



City Council Report

City Council Meeting: June 28, 2011

Agenda Item: 3-Z

To: Mayor and City Council

From: David Martin, Acting Director of Planning & Community Development
Martin Pastucha, Director of Public Works

Subject: Preliminary Engineering of Expo Light Rail Station Betterment Components at Bergamot and Memorial Park/Mid-City Stations

Recommended Action

Staff recommends that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an expenditure of an amount not-to-exceed \$245,000 to the Expo Construction Authority to perform preliminary engineering services at Bergamot Station.
2. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an expenditure of an amount not-to-exceed \$120,000 to the Expo Construction Authority to perform preliminary engineering services at Memorial Park/Mid-City Station.
3. Approve the budget changes as outlined in the Financial Impacts and Budget Actions section of this report.

Executive Summary

On [July 13, 2010](#) the City Council adopted a list of fundamental components for integration of the Expo Light Rail stations into Santa Monica. At the Bergamot Station, this included separate station platforms for east and west bound trains (side-loaded) with full pedestrian track crossings at both ends of the station, subject to the California Public Utilities Commission approval, and entrances in the center of the platforms to integrate the station with the adjacent Bergamot Art Center and the large ridership pool north of Olympic Boulevard. At the Memorial Park/Mid-City Station, this included a second entrance at the west end of the center platform and full pedestrian track crossings at both ends of the station, also subject to California Public Utilities Commission approval, and an off-street transfer area and bicycle facility. These components encourage ridership by providing direct and convenient connections, and integrating the system into the City fabric. They improve access to the stations from all directions along with enabling critical connections between the Bergamot Station, Bergamot Arts Center, and Bergamot Transit Village district, and between the Memorial Park/Mid-City Station, Santa Monica College, hospitals and major businesses.

The Expo Construction Authority has completed the first stage of design (called Stage A Preliminary Engineering) based on a single center-platform design for Bergamot Station, and single entrances for both Bergamot and Memorial Park Stations. Stage A represents up to 30 percent design of the train system components, utilizing the Metro standard station design, layout, canopy details, landscape, and mechanical, structural and electrical components from Expo Phase 1. On March 21, 2011 the City provided a side platform conceptual layout for Bergamot designed to meet Metro criteria. The City has also consistently advocated for a second platform entrance and pedestrian crossing at the Memorial Park/Mid-City Station. To move forward with the side platform Bergamot components and second entrance Memorial Park/Mid-City station components, 30 percent preliminary engineering design needs to be completed as soon as possible to avoid delay of the project schedule. The Construction Authority identifies these improvements as betterments to be funded by the City, and Skanska-Rados Joint Venture prepared reduced cost estimates for the preliminary engineering of a not-to-exceed amounts of \$245,000 for Bergamot Station and \$120,000 for Memorial Park/Mid-City Station following negotiations with City staff. The final expenditures amount will be identified through the negotiation process with the above not-to-exceed amounts for the work on each station.

Background

The Exposition Light Rail line will connect from Downtown Los Angeles to Downtown Santa Monica with stations in Santa Monica at Bergamot Arts Center (Olympic/26th Street), Memorial Park/Mid-City (Colorado/17th Street) and Downtown (Colorado/4th Street). The first phase of the Expo line is 8.3 miles with a temporary terminus in Culver City (Venice/Robertson), and is scheduled to begin passenger operations next year. The second phase from Culver City to Santa Monica is approximately seven miles and scheduled to be operational in 2015. The Expo line is projected to be one of the busiest light rail lines in the country, with an estimated 64,000 daily boardings. The Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority is designing and building the line, and it will be turned over to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) for operation following completion and testing.

The Expo Construction Authority has completed the first stage of design (called Stage A Preliminary Engineering) utilizing a competitive process between two design-build teams to produce a 10-30% economical design to establish a cost for the baseline project. The competitive process occurred from May to December 2010, and included

City review and comment in October that generated a comprehensive set of comments on each team's preliminary design. The Skanska-Rados Joint Venture (SRJV) team was selected by the Expo Board on March 18, 2011 to design and construct the project, and the team was given limited Notice to Proceed in May 2011.

On July 13, 2010 the City Council reviewed and adopted components for incorporation into the Expo Light Rail project in Santa Monica including:

- Bergamot Station: separate station platforms for east and west bound trains (side-loaded) with pedestrian track crossings at both ends of the station, subject to the California Public Utilities Commission approval, and entrances in the center of the platforms to integrate the station with the adjacent Bergamot Art Center and the large ridership pool north of Olympic Boulevard.
- Memorial Park/Mid-City Station: entrances at both ends of the station platform, subject to the California Public Utilities Commission approval, to facilitate circulation, capacity and customer service, and an off-street transfer area to accommodate surges in ridership and connections to bus, bike, and kiss-and-ride in place of a dedicated long-term parking lot.

Discussion

The Expo Construction Authority has completed Stage A Preliminary Engineering for Bergamot Station based on a single center-platform design, a single entry to the platform from 26th Street and no track crossing east of the station; and Memorial Park/Mid-City Station based on a single entry to the platform from 17th Street. The design progression to date covers up to 30 percent design of the train system components, utilizing the Metro standard station design, layout, canopy details, landscape, and mechanical, structural and electrical components from Expo Phase 1. To advance the Council endorsements for the stations, the City developed a side platform conceptual layout for Bergamot and advocated for a two-entry single platform concept for Memorial Park/Mid-City. Both station concepts were designed to meet Metro criteria, increase pedestrian access and safety, and comply with the Project FEIR. The concepts increase functionality and access to the stations and integrate the stations within the city fabric. The Bergamot Station concept integrates the station

within the adjacent Bergamot Arts Center and proposed Bergamot Transit Village, and closely coordinates the station with the regional Expo bike path and City facilities such as sidewalks, crosswalks and bus stops. The Memorial Park/Mid-City Station second entrance concept connects the station with Colorado Avenue businesses and Memorial Park and accommodates the pedestrian and bike surges anticipated from Santa Monica College and St. John's and UCLA hospitals. Preliminary engineering needs to be completed for these components as soon as possible to avoid delay of the project schedule. In addition, the Authority will be establishing and presenting a bid price to the City for the construction cost of the requested enhancements.

The SRJV team provided proposals for preliminary engineering of the Bergamot Station side platform concept and Memorial Park/Mid-City Station covering engineering, station design, landscape architecture, and systems design (traction power, OCS, track alignment, etc.) with a total not-to-exceed of \$429,000 for Bergamot Station and \$193,000 for Memorial Park/Mid-City Station. Primary work proposed to be done under the agreements includes:

- Revise the track alignment to accommodate narrower track spacing at Bergamot Station and wider track spacing at Memorial Park/Mid-City Station
- Validate operational characteristics of revised track alignments
- Prepare updated site plans that reflect revised platform configuration at Bergamot Station using consistent Phase 1 station components with rearrangement of ticketing areas, ramps, pedestrian crossings, and revise associated plan, section and elevation drawings
- Revise grading, drainage and composite utility plans
- Revise crossing plans to show side platforms at Bergamot Station and new crossings at each station
- Revise structural foundation and platform plans, with longitudinal sections and structural sections and details.

The proposed preliminary engineering work modifies an estimated 40 sheets within the design set to match the work done as part of Stage A and establishes a cost for the construction work. Staff has reviewed the work tasks and preliminary engineering proposal, and provided comments back to the Construction Authority and SRJV regarding scope refinements that remove errors and redundancies and are calibrated to

the level of detail commensurate with the Stage A drawings. Staff has negotiated a revised estimate of \$245,000 for the Bergamot Station work and \$120,000 for the Memorial Park/Mid-City work based on this analysis. The Expo Construction Authority will submit to the City progress and final statements indicating actual work performed by their contractor during their normal billing period (with direct and indirect costs of the work directly associated with this City authorized work) within 120 days following the commencement of the subject work. The City shall review all invoices and make appropriate payments within forty (40) days of receipt of such statement.

Financial Impacts and Budget Actions

An amount not to exceed \$245,000 will be paid to the Expo Authority to cover the cost of preliminary engineering for Bergamot Station, and an amount not to exceed \$120,000 will be paid to the Expo Authority to cover the cost of preliminary engineering for Memorial Park/Mid-City Station. The expenditures require budget actions as follows:

Release \$365,000 from Prop A Rail Reserve in account 20.341895 and appropriate \$245,000 to account C200224.589100 Expo PE Bergamot Station and \$120,000 to account C200224.589110 Expo PE Memorial Park/Mid-City Station.

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