

Department of Public Works

Bureau of Engineering
Report No.1

June 12, 2017
CD Nos. 1 and 13


Executive Officer
Board of Public Works

**TAYLOR YARD BIKEWAY/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER THE LOS ANGELES RIVER PROJECT
(PROJECT) CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) COMPLIANCE AND PROJECT
APPROVAL (WORK ORDER NO. E1907487) (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER 2016111025)**

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the requirements of the CEQA, adopt and forward this report and transmittals to City Council with the following recommendations:

1. Review and consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).
2. Find that, on the basis of the whole record, there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and that the MND reflects the City's independent judgment and analysis.
3. Adopt the MND.
4. Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.
5. Approve the Project as described in the Initial Study.
6. Specify that the documents constituting the record of proceedings in this matter are in the custody of the City Clerk located at 200 North Spring Street and in the files of the Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering (BOE) located at 1149 South Broadway.
7. Instruct the BOE to notify the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and the Department of Water and Power (DWP) of this action.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Project has a construction budget of approximately \$19,200,000. Funding for the design and environmental documentation was largely provided by Metro and DWP. Funding for the construction will be identified by Metro. The General Fund is supporting City project management staff costs.

TRANSMITTALS

1. Final Initial Study/MND, Taylor Yard Bikeway/Pedestrian Bridge over the Los Angeles River Project, dated January 2017.

2. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, dated January 2017.

DISCUSSION

Background

The BOE is in the process of designing a bikeway/pedestrian bridge that will span the Los Angeles River from Elysian Valley on the west to Taylor Yard on the east. The environmental review for the Project, including CEQA compliance, is being funded by Metro and DWP.

Project Description

The proposed Project would be located across the Los Angeles River and in the surrounding area in the Silverlake-Echo Park-Elysian Park Community Plan area. Specifically, the northern abutment of the proposed bridge would be located adjacent to Kerr Road, and its southern abutment would be located adjacent to the Los Angeles River Greenway Trail (bikeway), approximately between Altman Street and Dorris Place, adjacent to 2331 Dorris Place. Proposed intersection pedestrian striping enhancements at San Fernando Road/Cypress Avenue would occur north of the proposed bridge. Additionally, a two-way bike path and pedestrian path would be developed on Kerr Road, connecting the proposed bridge to San Fernando Road. Two Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps will also be constructed in the project vicinity.

Public Participation and Public Review

The draft Initial Study/MND was circulated for public review and comment from November 10, 2016 to December 12, 2016. A notice of intent/availability was published in the Los Angeles Times on November 10, 2016. A notice of intent/availability was mailed to interested parties and to owners and occupants of properties adjacent to the proposed Project site. The notice was also filed with the City and County Clerk. The draft Initial Study/MND was available for review at the Cypress Park Branch Library, the Lincoln Heights Branch Library, Council District Nos. 1 and 13 District Offices, the BOE Environmental Management Group's Office, and on-line at the BOE's Website.

Sixteen letters commenting on the Initial Study/MND were received during the public review period. Copies of this correspondence along with responses can be found in the Final Initial Study/MND (Transmittal No. 1). None of the comments received necessitated changes in the Project or the conclusion or findings of the Initial Study or in the mitigation measures of the Mitigation Monitoring Program (Transmittal No. 2).

Project Schedule

Project design completion is anticipated on December 30, 2017. The above recommended actions are necessary steps before completing design of the Project.

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(MEM MK RMK ALM)

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Respectfully submitted,



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