



THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES
Executive Director's
Report to the
Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

FROM: CONSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PROJECT 1: JOHN S. GIBSON BLVD/I-110 FREEWAY ACCESS RAMP (IMPROVEMENTS) AND SR-47/I-110 NORTHBOUND CONNECTOR WIDENING AND PROJECT 2: "C" STREET/I-110 ACCESS RAMP IMPROVEMENTS

SUMMARY:

The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department or Port of Los Angeles or Port), on behalf of the City of Los Angeles (City), has partnered with California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), on behalf of the State of California, to improve access to and from the Interstate 110 Freeway (I-110) at State Route 47 (SR-47), John S. Gibson Blvd. and "C" Street ramps.

Project 1: John S. Gibson Blvd/I-110 Freeway Access Ramp Improvements and SR-47/I-110 Northbound Connector Widening

Project 2: "C" Street/I-110 Access Ramp Improvements

To continue work on these two projects, Cooperative Agreements with Caltrans are required to define the respective roles and responsibilities of each agency during construction.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

1. Approve Cooperative Agreement No. 07-4956 between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department and Caltrans District 7 for the construction phase for Project 1;
2. Approve Cooperative Agreement No. 07-4957 between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department and Caltrans District 7 for the construction phase for Project 2;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to these Cooperative Agreements for and on behalf of the Board; and

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4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

DISCUSSION:

Project Background

Pursuant to the State's Street and Highways Code Section 114 and 130, the State and the City have entered into design Cooperative Agreements for the proposed improvements to the State Highway System within the City of Los Angeles. These design Agreements were approved by the Board on October 2, 2008.

Through these existing design Agreements, Caltrans and the Harbor Department agreed to the terms and conditions under which these two projects are to be developed, designed, and financed. The Harbor Department would obtain necessary environmental clearance for the projects and design the improvements to Caltrans standards. Through this process, Caltrans would provide necessary permits, clearances and prompt reviews for environmental and design documents.

On June 19, 2008, the Board of Harbor Commissioners approved Baseline Agreements between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department and the State of California for State Proposition 1B Trade Corridor Improvement Fund Program under which these two projects are listed.

The following are summary descriptions of the projects, which have been conceptually approved by Caltrans through an extensive planning process, and include traffic modeling, operation analysis, extensive public and Port Community Advisory Committee (PCAC) input, and the completion of Caltrans' Project Study Reports (PSRs).

Project Summaries

Project 1: John S. Gibson Blvd/I-110 Freeway Access Ramp Improvements and SR-47/I-110 Northbound Connector Widening

This project improves traffic movements on westbound SR-47 and continues northbound on the I-110 Freeway. The SR-47/I-110 connector will be widened from one to two lanes, an auxiliary lane will be added between the connector and the northbound off-ramp at John S. Gibson Blvd., the northbound ramps will be widened to two lanes, and the intersection of John S. Gibson Blvd at I-110 northbound ramps will be modified. These improvements will be coordinated with changes to the "C" Street/I-110 Access Ramp Improvements and other planned transportation projects (Transmittal 1).

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This project has an estimated construction cost of \$29,000,000 and is anticipated to be advertised in December, 2012. Construction is anticipated to start in April, 2013. This project has Federal SAFETEA-U Grant Fund of \$3,590,000, State TCIF Grant Fund of \$14,700,000, and Local Metro Prop C Grant Fund of \$7,400,000, with a total Grant Fund of \$25,710,000.

Project 2: "C" Street/I-110 Access Ramp Improvements

This project, in conjunction with the relocation of the TraPac terminal entrance, combines two closely spaced intersections: John S. Gibson Blvd. and Harry Bridges Blvd. and "C" Street and Figueroa Street to provide direct access from the northbound I-110 Freeway to Harry Bridges Blvd. A cul-de-sac at "C" Street will also be provided. The "C" Street/I-110 Access Ramp improvement project will improve the mobility of traffic in and around the West Basin area and at this major connection to the I-110 Freeway for traffic to and from the TraPac terminal along with all other facilities in the Inner Harbor and Wilmington Industrial Park. (Transmittal 2)

This project has an estimated cost of \$24,000,000, and it is anticipated to be advertised in December, 2012. Construction is anticipated to start in June, 2013. This project has Federal STPL Grant Fund of \$5,927,000, State TCIF Grant Fund of \$8,300,000, and Local Metro Prop C Grant Fund of \$6,647,000 with a total Grant Funds of \$20,874,000.

Cooperative Agreements for Construction

Pursuant to the State's Street and Highways Code Section 114 and 130, the State and the City are required to enter into Cooperative Agreements for the proposed improvements to the State Highway System within the City of Los Angeles.

Through these proposed Agreements (attached in substantial form as Transmittals 3 and 4), Caltrans and the Harbor Department would agree to the terms and conditions under which these two projects are to be constructed and financed. The Harbor Department would construct the projects to Caltrans standards, and Caltrans would provide necessary permits, clearances, promptly monitor construction, and provide quality assurance.

It should be emphasized that approval of these Agreements does not constitute final Board approval of the projects.

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ECONOMIC BENEFITS:

These Cooperative Agreements will have no employment effect.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is approval of Cooperative Agreements with Caltrans for construction of the John S. Gibson Blvd/I-110 Freeway Access Ramps and SR-47/I-110 Connector Improvements project and the I-110/C Street Interchange project. These two projects were analyzed in joint Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact, which were approved by the Board in April and June of 2012, respectively. Therefore, as an activity for which the underlying projects have previously been evaluated for environmental significance and processed according to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is exempt from CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(i) of the City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of this resolution establishes the framework governing cooperation between the Harbor Department and Caltrans as to the construction of Project 1 and Project 2. Approval of this resolution does not obligate the Harbor Department to fund either Project. Any commitment of Harbor Department funds to the Projects will be requested separately.

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CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of City Attorney has reviewed the subject Agreements in substantial form as to form and legality. The final Agreements will be approved as to form and legality prior to execution by the Executive Director.

TRANSMITTALS:


1. Project 1 Drawing
2. Project 2 Drawing
3. Project 1 Cooperative Agreement No. 07-4956
4. Project 2 Cooperative Agreement No. 07-4957

FIS Approval: KP (initials)

CA Approval: TAR (initials)

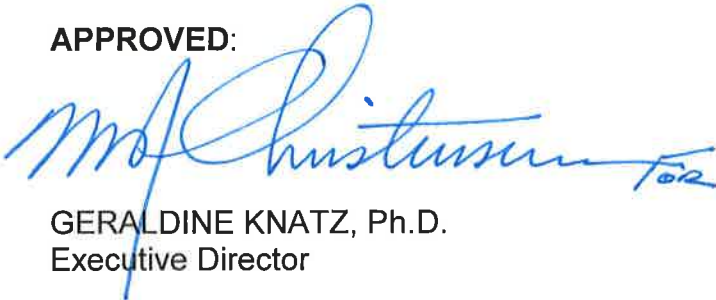


SHAUN SHAHRESTANI
Chief Harbor Engineer
Construction Division



MICHAEL R. CHRISTENSEN
Deputy Executive Director

APPROVED:



GERALDINE KNATZ, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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