RESOLUTION NO. _______ (CCS)  
(City Council Series)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA  
ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE CIVIC CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN TO  
ELIMINATE THE SECOND STREET BRIDGE EXTENSION AND TO REPLACE THIS  
POLICY WITH THE COLORADO ESPLANADE PROJECT MAIN STREET TO  
SECOND STREET ALIGNMENT

WHEREAS, on November 23, 1993, the City Council of the City of Santa Monica  
(“Council”) approved Resolution No. 8685, adopting the Civic Center Specific Plan  
(“1993 CCSP”), which set forth a new vision for the Civic Center area, and anticipated a  
variety of public improvements based on an organizing urban design concept; and,

WHEREAS, in 2003, the City began preparation of the Environmental Impact  
Report for an updated CCSP; and

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2005, the City Council certified a Final Environmental  
Impact Report (“CCSP EIR”) for amendments to the CCSP and adopted said CCSP  
amendments (“2005 CCSP”); and

WHEREAS, the 2005 CCSP, in part, established policies for a new bridge  
connecting Main Street with Second Street; and
WHEREAS, the new bridge concept was subsequently considered infeasible due to proximity of the potential bridge footings to a Moreton Bay fig tree located on the south side of I-10 and due to cost considerations; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2009, the City Council discussed, among other circulation improvements to the Civic Center and Downtown District, opportunities to eliminate the Second Street Bridge as a public improvement for Main Street in the Civic Center; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use & Circulation Element (LUCE) expressly addressed the infeasibility of Second Street Bridge; and

WHEREAS, LUCE Policy D15.3 calls for updating the CCSP to reflect the emergence of the district as an integral open space link, including “Eliminate the current CCSP-proposed Main Street to 2nd Street Bridge;” and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Esplanade design achieves the streamlined roadway alignment intended in the 2005 CCSP while preserving the Moreton Bay tree and significantly lowering the cost; and

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2012, the Planning Commission held a public hearing, reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Colorado Esplanade Project prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and recommended approval of the proposed CCSP Amendment to eliminate the proposed Second Street Bridge Extension as a public improvement for the Civic Center and
replace this proposed extension with the Colorado Esplanade Project Main Street to Second Street Alignment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program for the Colorado Esplanade Project on March 19, 2013, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the Planning Commission's recommendations and reviewed the proposed CCSP Amendment at a duly noticed public hearing on May 14, 2013, and has determined that the proposed CCSP amendment to eliminate the proposed Second Street Bridge Extension and to replace this proposed extension with the Colorado Esplanade Project Main Street to Second Street Alignment is consistent with the General Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to the Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.04.20.18.160, the City Council hereby adopts the amendment to the Civic Center Specific Plan, as contained in Exhibit 1.

SECTION 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARSHA JONES MOUTHIE
City Attorney
THE CIVIC CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN WILL BE AMENDED BY REPLACING THE EXISTING LANGUAGE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

(The strikethrough sections depict the language that is being removed from the Civic Center Specific Plan (CCSP) and the italic sections depict new language being added.)

**CCSP Modifications – Elimination of Second Street Bridge**

The need for a new crossing over the Santa Monica Freeway due to the capacity constraints of the existing Main Street Bridge

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*The Civic Center in the Future*

The Civic Center will retain its governmental and institutional role, but these uses will be integrated with new residential, recreational, civic and cultural activities to become a vibrant mixed use district within the city. New linkages will connect the area to the surrounding neighborhoods. Main Street will become an integral part of the open space system and a more significant and central feature which unifies the site. The pedestrian experience of Palisades Park will be extended through the area and bike paths will connect with the Downtown, Ocean Park neighborhood and Santa Monica High School. A new Second Street Bridge will be extended over the freeway directly into the site, allowing for a mixed-mode connection with Downtown and the Main Street commercial area beyond. *Main Street will be realigned to connect to 2nd Street allowing for a smoother transition and mixed mode connection from the Civic Center District to the Downtown and the Main Street commercial areas.* A direct visual and physical linkage will be created to the Beach and Santa Monica Bay – taking advantage of the naturally declining grades and reinstating Olympic Drive along a corridor that was usurped by the construction of the Santa Monica Freeway and the RAND complex.

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*Promenades and Pathways*

OS-10. *Improve the historic Main Street Bridge to increase pedestrian friendliness on the linkage between the downtown and the Civic Center. —Convert the historic Main Street Bridge to exclusive pedestrian use, linking the downtown with the Civic Center.* At the other end of Main Street, the permanent closing of the Main Street Bridge to vehicular traffic and its development for exclusive pedestrian use greatly strengthens pedestrian linkages between the Civic Center and Downtown—The distinctive elements of the Main Street Bridge, including its balustrades and pilasters, and supporting arches are preserved and restored. In addition, the triangular parcel of city-owned land along Colorado Avenue is improved as a gateway plaza, with a direct pedestrian link to the Main Street Bridge and the potential to incorporate public art, commemorative elements or a water feature.
Page – 32 Vehicular Circulation
C-2. Realign Main Street to Second Street to coordinate a smooth transition for all modes of transportation crossing the Colorado Avenue intersection. Close Main Street north of Olympic Drive to vehicular traffic, and extend Second Street south to Olympic Drive. North of Olympic Drive, Main Street is closed to vehicular traffic in order to accommodate the Town Square, and to create a distinctive northern visual terminus with the open space and City Services Building. Vehicular and bicycle traffic along Main Street is channeled toward Second Street, leading across the Santa Monica Freeway on a new bridge to the downtown core.

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Second Street Extension
As described above, the Plan calls for Second Street to be extended south from its current terminus at Colorado Avenue, across the Santa Monica Freeway on a new bridge to Olympic Drive. The street is improved with one vehicular lane and one bicycle lane in each direction, and curbside parking along both sides of the street. Generous sidewalks and parkway landscaping are provided along the street. This project requires coordination with the Holiday Inn to minimize construction impacts, and to allow for the development of a reconfigured drop-off and short-term parking lot for the hotel. The new bridge across the freeway is envisioned as a distinctive landmark structure that provides a complementary counterpoint to the historic Main Street Bridge and a new gateway to the Civic Center from downtown.

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I-9. The City of Santa Monica will coordinate with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the construction of a new Second Street bridge across the Santa Monica Freeway.

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Table 2: Civic Center Specific Plan Improvement Program
The extension of Second Street between Colorado Avenue and Olympic Drive including the construction of a new bridge across the Santa Monica Freeway. The improvement of the Main Street Bridge and the existing public right-of-way along Colorado Avenue as a pedestrian way and gateway plaza to the Civic Center.

THE CIVIC CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN GRAPHICS WILL BE AMENDED BY REPLACING EXISTING GRAPHICS AS FOLLOWS:

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The Illustrative Plan is modified as attached hereto to depict the new Main Street Alignment without the Second Street Bridge Extension.

The graphics on the following pages will be similarly modified to depict the new alignment.
Additional Graphic Changes:

Page – 10 Open Space Plan
Page – 12 Proposed Open Space and Landscaped Areas
Page – 15 Linkages Diagram
Page – 18 Diagram
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Page – 37 Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathways
Page – 39 Diagram
Page – 41 Main/Second Street Diagram
Page – 47 Special Use Districts
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Page – 57 The Civic Core Special Use District