



STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 15, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Emily Sinkhorn, Director of Environmental Services

PREPARER: Brigitte Price, Administrative Specialist

DATE: May 08, 2024

TITLE: **Adopt Resolution No. 234-50 Accepting a Public Access Easement on a Portion of Assessor's Parcel Nos. 505-121-034 & 505-121-031.**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 234-50 accepting a Public Access Easement on a portion of Assessor's Parcel Nos. 505-121-034 & 505-121-031.

INTRODUCTION:

On March 18, 2020, the City Council approved Open Door's Arcata Community Health Center Project and introduced the Ordinance No. 1530 approving the development agreement. At that time, the Environmental Services Department reviewed the proposed easement and accepted future maintenance of the easement and public access path as long as the path was built to standards accepted by the City Engineer.

DISCUSSION:

This eight-foot-wide trail easement would be deeded from two parcels, one Public Facility-zoned parcel and one Residential Medium Density Planned Development-zoned parcel that connects Sunset to Foster Avenues in Section 29, T6N, and R1E. A public access easement between Sunset Avenue and Foster Avenue will ensure pedestrian connectivity through these two recent developments.

This recommended action is consistent with the Arcata General Plan 2020 Transportation Element Policy T-5g Pedestrian pathways and multi-use trails which states that pedestrian pathways for the exclusive use of non-motorized transportation modes should be provide and that dedication of easements for pathways through new private developments may be required.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REVIEW:

On April 23, 2024, the Planning Commission found the acquisition of this public access easement to be consistent with the General Plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA):

The trail construction and dedication was analyzed in the Environmental Impact Report for the Arcata Community Health Center (Open Door) project (SCH# 2019080313), which was certified by the City Council on March 18, 2020, via Resolution No. 190-53.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The public access easement is being conveyed at no-cost to the City. Maintenance of the trail will be conducted by Parks and Natural Resources staff under the course of their regular maintenance duties at adjacent Shay Park.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. OpenDoor-TerraceApts - Easement Map (PDF)
- B. Sunset & Open Door Easement Deeds (PDF)
- C. Resolution No. 234-50 (PDF)