



Lateral #4 Canal Zone Beautification

02/16/2021

Presented by Paul Medlin & Twainhart Hill
A Helen Ave Neighbor and the College Area Neighborhood Alliance



CANA is a part of Modesto Neighborhoods, Inc., a 501 c (3) charitable organization.
Above photo: Lateral #4 Bridge at Morris Avenue on the Virginia Trail

Overview

Through a teamed approach by Love Modesto, College Area Neighborhood Alliance, MID and the City of Modesto, this presentation shows our interest in the beautification of four street bridges and three footbridges along Canal Lateral #4, from Sunrise Avenue to College Avenue.

Goals

1. A plan for simple repairs/painting - Sandblasting of old paint, masonry work if necessary and repainting.
2. For masonry bridges along Lateral #4 to be finished and matched to the existing Virginia Trail concrete fixtures color scheme. Each bridge can be assessed as to the choice of the two tone color of sandy-beige masonry and black for the iron uprights as shown at the existing Morris Avenue bridge in the photo above or a monotone color.

Objectives

We strive to create an environment along the Lateral #4 Canal, stretching between the John Muir and College Area neighborhoods. Our hope is to enhance the appearance of the road and footbridges, tying the look and design into the Virginia Trail Art Deco design theme. The three masonry bridges at Stoddard, College, and Johnson Streets are documented in the architectural guide called Modernism in Modesto 1937-1972 and shows Frank Rossi, 1938 as the architect (see separate document). The fourth bridge at Sycamore does not have the masonry aspect to its design.

The entire project would blend nicely with Virginia Trail's overall Art Deco style of older Modesto, promoting the overall Placemaking theme of city planners. This effort would greatly reduce some of the blight of the Lateral #4 Canal zone and provide a consistent look along the canal corridor and the Virginia Trail, creating a wonderful sense of pride and visual enjoyment spanning several neighborhoods..

We look forward to your feedback and ideas and working together in partnership for the improvement of our neighborhoods.

Respectfully,
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Reference Material

Road and foot bridges - The following pictures show the current state of disrepair showing rust and peeling paint.

Helen Avenue Footbridge #1



Johnson/Ila Ave Bridge with Art Deco masonry



Magnolia Avenue Footbridge #2



Sycamore Avenue Bridge - no Art Deco masonry



Dog Park Footbridge #3



Stoddard Avenue Bridge with Art Deco masonry



College Avenue Bridge with Art Deco masonry



Virginia Trail Concrete Fixture (Desired Color with Art Deco style))

