

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 11, 2020
To: Board of Directors, California Exposition & State Fair
Via: Rick K. Pickering, Chief Executive Officer
From: Tom Martinez, Chief Deputy General Manager
Subject: Cal Trans - American River Bridge Widening, Request for Cal Expo to Be Considered as Possible Staging Site for Construction Contractor

BACKGROUND

The California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) has previously outlined for the Board its planned project to widen the Capital City Freeway, including the American River Bridge section to accommodate traffic now and into the future. CalTrans has also conducted workshops at Cal Expo to obtain public input on the widening project. The project proposes to make the following improvements to the bridge:

- Remove and replace the existing concrete bridge deck
- Strengthen the steel girder post-tensioning systems
- Widen the bridge deck to accommodate traffic during construction, including a bicycle and pedestrian path to provide a levee connection between the City of Sacramento bike network and the American River Bike Trail
- Widen the bridge foundation to accommodate future widening of the Capital City Freeway

CalTrans is now moving forward with the required environmental reviews for the project and wishes to include Cal Expo as a potential temporary construction-staging site. While contractors will be required to locate staging sites and negotiate rent, along with timelines, Cal Trans believes it prudent to include Cal Expo as a possible site – as part of the environmental review.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

As noted above, the Project is currently in the environmental and preliminary engineering study phase. The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is anticipated to be ready for

public review in mid May 2020. The Final Environmental Document is anticipated to be approved in August 2020. Construction is anticipated to begin in September 2022 and be completed by December of 2026.

PROPOSED POSSIBLE USE OF CAL EXPO

CalTrans is proposing temporary use of portions of Cal Expo property to allow easier access to the bridge for the construction contractor. Proposed use includes access for construction vehicles and equipment from the most westerly entrance on Exposition Boulevard (currently closed to public vehicle access) along the paved driveway leading to the northwest parking area and use of a portion of the northwest parking area for contractor staging. The proposed 2.6-acre area (Attachment A) would be used for the entire 4-year construction duration. The proposed 2.2-acre would be used for the 4-year duration, except during the annual California State Fair. During the State Fair, the contractor would be required to clear the 2.2-acre area to allow for parking.

CalTrans is requesting that Cal Expo allow these areas to be included in current the environmental review process. Should a contractor then wish to use these portions of Cal Expo, said contractor would be required to negotiate terms with Cal Expo, including rent, access, timelines, etc. Should the contractor and Cal Expo not come to agreement on such terms, the contractor would not be allowed to use Cal Expo.

CalTrans representatives will be present at the Board Meeting to make a brief a presentation.