# Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting for the Broadway Bridge Project

**Date:** July 12, 2017

**To:** Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies,

Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties

From: City of West Sacramento

**CEQA Lead Agency:** City of West Sacramento

Public Works Department 1110 West Capitol Avenue West Sacramento, CA 95691

**Contact:** Jason McCoy, Senior Transportation Planner

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**Project:** Broadway Bridge

**Project Location:** Downstream of the U.S. 50 Pioneer Bridge, crossing the Sacramento River,

connecting South River Road or 15th Street to the Broadway corridor in the

Cities of West Sacramento and Sacramento

**Scoping Period:** July 12 through August 10, 2017

**Public Scoping Meeting:** Thursday, July 27, 2017, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions High School

451 McClatchy Way, Sacramento, CA 95818

# **Notice of Preparation**

The City of West Sacramento (City) is the lead agency for preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) that addresses the potential impacts of the Broadway Bridge project. The EIR will evaluate potential significant environmental effects associated with construction and operation of the project. The City will use the EIR when considering approval of the project. The project is subject to state as well as federal environmental review requirements, and project documentation will be prepared in compliance with both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The City of Sacramento, co-sponsor of the project, is a Responsible Agency under CEQA. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the NEPA lead agency and anticipates preparation of an Environmental Assessment. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

The purpose of this Notice of Preparation (NOP) is to obtain the views of agencies and the public as to the scope and content of the environmental information and analysis, including the significant environmental issues, project alternatives, and mitigation measures that should be included in the EIR. Responsible Agencies will likewise need to consider the EIR prepared by the City when issuing approvals for the

project. This NOP has been prepared pursuant to CEQA (14 California Code of Regulations) and State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15082(a), 15103, and 15375 to inform agencies and the public that the EIR is being prepared and to invite early comments and input on the scope and content of the EIR.

### **Public Review and Comment Period**

In accordance with CEQA, comments and suggestions as to the appropriate scope of analysis in the EIR are invited from all interested parties. At a minimum, responses to this NOP should focus on the following.

- The potentially significant environmental effects that the proposed project may have on the physical environment that should be addressed in the EIR;
- Ways in which those effects might be minimized; and
- Potential alternatives to the proposed project that should be addressed in the EIR.

Written comments or questions concerning the EIR for the proposed project should include your name, the name of your agency or organization (if applicable), and contact information. Written comments must be received by the City by 5:00 p.m. August 10, 2017. Please send your comments to:

David Tilley, Principal Planner City of West Sacramento 1110 West Capitol Avenue West Sacramento, CA 95691 davidt@cityofwestsacramento.org

# **Public Scoping Meeting**

The City will also conduct a public scoping meeting for the proposed project to receive comments on the scope and content of the EIR at the time and place listed below:

Thursday, July 27, 2017, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions High School 451 McClatchy Way, Sacramento, CA 95818

The scoping meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about the project and provide input to the environmental process. Anyone who desires to comment on any environmental issue associates with the proposed project will be afforded the opportunity to do so. The City will consider all comments in determining the final scope of the evaluation to be included in the EIR.

### **Project Description**

The City, in cooperation with the City of Sacramento and Caltrans, proposes to construct a new bridge over the Sacramento River downstream of the U.S. 50 Pioneer Bridge, connecting South River Road and 15th Street to the Broadway corridor. Several bridge alignment alternatives are being considered as part of the project (see attached figures). The new bridge will be moveable to allow boat passage and will carry vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic, and accommodate future transit options, including a future streetcar alignment within the bridge itself. The project also includes installation of a bridge interconnect fiber optic line to allow the new bridge, and I Street and Tower Bridges, to be operated by one system.

# **Scope of Environmental Impact Report**

The EIR will contain full analysis of both the construction impacts of the project, such as construction of the new bridge, new roadway approaches, and the bridge interconnect fiber optic line, as well as its operational (long-term) impacts. The full range of environmental issues that will be addressed in the EIR are listed below.

- Aesthetics and visual resources
- Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
- Biological resources
- Cultural resources, including Tribal cultural resources
- Geology and soils
- Hazards and hazardous materials
- Hydrology and water quality
- Land use/planning
- Noise
- Population and housing
- Public services and utilities
- Recreation
- Transportation/traffic

The issues to be addressed will be finalized after comments on the NOP are received.

The EIR will also examine a reasonable range of alternatives to the project, including the CEQA-required No Project Alternative, in order to explore all possibilities for avoiding or substantially reducing any potentially significant effects of the proposed project.

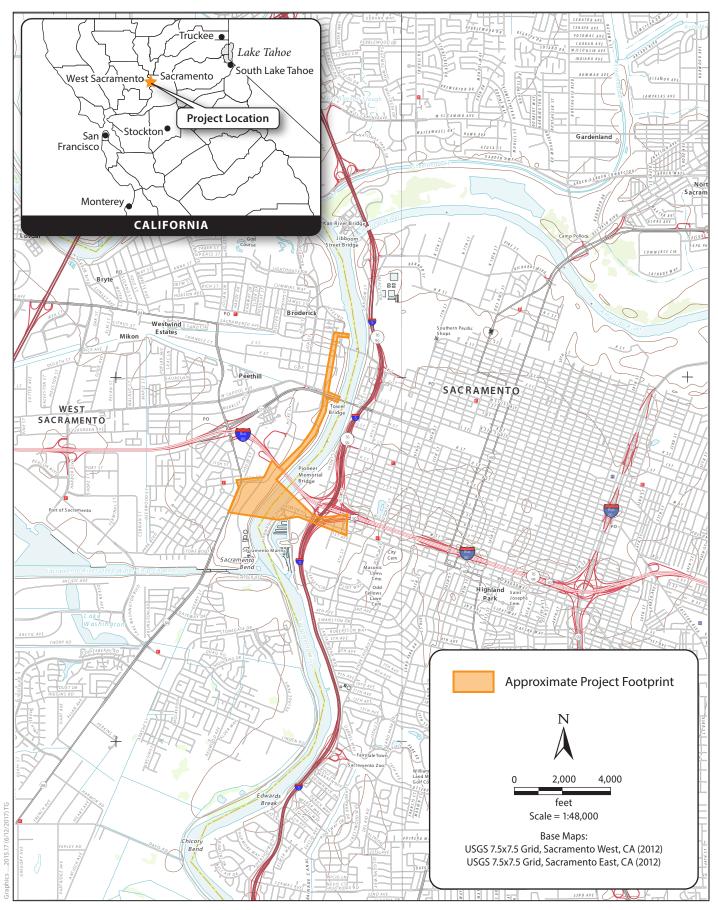
Lastly, the EIR will evaluate the following CEQA-required assessment conclusions: cumulative impacts, growth inducing impacts, effects found not to be significant, unavoidable significant impacts, and significant irreversible changes.

# **Attached Figures**

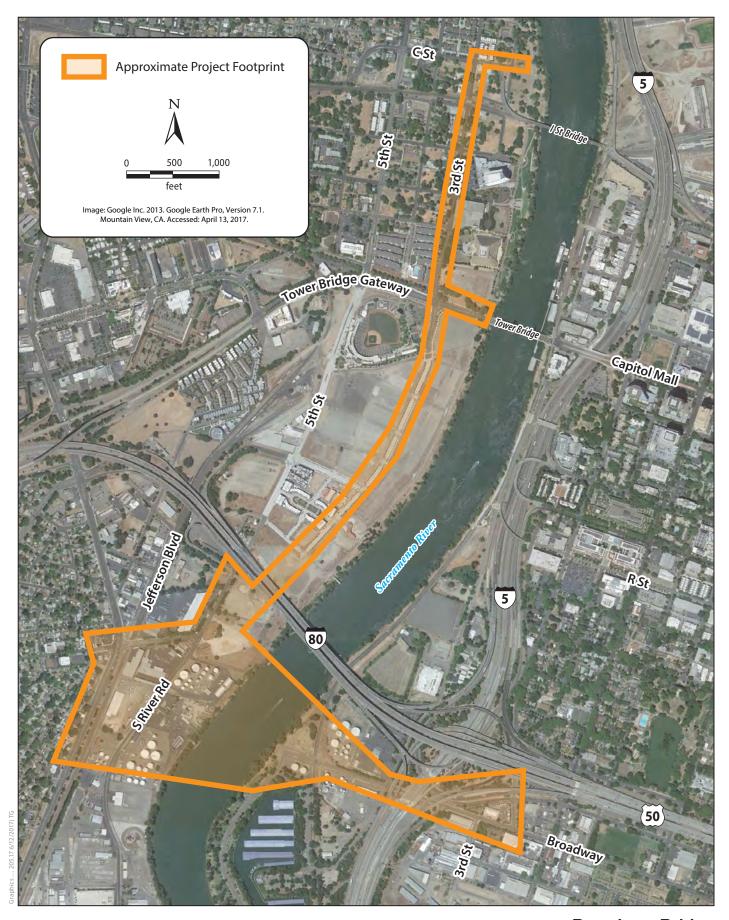
Figure 1: Regional Location

Figure 2: Project Location

Figure 3: Project Exhibit



**Broadway Bridge Regional Map** 



**Broadway Bridge Project Location** 

