



**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES**

Executive Director's

Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: APRIL 24, 2025

FROM: CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - AWARD OF BID NO. F-1242 TO TELL STEEL, INC. FOR PURCHASE OF STEEL SUPPLIES - HANDRAIL SYSTEMS AT BERTH 91-92 PASSENGER TERMINAL AT WORLD CRUISE CENTER

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of Bid No. F-1242 with Tell Steel, Inc. (Tell Steel) of Long Beach, California, for the purchase of 34 handrail systems along the concourse of Berth 91-92 World Cruise Passenger Terminal in the amount of \$169,865.67, inclusive of estimated taxes. The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) will be financially responsible for the payment of expenses incurred under the one-time purchase order.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively and categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Act (CEQA) under Article II Section 2(f) and Article III Class 1(4) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve Bid No. F-1242 (Transmittal 1) with Tell Steel for the purchase and fabrication of 34 aluminum removal handrail systems in the amount of \$169,865.67;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to Bid No. F-1242 for and on behalf of the Board; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____ .

DISCUSSION:

Background/Context – The existing handrail system along the concourse of the Berth 91-92 World Cruise Center Passenger Terminal is a sectional removable handrail system designed to accommodate various ship gangway locations. During a project to waterproof the Terminal concourse, it was discovered that most of the handrails were no longer removable because they had rusted in place. The handrails are by original design a sleeve type system where the handrail steel vertical post sections insert into steel sleeves in the concrete deck. This sleeve type system has allowed water to collect in the sleeves

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causing the handrails to rust and adhere to the sleeves cemented into the concrete deck. This system also contributed to water intrusion damage to the concrete deck and the metal substructure. The Harbor Department's Construction & Maintenance Division (C&M) removes the rusted handrails when needed for specific docking locations, but over time the handrails rust into place again. The original material design is a heavy gage carbon steel handrail inserted into a carbon steel sleeve with a plastic shim sleeve in-between. The plastic deteriorated, and the metals rusted and bonded together.

C&M's proposal to replace the handrail system at the Berth 91-92 Passenger Terminal was approved by the Harbor Department's Engineering Division at the January 8, 2025, Project Development Committee meeting, and was approved by the terminal manager. C&M's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project to replace the handrail system involves removing the top concrete wearing surface layer, and the existing waterproofing system underneath. Exploratory demolition to investigate the attachment of the existing handrail system revealed that the original design handrail sleeves have weep holes in the bottom that are leaking water into the existing sub-structural decking, rusting through, and damaging the structural deck steel support beam below. Therefore, it was determined that the existing handrail system needed to be replaced with a new aluminum corrosion resistant handrail system, anchoring system, and hardware, which require less maintenance and will withstand everyday wear.

C&M proposes purchasing new handrails made of aluminum and designed to attach to the vertical wall of the concourse deck rather than inserting them into metal sleeves on top of the deck. This would allow for new waterproofing installation without any penetration through the top of the concrete deck and eliminate future structural damage. In addition, the new system will accommodate new ship dimensions and new docking locations. The cruise terminal operator is requesting the completion of this project by May 27, 2025, due to a new ship arriving.

Contract Process – C&M has a current contract with Tell Steel, Contract No. 39961-24, to purchase metals with an annual budget of \$298,000. As of April 24, 2025, \$226,449 has already been expended, and there are not enough funds remaining to procure the 34 remaining handrails needed for the CIP project. The total cost to procure the handrail systems is estimated to be \$169,865.67, inclusive of estimated taxes. C&M is requesting approval of the award of a one-time purchase order to Tell Steel.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of a Bid with Tell Steel to purchase 34 handrail systems for the concourse along Berth 91-92 Passenger Terminal, which is an administrative activity involving the restoration of damaged structures to meet current standards of safety. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively and categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) and Article III Class 1(4) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed one-time purchase will authorize the purchase of a new aluminum handrail system in the amount of \$169,865.67, inclusive of estimated taxes. Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/2025 funding in the amount of \$169,865.67 is available within Account 161305 (Construction in Progress), Division 00000 (Harbor Global).

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CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved the proposed agreement as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTAL:

1. Bid No. F-1242

FIS Approval: JS
CA Approval: SO


T.C.

TIM CLARK
Director of Port Construction & Maintenance

Dina Aryan-Zahlan
DINA ARYAN-ZAHLAN, P.E.
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APPROVED:

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