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Valley Trail Workshop: Review and comment on concepts for a bicycle and pedestrian trail through Anderson Valley.

The final community workshop for the *State Route 128 Corridor Valley Trail Feasibility Study* will be held Thursday, March 27. The corridor extends from the Sonoma/Mendocino County line near Cloverdale to the State Route 128/1 junction in Mendocino County, a distance of approximately 51 miles.

Building on previous community efforts, the local non-profit Valley Trail Coalition worked with the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) to secure grant funding for the feasibility study to advance the planning, design, and ultimately construction of a non-motorized valley trail.

The March 27 workshop builds on community input received during the November 13-15, 2013 community workshop series, and on input received from business owners and stakeholders. Over the past four months, the community has helped to identify desired improvements to the SR 128 corridor, including additional sidewalks, bike lanes, entryway and traffic calming features, separate multi-use paths and treatments that improve safe routes to school. Specific community priority areas include improving non-motorized access to Hendy Woods State Park and Navarro River Redwoods State Park, as well as improving walking and biking conditions in the communities of Yorkville, Boonville, Philo, and Navarro.

Preliminary design concepts will be presented at this final community workshop on Thursday, March 27, 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the Mendocino County Fairgrounds Dining Hall in Boonville (14400 Highway 128). The presentation will be offered in English and Spanish. Participants will have an opportunity to comment on the preliminary design concepts before the feasibility study is finalized this summer. Refreshments will be provided.

The final feasibility study and plan will be used to advance the valley trail project through the next steps to implementation. MCOG, Caltrans, the County of Mendocino, local agencies, and the Valley Trail Coalition will be able to utilize the feasibility study to seek federal, state, regional and local funding for implementation of priority segments. Steps will include survey, design, environmental analysis, permitting, construction of improvements, and on-going maintenance of the trail. The plan will also inform decision makers regarding appropriate non-motorized access improvements to incorporate into future roadway or development frontage projects that coincide with the valley trail.

This workshop is organized by the non-profit Local Government Commission, in coordination with Alta Planning and Design, and the Valley Trail Coalition. The events and plan are funded through a Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant and MCOG. For more information visit: www.mendocinocog.org/reports_projects-SR128Trail.htm or www.valleytrail.org.

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