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MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Brooke A. Levin, Director
Rachel Flynn, Director

SUBJECT: Embarcadero Improvements
Roadway and Bridge Construction

DATE: March 27, 2015

City Administrator

Date

Approval

/s/ **Donna Hom**

3/27/15

INFORMATION

The purpose of this informational memorandum is to provide an update on improvements being made to the Embarcadero through two simultaneous projects on the bridge and on the roadway. This memo also provides information on traffic impacts and alternative routes starting April 2015 through April 2017.

The first project is by Oakland Public Works (OPW) to replace the Embarcadero Bridge over Lake Merritt Channel as required for seismic upgrade. The construction contract for this work was awarded by the City Council on January 20, 2015. Bridge construction is expected to begin in May 2015 and it is estimated to take about two (2) years to complete. During construction, the Embarcadero between Estuary Park and 5th Avenue will be closed to through traffic. Traffic will be diverted as shown on the attached Local Traffic Detour plan (*Attachment A*). OPW will make every effort to minimize inconveniences in the neighborhood. Updates on this project are available and will be ongoing on the City's website www.oaklandnet.com/Embarcadero.

OPW staff has coordinated this bridge work with the second project for the Roadway Improvements planned for the Embarcadero east of the bridge, which will be completed as part of the Brooklyn Basin Development Project. Through this coordinated effort, the Bridge and Roadway work will take place simultaneously, limiting the impact to the community. The Brooklyn Basin Developer, Zarsion-Oakland Harbor Partners, LLC (ZOHP) is undertaking the Embarcadero Roadway improvements between the Bridge and 10th Avenue. The work includes circulation improvements for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles, as well as new roadway surface and striping, and extensive streetscaping such as street lighting and street trees. In particular, a new traffic signal at the intersection of 5th Avenue and Embarcadero will improve traffic flow and safety for all users. The project is expected also to take approximately two years, beginning in April 2015 and will utilize temporary traffic methods to keep access open to local businesses and residents. The public will be kept informed via updates on the website at www.oaklandnet.com/Embarcadero and project handouts (*Attachment B*).

Bridge Project History

The replacement bridge will provide a seismically sound bridge, 22-feet wider than the current bridge. The wider deck will accommodate one 12-foot vehicle travel lane in each direction, and will add one 6-foot bike lane/shoulder in each direction a 5-foot wide sidewalk on the north side, and a 12-foot wide multi-use path on the south (Estuary) side. The path on the south side will have extended outlook area to the estuary. These new features will close the gap for pedestrian and bicycle users along the Bay Trail.

The new bridge will also be constructed with a higher elevation than the existing bridge, allowing higher clearance over the water so that kayaks, canoes and other small craft can maneuver under the bridge, continuing the City's efforts to connect Lake Merritt with the Estuary.

This project is part of the City's Bridge Seismic Improvement Program and is funded by grants from Federal Highway Bridge Program, State Proposition 1B, and Measure B funds. The contractor for this project is Flatiron Construction. A public meeting was held last week at the Jack London Aquatic Center to discuss both the bridge project as well as the Embarcadero Roadway improvements. The City will continue to provide updates as work progresses.

Respectfully submitted,

_____/s/
BROOKE A. LEVIN
Director, Oakland Public Works

_____/s/
RACHEL FLYNN
Director, Planning & Building Department

For questions on the bridge, please contact Phillip Fung, Resident Engineer, at 238-2938.
For questions on the roadway, please contact Catherine Payne, Planner, at 238-6168.

Attachments:

- A- Embarcadero Bridge Seismic Project and Local Detour Map
- B- Embarcadero Roadway Handout



Embarcadero Bridge Replacement Project Lake Merritt Channel / Oakland Estuary



BACKGROUND

Oakland's Embarcadero Bridge over Lake Merritt Channel was selected to receive structural improvements in order to increase its earthquake resistance as part of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) bridge inspection program. Oakland Public Works worked closely with Caltrans to obtain funding to replace the bridge with a new structure, rather than retrofit the old bridge, for the many benefits a new bridge could provide. TYLin/AECOM, a Joint Venture, worked with City staff to design the new bridge. Flatiron is the contractor doing the work starting in May.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The new bridge will be wider (59 feet versus the current 37 feet). In addition to 12-foot vehicle travel lanes in each direction, it will provide a 6-foot bike lane/shoulder in each direction, a 5-foot wide sidewalk on the north side, and a 12-foot wide multi-use path on the south (Estuary) side. This expansion will allow for continuity of pedestrian and bicycle access along the waterfront trail. Another major change will be the higher clearance the new bridge will have over the water, designed to allow kayaks/canoes to maneuver under the bridge in the future, continuing the City's efforts to reconnect Lake Merritt with the Estuary. The project will also have new street lighting, minor landscaping, new restroom facilities, and planted rainwater treatment areas at both ends to improve water quality.

COST AND FUNDING

The estimated project cost is \$23.3M funded by:

- Federal Highway Bridge Program (\$20.38M)
- State Prop 1B (\$1.74M)
- City of Oakland – Measure B (\$1.03M)
- State Seismic Match (\$0.15M)

LOCAL TRAFFIC DETOUR

During construction, the Embarcadero Bridge (between Estuary Park and 5th Avenue) will be closed. Local traffic will be diverted as shown on the Traffic Detour plan below.

TIMELINE

Award of construction contract was approved by the City Council in January 2015.

Below is the planned schedule:

- Open Bids: November 2014 (*Completed*)
- Award Contract: January 2015 (*Completed*)
- Notice to Proceed: Spring 2015
- Project Completion: Summer 2017

PROJECT UPDATES

Please visit the project website for updates:

www.oaklandnet.com/embarcadero

Updated March 20, 2015



Project Location
(Embarcadero over Lake Merritt Channel)

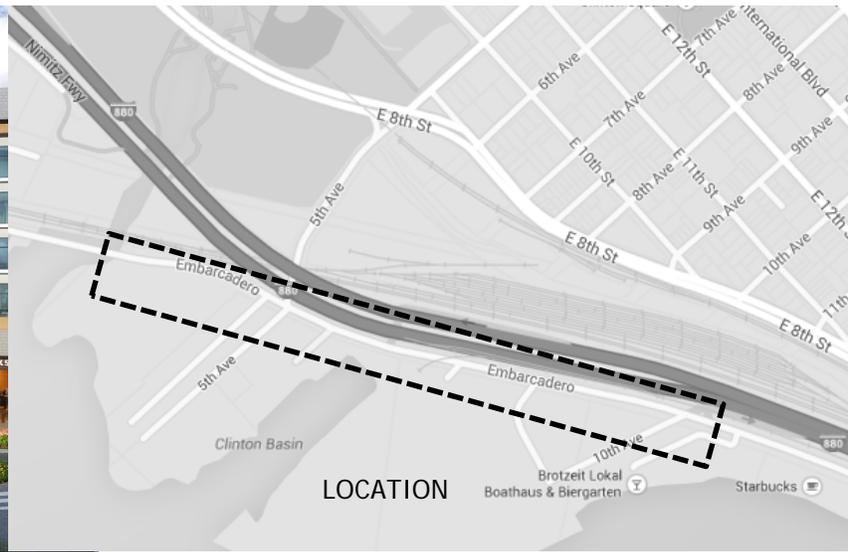


Embarcadero Bridge
(Estuary View)

CONTACTS

Questions regarding the bridge project can be directed to Mr. Phillip Fung, Resident Engineer at pfung@oaklandnet.com or (510) 238-2938.

Additional questions about the Embarcadero Improvement Projects overall can be directed to Ms. Catherine Payne, Brooklyn Basin Project Planner, at cpayne@oaklandnet.com or (510) 238-6168.



EMBARCADERO ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

The Embarcadero between the Bridge and SB I-880 Onramp will undergo improvements to create new bicycle and pedestrian lanes, add landscaping, medians, remove potholes, and resurface asphalt.

Traffic will be allowed through the road during construction. Approximate dates and procedures follow. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work to restore Oakland's waterfront.

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| Approximate Dates | April 2015 – April 2017 |
| Phasing | The construction will be phased in two parts; between the Bridge and 5 th Avenue, and from 5 th Avenue to I-880S onramp. |
| Traffic Control Procedures | There will be at least 1-2 lanes of traffic allowed during construction. Workers will direct traffic with flags as needed. |
| Updates | Updates to traffic management will be posted on the City of Oakland's Brooklyn Basin webpage (Oaklandnet.com > Planning > Major Projects > Brooklyn Basin) |
| On Site Contact | A supervisor will be on site during construction; see contact details below. |

Contacts: Project Manager
Patrick Van Ness
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510 251 9270

On Site Supervisor
Bob Habit
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