest corner of E. Childs Avenue and B Street, in partnership with The Richman Group, LLC and the County of Merced.

The project would construct approximately 120 new affordable housing units in the community, while also providing on-site office space to local agencies and non-profit organizations to meet with resident clients. As with most new developments, off-site improvements will also be installed with the project, to include a storm water basin that will double as a public park, sidewalk, curb, gutter, streetlights, and intersection improvements, as well as bike lanes and a new multimodal bus stop.

DISCUSSION

One particular funding source the City is pursuing gives additional “points” in award funding to affordable housing developments that incorporate extra non-vehicular transportation facilities into the surrounding neighborhood – specifically, a minimum of two miles of new bike lanes, 3,000 linear feet of new and/or replaced sidewalks, and an increase in transit-related ridership. The objective in installing such additional facilities is to provide a deeper connectivity to and from the project for its future residents and the community as a whole.

As such, Housing Division staff has surveyed the areas that are within City limits, near the vicinity of the project, that may be missing or in need of on-street bicycle infrastructure and sidewalk improvements with the goal of meeting the minimum linear amounts for funding points and connectivity needs.

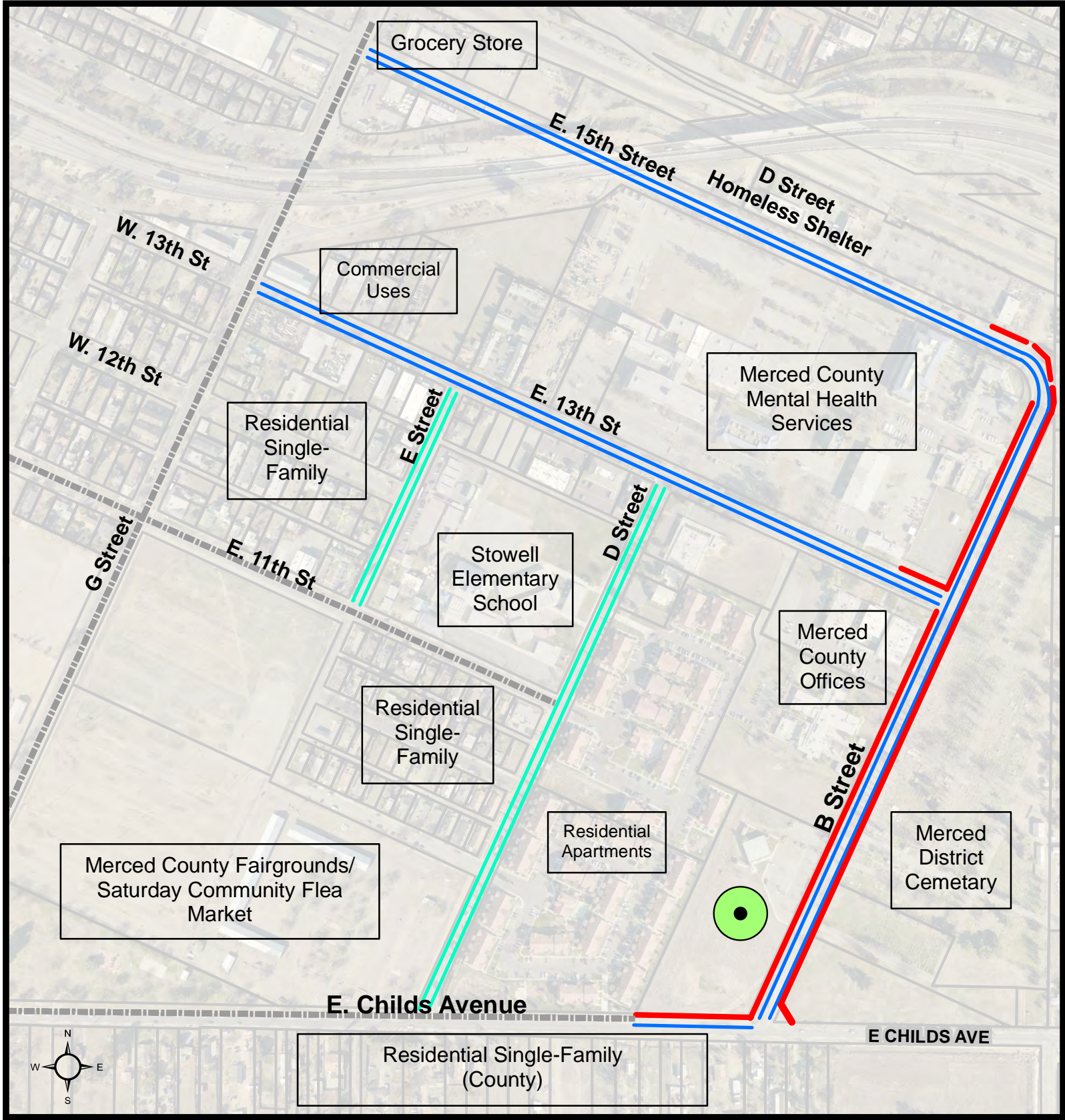
Please see the map at Attachment A, which is Housing staff’s interpretation of bicycle and sidewalk needs in the areas under the current constraints of right-of-way widths and jurisdiction.

ACTION

No action is required. Staff appreciates any suggestions and input to the project.

ATTACHMENT:

A. Map of Needs



SIDEWALK AND BICYCLE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
Childs & B Street Affordable Housing Project

- Project Site** **Existing Bicycle Facility** **New/replaced Sidewalk (approx. 4780 feet)**
- New Bike Lanes (approx. 2.65 miles)** **New Bicycle Shared-lane Markings ("Sharrows") (approx. 0.92 miles)**

Disclaimer: This document was prepared for general inquiries only. The City of Merced makes no warranty, representation, or guarantee regarding the accuracy of this map. The City of Merced is not responsible for errors or omissions that might occur. Official information regarding this project should be obtained from official, recorded or adopted City documents.