

Small Town, Big Aspirations:

*Leveraging Interagency
Collaborations to Address
Complex Infrastructure
Challenges*

Chance Cutrano, Councilmember
Town of Fairfax, California
Cal Cities' City Leaders Summit
Thursday, April 18, 2024
ccutrano@townoffairfax.org



Town of Fairfax, California



Agenda

- **Welcome to the Town of Fairfax**
 - Condition of Infrastructure
 - Recent Roadway Improvement Efforts
 - Challenges
- Case Study: Fairfax-Bolinas Road
 - History of Roadway
 - Department of Public Works Response for FY23-24
- Key Takeaways



Town of Fairfax, California

Town of Fairfax, CA

Quick facts:

- Approx. 7,500 residents
- Overall budget = \$19.21 million
 - \$13.79M for General Fund
 - \$4.12M for Capital Improvements
- 53.7% of funds source from Property Taxes
- 52.7% of funds appropriated for Police and Fire services



Town of Fairfax, California



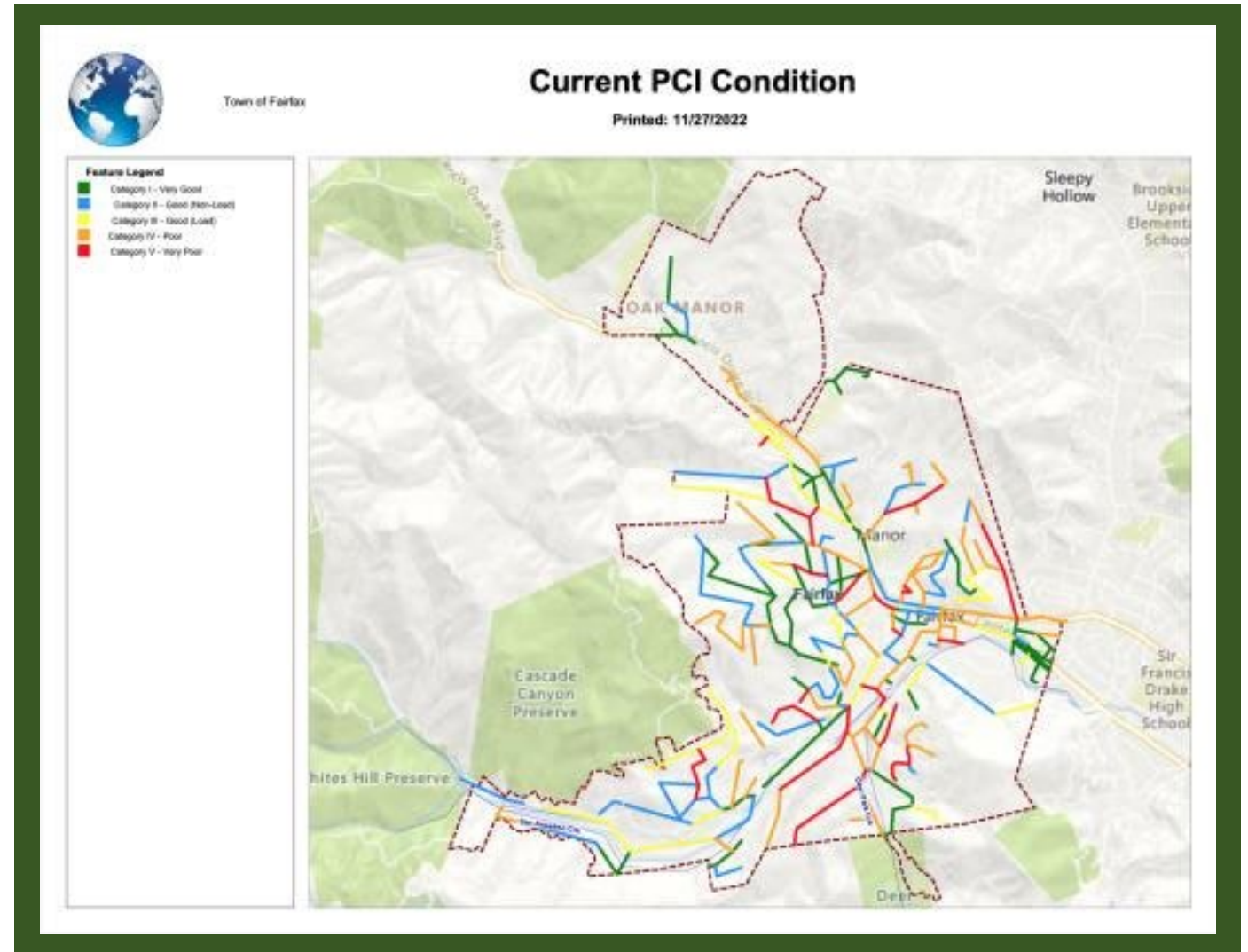
Fairfax Road Conditions

Quick facts:

- 27.6 centerline miles and 3,067,321 sq ft of pavement in our system
- No stand-alone Public Works Director between 2008-2021
- Worst road conditions in Marin County (Pavement Condition Index Score of 53/100)
- The street network replacement cost is estimated to be approximately \$48 million



Town of Fairfax, California



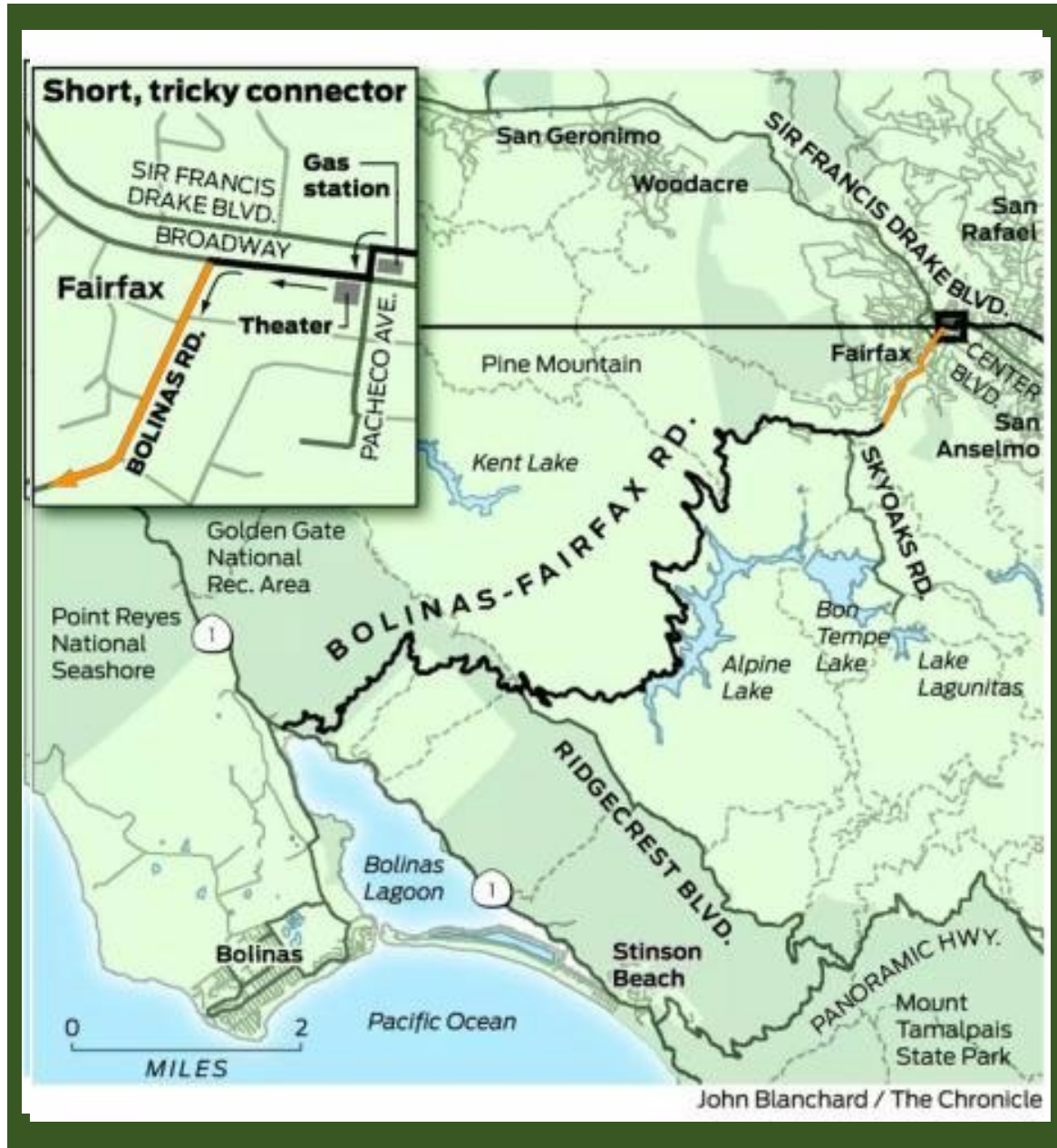
Fairfax- Bolinas Road

Quick facts:

- Fairfax-Bolinas Road spans 14.6 miles in total. One of four East-West roadways in Marin County
- Connects the Town of Fairfax and emergency services with federal Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore, and Mount Tamalpais State Park
- The only road to access Marin Water District treatment facilities that supply one-third of the drinking water for over 190,000 people.
- Key evacuation and firefighting access route



Town of Fairfax, California



 Fairfax-owned portion of the roadway

Fairfax-Bolinas Road



Town of Fairfax, California

Fairfax-Bolinas Road

Recent land movement events:

- **11/16/2016:** Marin Independent Journal – [*Fairfax-Bolinas Road set to reopen*](#)
- **12/8/2021:** Marin Independent Journal - [*Fairfax-Bolinas Road gets emergency storm repairs*](#)
- **8/9/2023:** Marin Independent Journal - [*Fairfax road gets \\$2.39M repair after storm damage*](#)



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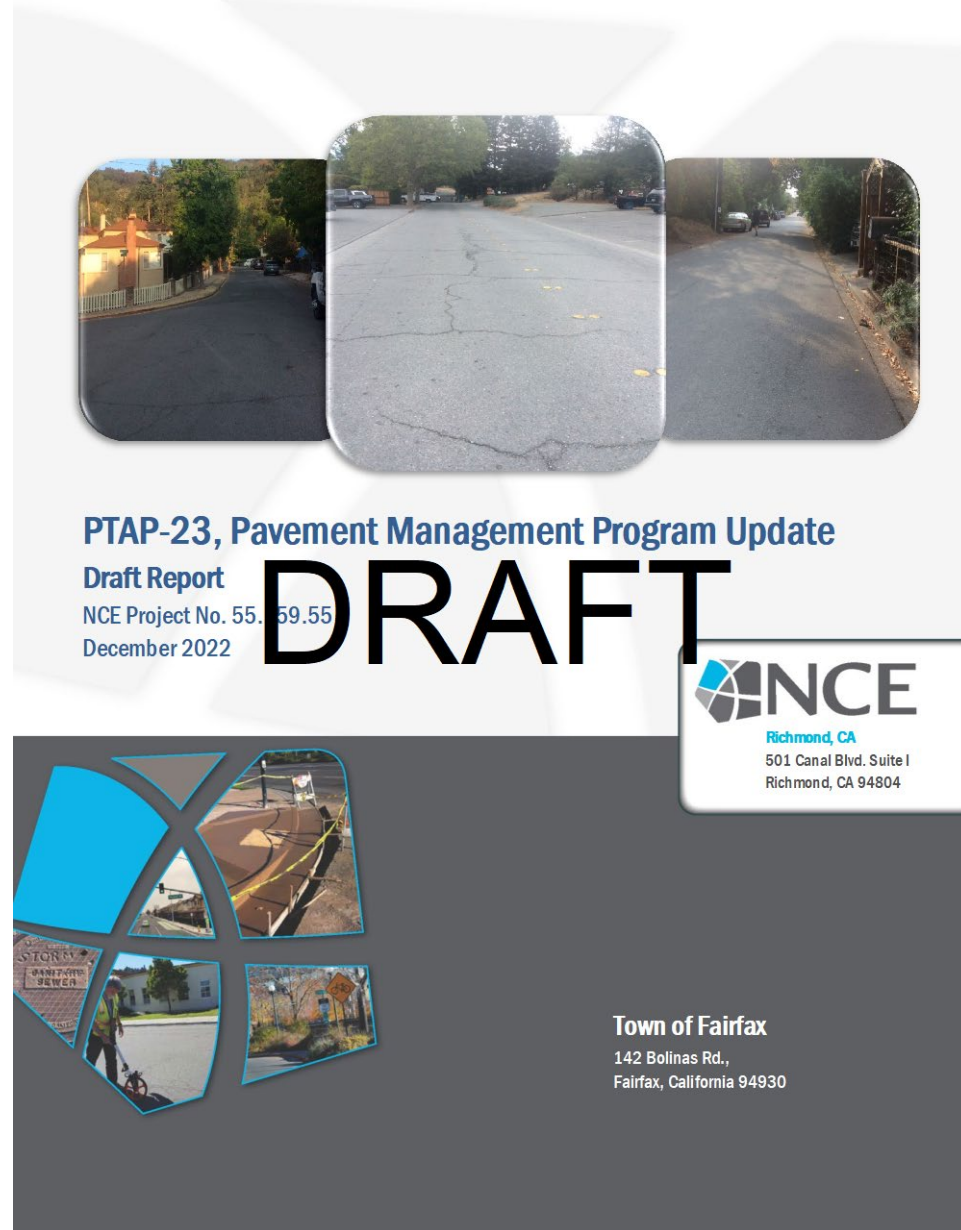
Step 1: Find the Facts

Fact Finding

- Identify the best available information (e.g., Pavement Management Technical Assistance Program (P-TAP) and associated Pavement Condition Index scores)
- Identify projects of regional significance
- Cultivate additional information about target projects (e.g., rough cost estimates, historic projects, pipeline projects, grant monies)
- Map out key stakeholders and potential project partners



Town of Fairfax, California



The image shows the cover of a draft report titled "PTAP-23, Pavement Management Program Update". The cover features three photographs at the top: a residential street, a wide asphalt road with yellow markings, and a narrow residential street. Below the photos, the title "PTAP-23, Pavement Management Program Update" is written in blue. Underneath, it says "Draft Report" in blue, "NCE Project No. 55. 59.55" in blue, and "December 2022" in blue. The word "DRAFT" is written in large, bold, black letters. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for "NCE" with the text "Richmond, CA", "501 Canal Blvd. Suite 1", and "Richmond, CA 94804". In the bottom left corner, there is a collage of four images: a blue square, a construction site with yellow caution tape, a person walking a dog, and a road sign. In the bottom right corner, the text "Town of Fairfax" is written in white, followed by "142 Bolinas Rd., Fairfax, California 94930" in white.

PTAP-23, Pavement Management Program Update
Draft Report
NCE Project No. 55. 59.55
December 2022

DRAFT

NCE
Richmond, CA
501 Canal Blvd. Suite 1
Richmond, CA 94804

Town of Fairfax
142 Bolinas Rd.,
Fairfax, California 94930

Step 2: Build the Team



Town of Fairfax, California



Step 3: Sell the Story (Pt. 1)



Review of the Draft North-South Greenway & Cross Marin Bikeway Status Report

Transportation Authority of Marin
Board of Commissioners
June 22, 2023

AP&P Executive Committee Feedback

The TAM AP&P Executive Committee reviewed the report on June 12, 2023, and provide the following comments:

- The report should enable coordinated grant application opportunities.
- The current alignments shown in the report alongside the gaps are important to consider as alternatives in cases where closing gaps may be costly or otherwise challenging. For example the Horse Hill Path shown as a current alignment was noted as a potential alternative to the Alto Tunnel given the relatively high cost to provide an improvement at the Alto Tunnel.
- A future effort might consider the ranking of the gaps.
- The Cross Marin Bikeway linkage to Fairfax-Bolinas Road is critical as a connection to open space.
- There is an opportunity to consider future branding and marketing of the corridors in order to improve the cohesion and clarity of the network.



Tier One - Marin Transportation Project List (Summer 2023)							
Project Sponsor	Project Name	Description	RAISE	SS4A	RCP	BIP	INFRA
Fairfax	Bolinas Road Reconstruction	Enhance drainage, green stormwater infrastructure, and bicycle and pedestrian safety for a key road segment linking central San Rafael and the Ross Valley (including ferry and other public transit terminals) with western Marin.	X				
Marin County, San Rafael, Caltrans	North San Pedro Road in China Camp Feasibility Study	Analyze the feasibility of several project alternatives along N. San Pedro Road in China Camp that would improve resiliency to sea level rise and evacuation redundancy to nearby residents.	X (planning)				
Marin County	Marin City Secondary Emergency Access Route Study	Study the feasibility of providing alternative (emergency) access to Marin City, a disadvantaged community, when Donahue Street, the sole roadway into the community, is impassable due to flooding, fire, highway bridge instability or other emergencies			X		
Novato	San Marin High School Area Multimodal Access Project	Implement pedestrians and bicyclists safety improvements at the Novato Boulevard/San Marin Drive-Sutro Avenue intersection as well as a new path along Sutro Avenue			X		
San Rafael	Freitas Pkwy Class 1	This project would provide around 1.1 miles of Class I path on the north side of Freitas Pkwy from Montecillo Rd to Del Presidio Rd and include drainage improvements. This project could be split into phases. This project is listed as the 5th overall ranked project in the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan and top priority for north San Rafael.	X	X			
San Rafael	Bellam Boulevard Improvement Project	Construct complete streets improvements on Bellam Boulevard between Kerner Boulevard and the CalPark Hill multi-use path along the SMART train right-of-way			X		
San Rafael	Rafael Meadows Safe Crossing Pathway Project	Design and construct a multi-use path connecting Merrydale Road and the Rafael Meadows neighborhood to Civic Center Drive under Highway 101 at the Marin Civic Center SMART rail station			X		
Sausalito	Bridgeway Class 4 Bike/Pedestrian Facility (Harbor to Gate 6)	Modification to the current bicycle and roadway facilities to install a class 4 separated bicycle way with a separated pedestrian area from Harbor Drive to Gate 6 Road on the east side.		X			
TAM	Marin-Sonoma Narrows (MSN) B8 Project	Utility relocation effort for the companion MSN B7 project that closes the last HOV gap on Highway 101 in Marin County for the entire corridor located in northern Novato	X				X
TAM	US101 Interchange and Approaching Roadways Enhancements (Design)	Operational enhancements to US101 interchanges to reduce congestion, improve access to transit, address areas identified with a high accident rate and provide infrastructure to encourage multi-modal transportation at various locations along US 101 in Marin County.	X (planning)				



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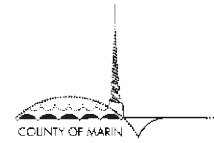
Step 3: Sell the Story (Pt. 2)

Develop your one-pager

- What is the project?
- Why is it important?
- Why is it urgent?
- What do you need?
- When do you need it by?



Town of Fairfax, California



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San Rafael, CA 94903
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publicworks@marincounty.org

Rosemarie R. Gaglione, PE
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Rosemarie.Gaglione@marincounty.gov



Road damage from 2021 storm, still in need of permanent repair.

Bolinas Road Resiliency and Community Connection

6.5-MILE CRITICAL STRETCH OF ROADWAY NEEDS \$30.3M FOR MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION AND STABILIZATION

Evacuation and firefighting route; Water District access

Bolinas Road serves as a vital artery in West Marin: a key evacuation and firefighting access route connecting state and federal parklands and residents; and the only road to access Marin Water District treatment facilities that supply one-third of the drinking water for over 190,000 people.

The road spans 14.6 miles in total and connects federal Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes, and Mount Tamalpais State Park with the Town of Fairfax and emergency services.

2022/ 2023 Winter storms

For years, the road has been routinely impacted by mudslides during winter storms. However, two federally declared storm events in 2022-2023 (DR-4683, DR-4699) caused severe damage, including **9 major landslides** along the road.

The County of Marin and Town of Fairfax spent \$500,000 in immediate emergency mitigations and secured \$7.8M of Federal Highway Administration funding was secured (along with \$850k of matching County funds) to permanently rebuild 6 slide locations: 2 were completed in 2023, and 4 are in design. However, the roadway is still in need of **\$30.29M in additional work**.

1. Permanent repairs at the other 3 slide locations;
2. A complete assessment of the full stretch of roadway to identify and repair other vulnerabilities;
3. Installing ~4,200LF of retaining wall.



Sides have caused the road to close to one-lane in several locations, limiting emergency access.



The 9 slides from 2022-23 storms do not include known vulnerabilities at other road sections.

Urgency

Deterioration of the roadway during the 2022-2023 winter storms was so severe that geotechnical engineers estimate that another similar winter season could not only cause the road sections to fail completely and prohibit all access, but will also create new slides where the road has known vulnerabilities.

Repairs at the 6 slide locations (which already received \$7.8M in FHWA funding by the County) will be completed in 2024. The remaining \$30.29M project needs to be completed as soon as possible to avoid the potential of catastrophic damage and permanent road closures, **eliminating the critical access Bolinas Road provides for emergencies and the Water District**.

\$30.29M Funding needed

Project budget:

\$1.16M	Study/Geotechnical
\$1.91	Environmental, design, permits
\$0.42	Right of way, utilities
\$26.81	Construction
\$30.29M	TOTAL

Considering the public safety urgency of the project and the limited life left of the current road, the County of Marin and Town of Fairfax are seeking to begin the project immediately (**pending secured funding**).

Summer 2024: Preliminary engineering
Fall 2026: Design, ROW, utilities
Spring 2027: Construction

Response

- Negotiated a Project Charter with the County of Marin for which spells out goals and objectives, roles and responsibilities, and key performance indicators.
- On Wednesday February 28th, the County of Marin, in partnership with The Town of Fairfax, officially submitted our 36-page grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) for their Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program



Town of Fairfax, California



Response

Marin Independent Journal

Editorials

Dick Spotswood Editorials Endorsements Letters Editorial Cartoons Marin Voice

TRENDING: Wire left in sandwich? Complete Warriors coverage Crime and public safety Archie Williams principal Tea VanDoren retires

OPINION EDITORIALS

Editorial: Winding Bolinas Road is crucial to open space access, residents



Government officials tour road damage on an Bolinas Road in Fairfax, Calif. on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024. (Alan Day/Marin Independent Journal)


By MARIN JOURNAL EDITORIAL BOARD
March 2, 2024 at 10:35 a.m.

Listen to this article

Narrow and winding Bolinas Road in Fairfax may not see a lot of traffic, but much of the use the cliff-

Rep. Jared Huffman @RepHuffman

Bolinas-Fairfax Road is a vital artery for locals, recreation, & 1st responders—but the onslaught of storms caused massive damage we can't ignore. Dems secured historic funding for infrastructure, and I'll keep pushing to direct that \$\$ to this project.



Marin congressman tours Bolinas Road storm damage

From marinij.com

09:05 · 2/22/24 From Earth · 451 Views

1 Repost 8 Likes



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Key Takeaways

1. Find the Facts

2. Harness the Power of Partnership

3. Sell the Story



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Questions?