



THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES
Executive Director's
Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2025

FROM: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - CONSIDER THE ADDENDUM TO THE BERTH 87 UNITED STATES SHIP (USS) IOWA PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2011081097 AND APP NO. 240806-116) AND THE PROJECT

SUMMARY:

Staff requests consideration of the Addendum to the Berth 87 USS Iowa Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH No. 2011081097) to assess proposed modifications to reduce the size of the visitor center to be approximately 17,161 sq. ft., update construction activities to include the installation of piles, and include approximately 50,000 sq. ft. of renovated park space (Project) and approval of the revised proposed Project.

The certified EIR included the development and operation of an approximately 33,800 sq. ft. visitor center. The Addendum changes the Project description by reducing the size of the visitor center to be approximately 17,161 sq. ft., updating construction activities to include the installation of piles, and including approximately 50,000 sq. ft. of renovated park space. The remaining construction components of the visitor center and its operations were included in the original assessment. Key features of the proposed Project would include a multipurpose visitor center, community gathering space, educational exhibits, veterans memorials with local, state, and national significance, maritime equipment displays, public art, and a child's play area. No new significant environmental impacts or substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects have been identified from these Project modifications.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that, in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15164, the proposed revised Project will not result in any new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects in the adopted Berth 87 USS Iowa Project EIR;
2. Consider the Addendum to the previously certified EIR;
3. Authorize the Environmental Management Division to file a Notice of Determination with the Los Angeles County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse;
4. Approve the revised proposed Project; and
5. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

SUBJECT: ADDENDUM TO THE BERTH 87 USS IOWA PROJECT EIR AND APPROVE THE REVISED PROPOSED PROJECT

DISCUSSION:

Background/Context – On May 17, 2012, the Board certified the Final EIR and approved the Berth 87 USS Iowa Project (approved Project). The approved Project included the transport, preparation, and operation of the battleship as a public attraction at Berth 87 in the Port of Los Angeles (Port). The overall objectives of the approved Project were to bring the USS Iowa to the Port for year-round mooring at Berth 87 and prepare and fit the battleship as a tourist attraction, offering an interactive public experience that honors the historic contributions of the USS Iowa.

On May 25, 2012, Permit No. 899 (P899) was executed with Pacific Battleship Center for the berthing, operation, and long-term maintenance of the USS Iowa as a museum and educational facility including youth sleepover programs; tours, weddings, anniversaries, special military and maritime educational events; maritime educational programs and conferences; gift/souvenir and snack/concessions sales; and other special events. P899 was amended in February 2024 to extend the term of the lease to an aggregate term of 45 years.

Revised Proposed Project and CEQA Addendum – The revised proposed Project described in the Addendum (Transmittal 1) would reduce the size of the visitor center to be approximately 17,161 sq. ft., update construction activities to include the installation of piles, and include approximately 50,000 sq. ft. of renovated park space. The remaining construction components of the visitor center and its operations were included in the original assessment. Key features of the proposed Project would include a multipurposed visitor center, community gathering space, educational exhibits, veterans memorials with local, state, and national significance, maritime equipment displays, public art, and a child’s play area.

In general, construction activities, such as demolition, grading, and paving would require the use of forklifts, dump trucks, scrapers, asphalt pavers, backhoes, excavators, concrete mixers, pickup trucks, front loaders, cranes, compactors, electrical generators, and miscellaneous smaller equipment. Demolition activities would include the removal of temporary structures (e.g., prefabricated ticket booth/office and restroom facility), pavement, trees and landscaping. No in-water construction activities would occur. Construction vehicle parking and staging/laydown areas would occur within the Project site. Approximately 100 workers would be required to support proposed construction and demolition activities over a 15-month period.

Project Features were included in the Addendum that confirm hours of construction activities, what to do in the event of inadvertent discovery of cultural resources or contaminated soils including preparation of a contamination contingency plan, and compliance with any pipeline abandonment procedures should the location of the permanent structure conflict with any subsurface structures, such as a Navy Surge line in the Project’s vicinity.

Following construction activities, the revised proposed Project operations would be the same as those included in the approved Project (e.g., tours, educational programs, and concessions). The proposed Project would not result in an increase in the visitor

SUBJECT: ADDENDUM TO THE BERTH 87 USS IOWA PROJECT EIR AND APPROVE THE REVISED PROPOSED PROJECT

projections evaluated for the approved Project. However, the proposed Project would require an additional 15 employees to support visitor center operations.

Based on the findings of the Addendum, the Project modifications would not create new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects previously analyzed in the Berth 87 USS Iowa Project EIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

Upon approval, the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) will issue the Addendum to the Berth 87 USS Iowa Project EIR and post it on the Port website under the Environmental Documents tab. This Addendum was prepared pursuant to CEQA and revises the Project by reducing the size of the visitor center to approximately 17,161 sq. ft., updating construction activities to include the installation of piles, and including approximately 50,000 sq. ft. of renovated park space.

According to Section 15164(a) of the state CEQA Guidelines, the Lead Agency “shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.” The Director of the Environmental Management Division has determined that none of the conditions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 have occurred: there are “no new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.” Therefore, an addendum is the appropriate document. An addendum does not need to be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the final EIR per CEQA Guidelines Section 15164(c). The Board is required to “consider” the Addendum with the Berth 87 USS Iowa Project EIR prior to making a decision on the Project per CEQA Guidelines Section 15164(d).

The proposed action is to consider the Addendum and approve the revised proposed Project. Based on the Addendum’s analysis, the proposed action does not trigger any of the conditions calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR under CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 because there are “no new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.” The Berth 87 USS Iowa Project EIR mitigation measures will still apply, with no new impacts or increased severity of environmental impacts, no new mitigation is necessary.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The proposed action is approval of the proposed Addendum and the revised proposed Project. The Harbor Department incurred an estimated \$65,000 in costs to prepare the proposed Addendum inclusive of staff time, consultant costs, and filing fees. Pacific Battleship Center is financially responsible for reimbursing the Harbor Department for actual costs associated with the environmental documents under Reimbursement Agreement E8001-RC. In addition, Pacific Battleship Center is financially responsible for all costs associated with the revised proposed Project.

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2025

PAGE 4 OF 4

SUBJECT: ADDENDUM TO THE BERTH 87 USS IOWA PROJECT EIR AND APPROVE THE REVISED PROPOSED PROJECT


CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed the Addendum and this Board Report and concluded that they raise no legal issue at this time.

TRANSMITTAL:

1. Addendum to the Berth 87 USS Iowa Project EIR

FIS Approval: JS
CA Approval: SO



LISA WUNDER
Director of Environmental Management



MICHAEL DIBERNARDO
Deputy Executive Director

APPROVED:

Dina Aryan-Zahlan
EUGENE D. SEROKA for
Executive Director

LW:NE:mrx
AUTHOR: Nicole Enciso

File: Y:_ADMIN_BOARD REPORTS_CEQA\PACIFIC BATTLESHIP CENTER ADDENDUM\Environmental_Pacific Battleship Center Addendum_Board Report - FINAL.docx
UPDATED: 12/21/25 1:35PM - MRX