CITY OF SANTA MONICA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION
1437 4TH STREET, SUITE 300
SANTA MONICA, CA 90401

NOTICE OF PREPARATION/ SCOPING MEETING FOR A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT / ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED SANTA MONICA PIER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

DATE: December 11, 2014

TO: State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

LEAD AGENCY: City of Santa Monica, Civil Engineering Division
1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, CA 90401
Contact: Selim Eren
Phone: (310) 458-8721 ext. 5107
E-mail: selim.eren@smgov.net

The City of Santa Monica intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) for the Santa Monica Pier Bridge Replacement Project.

In accordance with Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City of Santa Monica has prepared this Notice of Preparation to provide Responsible Agencies and other interested parties with information describing the proposal and its potential environmental effects. Environmental factors that could be potentially affected by the proposed project are:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Construction Effects
- Cultural Resources
- Economic and Social Impacts
- Geology / Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology / Water Quality
- Land Use / Planning
- Neighborhood Effects
- Noise
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Shadows
- Transportation / Traffic / Circulation
- Utilities / Service Systems
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in the western portion of Los Angeles County, in the City of Santa Monica Intersection of Ocean Avenue and Colorado Avenue and intersection of Appian Way and Moss Avenue, extending west to the Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica, California (see Exhibit A).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Pier Bridge structure extends west on Colorado Avenue from the intersection of Ocean Avenue and Colorado Avenue and connects to the Santa Monica Pier. The Pier Bridge was built in 1939 and is near the end of its useful life, with a sufficiency rating lower than 25 out of 100. The bridge is considered to be structurally deficient and functionally obsolete.

The proposed project would be implemented primarily for seismic safety to improve the structural stability of the Pier Bridge. The project would also address vehicular and pedestrian congestion and safety concerns at the Pier Bridge. Traffic and pedestrian congestion occurs on the Pier Bridge throughout the year. The pedestrian volumes exceed the sidewalk capacity on the bridge forcing pedestrians on to the vehicular lanes bringing vehicular traffic to a standstill. With the completion of the EXPO light rail, Santa Monica Downtown Metro Station and Colorado Esplanade Project, the pedestrian volume is expected to increase exponentially. After an extensive conceptual design process, three alternatives were developed to address the reconstruction of the Pier Bridge: Alternatives 1, 2, and 3.

Under Alternatives 1 and 2 (see Exhibit B-1 and B-2), the existing Pier Bridge would be demolished and a new wider bridge would be constructed in the same location. The replacement bridge would be approximately 58 feet wide, a total of 24 feet wider than the existing bridge. The replacement bridge would feature separate lanes for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles. During construction, temporary vehicular and pedestrian bridges would be provided to maintain access to the Pier. The temporary pedestrian bridge would connect Ocean Avenue to the Pier and may be located on the north or south side of the existing bridge alignment. Under Alternative 1, the temporary vehicular bridge would be located at Moss Avenue between Appian Way and the Pier for the duration of the construction. Under Alternative 2, the temporary vehicular ramp would be located at north and west of the existing bridge alignment providing vehicular access from the beach parking lot adjacent to the pier for the duration of the construction.

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Under Alternative 3 (see Exhibit B-3), two permanent bridges would be constructed. A new permanent bridge would be constructed at Moss Avenue between Appian Way and the Pier for public vehicular access to the Pier parking. The new permanent bridge at Moss Avenue would be used during construction of the Pier Bridge replacement bridge, as well as permanently as the main vehicular access to the Pier. The existing Pier Bridge would be demolished and a new bridge would be constructed with the same current width of 34 feet, but would be designed primarily for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The Pier Bridge will also serve the purpose of providing limited access for emergency and delivery vehicles during off peak periods.

Please visit the following website for more information about the project:
www.smconstructs.org/smpierbridge or *www.smgov.net/smpierbridge*

REVIEW PERIOD: As specified by the State CEQA Guidelines, the Notice of Preparation will be circulated for a minimum 30-day review period. The City of Santa Monica welcomes agency and public input during this period regarding the scope and content of environmental information related to your agency's responsibility that must be included in the Draft EIR/EA. **Comments may be submitted, in writing, by 5:30 p.m. on February 2, 2015** and addressed to:

Selim Eren, P.E., Civil Engineer
City of Santa Monica - Civil Engineering Division
1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, CA 90401
Phone: (310) 458-8721 ext. 5107, e-mail: selim.eren@smgov.net

SCOPING MEETING: The City has scheduled a Public Scoping Meeting for the EIR/EA to describe the proposed project, the environmental review process, and to receive your input on the information that should be in the EIR/EA. The Public Scoping Meeting is scheduled at the following time and location:

Tuesday January 6, 2015
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth Street
Santa Monica 90401

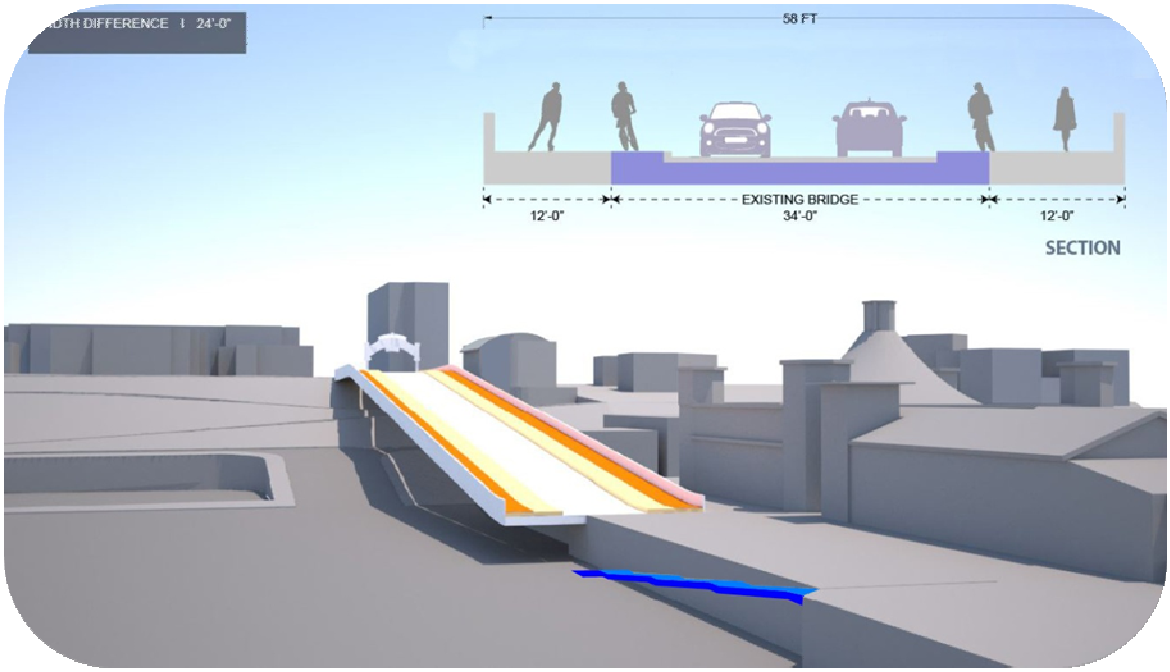
ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia de la preparación de un reporte sobre el remplazo del puente al muelle de Santa Monica, lo cual puede ser de interés a usted. Para más información, llame a
Carmen Gutierrez, al número (310) 458-8341.

11/11/2014

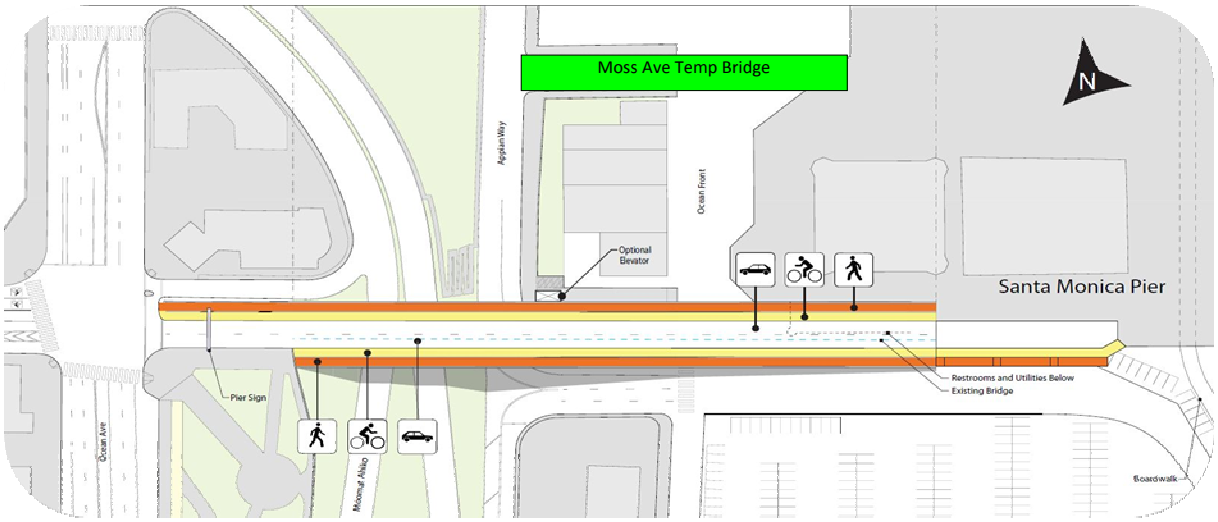
Selim Eren, P.E., Civil Engineer, Project Manager

Date

Regional Location and Project Vicinity
Exhibit A

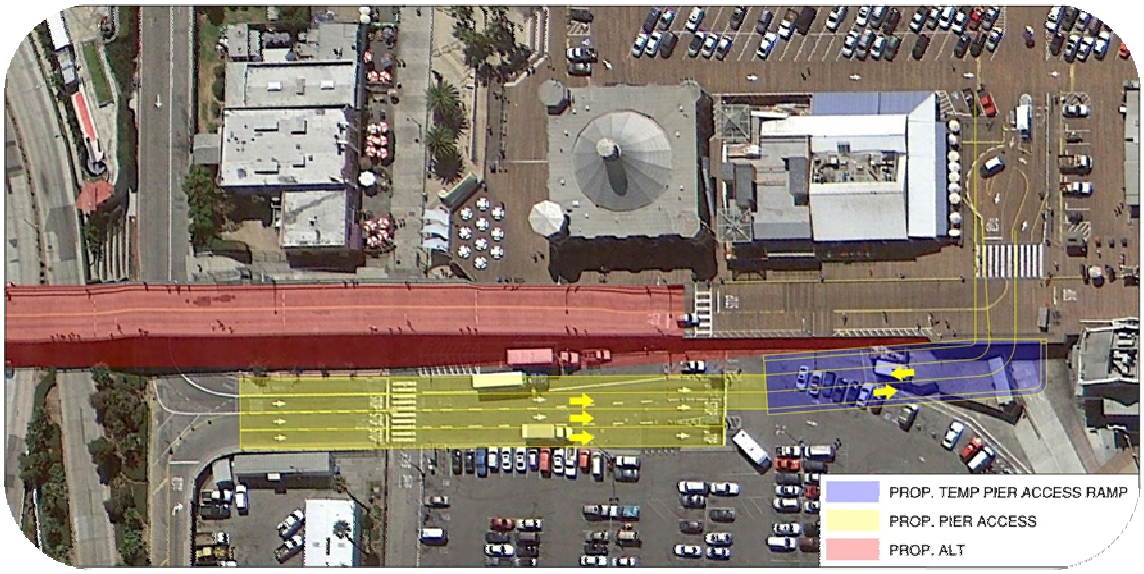


Conceptual Design for Alternative 1

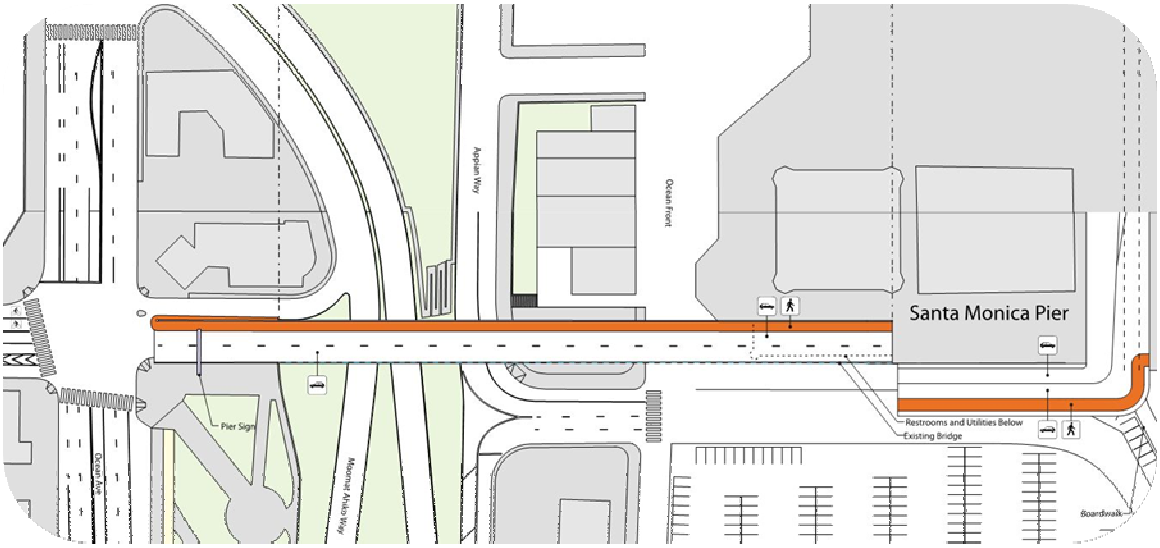


Site Plan for Alternative 1

Exhibit B-1

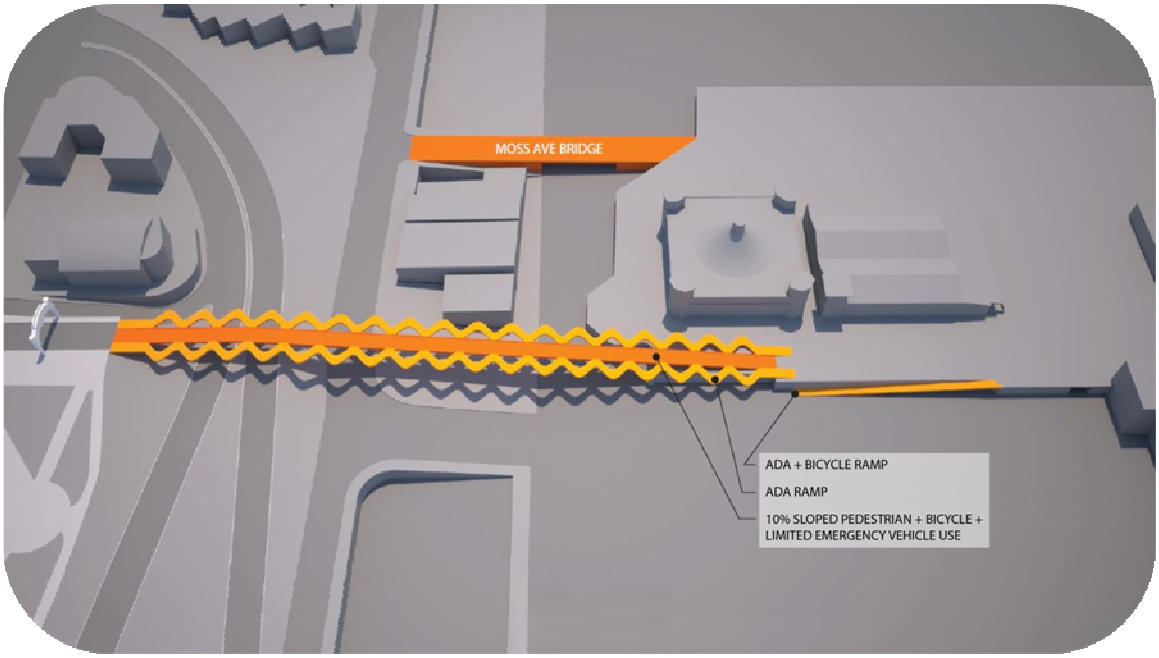


Conceptual Design for Alternative 2

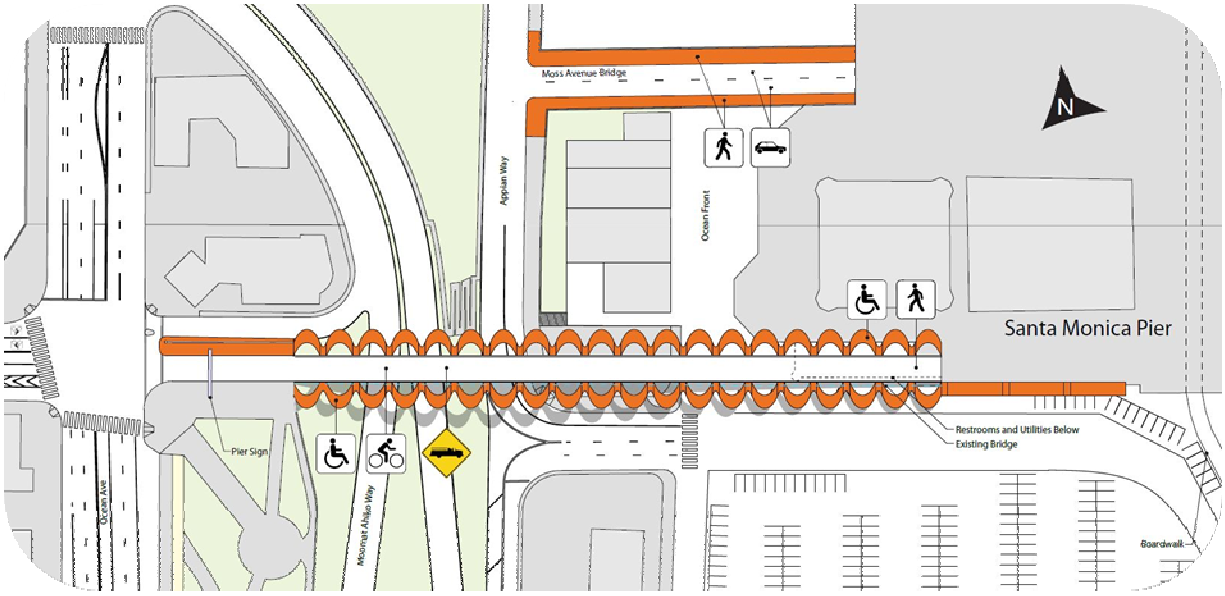


Site Plan for Alternative 2

Exhibit B-2



Conceptual Design for Alternative 3



Site Plan for Alternative 3

Exhibit B-3