

American Society of Civil Engineers
Los Angeles Section
2009 Awards

Outstanding Government Civil Engineering Project

Lompoc River Bend Park Bikeway

City of Lompoc, California

The Lompoc River Bend Park Bikeway is an approximately 1.76 mile long asphalt concrete paved bike path. The bike path has a 12 foot overall width, consisting of an 8 foot wide asphalt concrete paved bike path and a minimum of 2 foot wide compacted aggregate base shoulders on both sides to provide a walking and jogging course. The pavement section provides sufficient load-bearing capacity for both bicycle use and occasional use by maintenance or emergency vehicles. The path has connecting ramps at access points to the streets, which meet the maximum slope criteria stipulated in the ADA requirements.

The construction of the bike path provides a needed alternate route to the River Bend Park and encourages children and families to walk and bike to the park rather than driving.

In order to minimize impacts to existing vegetation and wildlife, the bike path minimized grading and was constructed primarily on existing dirt roads that were devoid of vegetation. Most existing dirt roads were wide enough for the path to avoid interference to trees and shrubs, allowing virtually no trimming or pruning of vegetation during construction of the bike path.

The path provides expansive views of the river, riparian and coastal scrub vegetation, and the eastern Lompoc Valley and the Santa Rita Hills. A rest area includes a bench on the west side of the path and interpretive signage on the east side. The interpretive display is designed to educate trail users about the natural river and riparian environments, establishing a connection between the river and the community.

The project construction was approximately \$673,000.

