

## 2 Project Description

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### 2.1 Project Sponsor

City of Long Beach  
333 W. Ocean Boulevard, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Long Beach, California 90802

### 2.2 Project Location

The project site encompasses the stretch of Alamitos Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Ocean Boulevard in the City of Long Beach, California. Figure 2 shows the location of the site within the region. Figure 3 shows the project site within its local context. See Figure 4 for photos of existing site conditions.

### 2.3 Current Land Use

The project site is an arterial roadway in Long Beach that is surrounded by commercial and residential uses. Existing uses include professional services, hotels, restaurants, auto detailing shops, a laundromat, museums, and multi-family residences. The project site extends nearly to the waterfront at its southern end, with Alamitos Beach and the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center nearby, and transitions into a residential neighborhood at its northern end, above 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

The areas adjacent to the project site are categorized in four different Residential Land Use Districts (LUD) as designated by the City's General Plan: LUD-5 (Urban High Density), LUD-7 (Mixed Use Residential), LUD-8R (Mixed Retail/Residential Strip), and LUD-8M (Mixed Office/Residential Strip). The entire site falls within the zoning boundaries of the Downtown Long Beach Planned Development District (PD-30). Planned districts (PD) offer more comprehensive guidelines for land uses than general zoning. The City of Long Beach's Downtown Plan (Downtown Plan) specifies which uses are generally permitted within the Downtown Plan Area, which uses are permitted in the Downtown Neighborhood Overlay, and which uses are permitted in Pedestrian-Oriented Use Main Streets and Secondary Streets (Long Beach 2012). One block of the project site (the block south of 5<sup>th</sup> street on the east side of Alamitos Avenue) falls within the Downtown Neighborhood Overlay.

### 2.4 Project Characteristics

The proposed project involves a modification to Alamitos Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Ocean Boulevard to a two-lane divided roadway with on-street bike lanes that would match the roadway section north of 7<sup>th</sup> Street (see Figure 5a and Figure 5b for conceptual site plan showing lane restriping; full plans are available in Appendix C). North of 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Alamitos Avenue has been restriped to provide a two-lane, divided roadway, separated by a two-way left-turn lane, with on-street parking and on-street bike lanes, as well as a buffer to separate bicycle traffic from vehicular traffic. The project is consistent with the Long Beach Mobility Element and the Bicycle Master Plan (City of Long Beach 2013; 2017).

City of Long Beach  
Alamitos Avenue "Complete Streets" Improvements Project

Figure 2 Regional Location



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★ Project Location

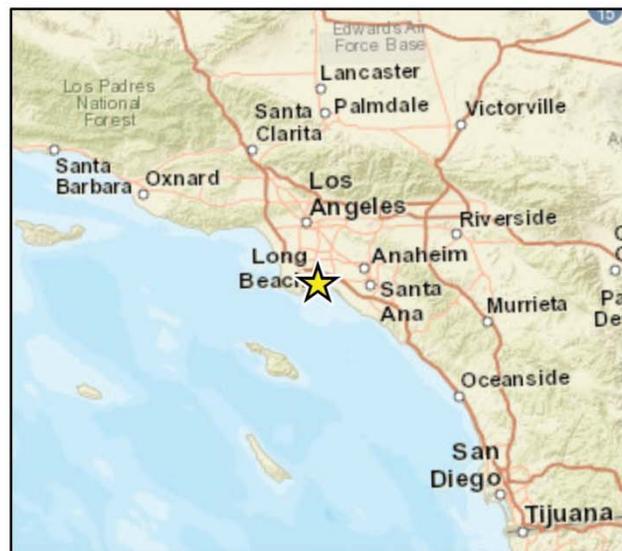
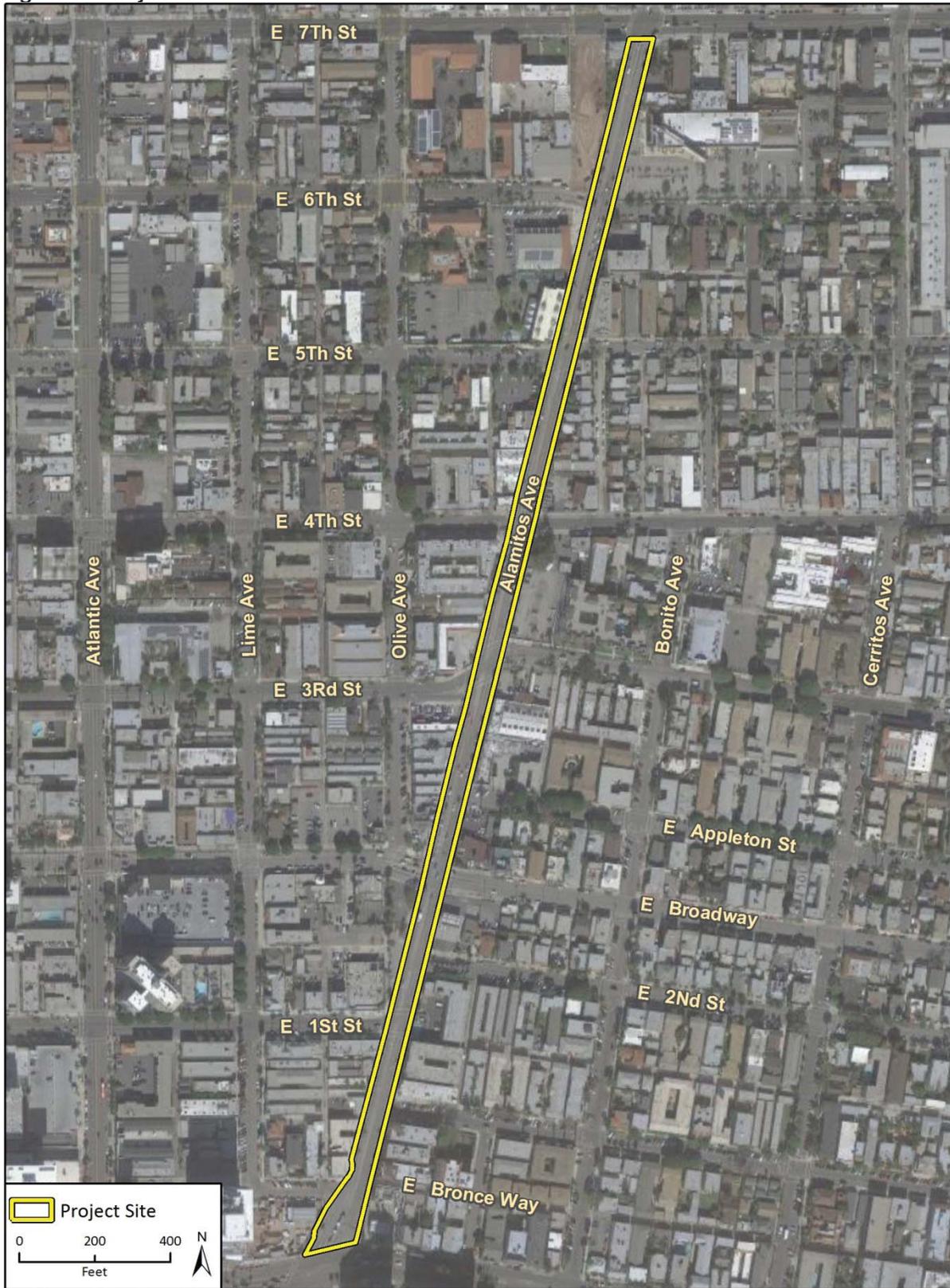


Figure 3 Project Location



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Figure 4 Site Photos



Photo 1: Looking north on Alamitos Avenue, just south of 3rd Street.



Photo 3: Looking south on Alamitos Avenue, just south of 6th Street.



Photo 2: Facing south on Alamitos Avenue, just north of 5th Street, near St. Anthony Catholic Church and High School.

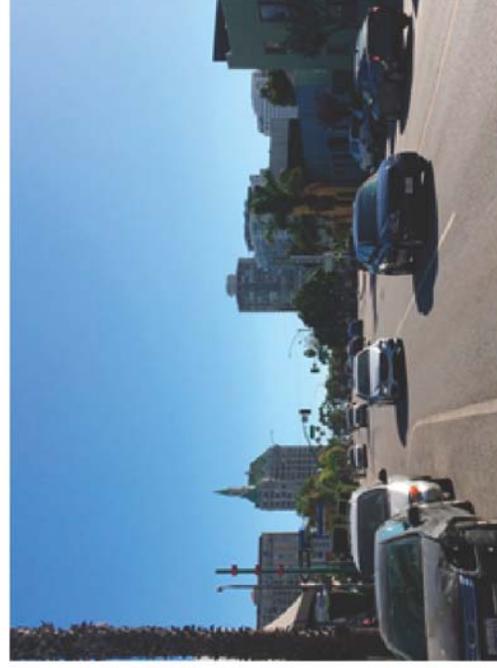
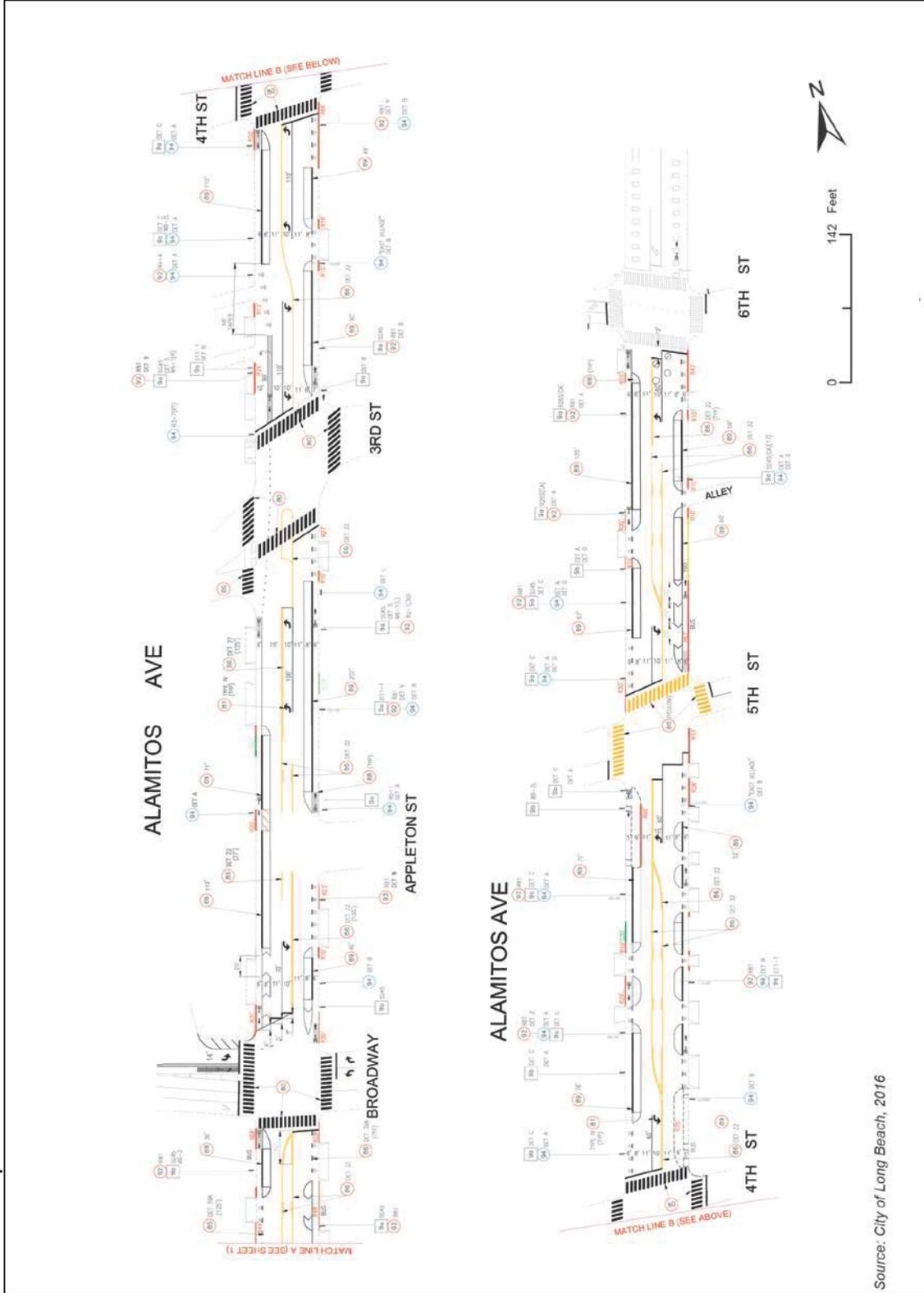


Photo 4: Looking south on Alamitos Avenue, between 3rd Street and Appleton Street.



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Figure 5b Conceptual Site Plan



Source: City of Long Beach, 2016

Currently, most of the project site provides two lanes in each direction separated by a two-way left-turn lane. South of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, only one southbound through-lane is provided to just past Broadway. Generally, on-street parking is allowed, but is restricted along certain sections of Alamitos Avenue during certain time periods, such as during the weekday peak commute periods. Before restriping activities, existing asphalt on the project site would be removed and recycled, and the roadway would be re-surfaced.

Specifically, the “Complete Streets” improvements consist of the following:

- **Alamitos Avenue at 7<sup>th</sup> Street:** Restripe the exclusive northbound right-turn lane to also include an on-street bike lane and buffer.
- **Alamitos Avenue at 6<sup>th</sup> Street:** Replace the rightmost northbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer and an exclusive right-turn pocket, and the leftmost southbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer.
- **Alamitos Avenue at 5<sup>th</sup> Street:** Replace the rightmost northbound through-lane and the leftmost southbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer.
- **Alamitos Avenue at 4<sup>th</sup> Street:** Replace the rightmost northbound through-lane and the leftmost southbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer.
- **Alamitos Avenue at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street:** Replace the rightmost northbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer and an exclusive right-turn pocket, and the southbound trap right-turn lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer.
- **Alamitos Avenue at Broadway:** Replace the rightmost northbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer and an exclusive right-turn lane. Due to the removal of one northbound departure lane, one eastbound left-turn lane would also be eliminated.
- **Alamitos Avenue at 1<sup>st</sup> Street:** Replace the rightmost northbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer.
- **Alamitos Avenue at Medio Street:** Replace the rightmost northbound through-lane and the leftmost southbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer.
- **Alamitos Avenue/Shoreline Drive at Ocean Boulevard:** Replace the leftmost southbound through-lane with an on-street bike lane and buffer and an exclusive right-turn pocket.

## 2.5 Project Objectives

The objectives of the proposed project are as follows:

- Achieve the vision of the City’s General Plan Mobility Element to plan, maintain, and operate mobility systems consistent with the principles of complete streets, active living, and sustainable community design.
- Implement Backbone Next Step Facilities of the Bicycle Master Plan Update (approved February 2017) to create bike lanes on Alamitos Avenue from Ocean Boulevard to 10<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Reduce vehicle miles traveled by creating a system of complete streets that supports and encourages all mobility users.

## 2.6 Required Approvals

Long Beach Planning Commission will review in a public hearing and consider approval recommendations for contract award and transfer of funds, as well as the CEQA review documentation.

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