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September 19, 2016

The Honorable Mitch O'Farrell, Chair
Arts, Parks, and River Committee
Los Angeles City Council

c/o Eric Villaneuva
City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

COUNCIL FILE NO. 11-1246-S1 - NORTH ATWATER MULTIMODAL BRIDGE OVER THE LOS ANGELES RIVER

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell & Honorable Members:

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council receives and files this report.

DISCUSSION:

On August 15, 2016, the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) was instructed by the Arts, Parks and River Committee to report back on the cost and schedule of an alternative design approach for the proposed North Atwater Non-Motorized Multimodal Bridge over the Los Angeles River (Project). As discussed in CF 11-1246-S1, the Project is a non-motorized, multimodal bridge that is located approximately one-half mile upstream of Los Feliz Boulevard. River LA, a non-profit organization formerly known as the Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation, has been the responsible entity for the design, estimate, specifications, and all permits/easements and agreements necessary to construct the bridge structure.

River LA's design is a cable-stayed steel bridge frame, that would span the approximately 325-foot-wide Los Angeles River channel, with one major pier constructed in the Los Angeles River channel. The design is a modified "fan", in which high-stressed steel cables are attached to a 126-foot tall center mast. This bridge will be 35 feet wide with two separate paths, one designated for equestrian use and the other shared by pedestrians and bicyclists.



Estimated Cost of Prefabricated Bridges

In researching an alternative design for the Project, BOE met and discussed with three vendors of prefabricated bridges. Prefabricated bridges vary in design styles and materials used. Cost estimates provided by the vendors include engineering, fabrication, and delivery, with fabrication time estimated between eight to ten weeks. The construction of the center pier, abutments, other improvements at either end of the bridge, and the installation of the prefabricated bridge will be performed by a contractor. This alternative design will require two separate prefabricated bridges, one for equestrian use and the other shared by pedestrian and bicyclists.

The total project cost to complete, as estimated by BOE and including average costs from the vendors, is in the range of \$8.2M to \$10.8M. This cost includes:

(1) revision of design plans, specifications and construction permits, (2) construction cost, (3) contingency (10% of construction cost), (4) construction permit fees, (5) construction management, (6) design support during construction, (7) inspection, and (8) maintenance costs for ten years. The cost range is dependent on the type of prefabricated bridge and materials used for fabrication.

ATP Grant Funding Milestone

As discussed in CF 11-1246-S1, River LA applied for, and was awarded, an Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant in the amount of \$3,660,000 for the Project. The ATP grant, along with other grant funds, is transferred to the City through a gift agreement with River LA. One of the funding milestones for the ATP grant is that the construction contract must be awarded by September 30, 2016. BOE requested a time extension for this requirement at the August 17/18, 2016 California Transportation Committee meeting, and received approval for a one-time 12-month extension. As such, the new milestone to award a construction contract for the Project is September 30, 2017. Should this milestone not be met, the entire ATP grant will lapse, and no further time extensions are likely to be considered by the California Transportation Commission.

Accelerated Schedule to Deliver Alternative Design

The following accelerated schedule identifies actions required to implement an alternative design that also meets the ATP grant funding milestone:

- **October 2016:** Bids received for River LA design;
- **November 2016:** Report back to City Council on fiscal impacts, if any, for the River LA design; and City Council to instruct BOE to implement either the River LA design or an alternative design;
- **December 2016 - March 2017:** With alternative design implementation, BOE will need to revise design plans, specifications, and amend any necessary construction permits with the regulatory/permitting agencies (US Army Corps of

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Engineers, Regional Water Quality Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Caltrans);

- **April 2017:** Advertise the Project with the alternative design;
- **September 2017:** Award construction contract prior to funding milestone of September 30, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Lau, of my staff, at (213) 485-5228.

Sincerely,



Gary Lee Moore, PE, ENV SP
City Engineer

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cc: Barbara Romero, Office of the Mayor
Greg Good, Office of the Mayor
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