



I Street Bridge Replacement Project Community Open House

June 19, 2014
5:30 - 7:30 PM
Stanford Gallery
111 I Street, Sacramento

Project Overview

The Cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento are beginning the process of building a new low-level, “neighborhood friendly” bridge across the Sacramento River. A new bridge, located upstream of the existing I Street Bridge, will provide better access for bicycles and pedestrians and will serve motorists more efficiently. The existing I Street Bridge will remain in place for the commuter and freight trains that travel the bridge daily, but all other modes of transportation will be shifted to the new bridge.

Open House Purpose

The purpose of the community open house was to share information and receive input from community members on the I Street Bridge Replacement Project. The open house provided the project background and schedule and current phase of work as well as an opportunity for the community to provide feedback on specific bridge elements that should be considered when the project moves into the design phase, and to view other planning efforts within the project area. Representatives from the cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento and the project consultant team were available to discuss the project and answer questions.



Publicity & Noticing

Community open house post cards were mailed to more than 6,000 local residents and businesses. In addition, notification flyers were sent via e-mail to vicinity businesses, community groups, neighborhood associations, and interested individuals. A news release was coordinated through and distributed by the City of Sacramento, Department of Public Works.

Open House Format

More than 80 community members attended the open house which was organized as a series of information stations with a presentation. The presentation included opening remarks by Sacramento City Councilmembers Steve Hansen and Steve Cohn, and West Sacramento City Councilmember Chris Ledesma. The presentation provided a brief history of bridges across the Sacramento River, an overview of project goals and schedule, and a briefing on bridge design qualities. Attendees were encouraged to visit the information stations where project team members were available to answer questions and discuss the project. Attendees were given a project informational brochure and a comment card to provide input on the project. Comment cards could be turned in at the open house, or returned via email, fax, or mail.





I Street Bridge Replacement Project Community Open House

Information Stations

At each of the stations, members of the project team were available to discuss the project and to answer questions. The following list shows the information that was included at each station.

Welcome Table

- This station included sign-in sheets, an information brochure, and a comment card to provide input. Members of the project team were available to explain the open house layout.



I Street Bridge History

- This station included historical maps and photos of the I Street Bridge along with representatives from the California State Parks and the West Sacramento Historical Society.

Project Overview Station

- This station included a project schedule detailing opportunities for community input and a map of the bridge alignment. In addition, the station included an exhibit showing crossing locations identified in the previous Sacramento River Crossing Alternatives Study as well as the “neighborhood friendly bridge” definition approved by both cities.

Qualities of a Bridge

- This station included sketches of potential bridge types as well as photos of existing bridges in the region. The station also included a sketch showing the new bridge in the proposed alignment in relation to the Tower Bridge. Attendees were asked to answer the question, “what quality of a bridge is most important to you?” using comment cards provided.



Connecting Communities

- This station included maps and information about other planning areas and projects near the I Street Bridge. A map illustrated the Washington Specific Plan area, Railyards Specific Plan area, Power House Science Center, River District Specific Plan area, and the Bridge District.



I Street Bridge Replacement Project Community Open House

Community Input

Approximately 20 community members submitted feedback via comment cards about bridge design and aesthetics, access, and environmental issues. Overwhelmingly, community members expressed a desire to create a bridge that is bike and pedestrian friendly to encourage safe and direct travel between Sacramento and West Sacramento. In addition, community members encouraged the cities to expedite the project.

The following comments were submitted on comment cards:

Bridge Design

- Expedite the I Street Bridge; include street level and make it user-friendly for pedestrians.
- Please build as soon as possible - we want developer to come in and build on our side - parks, pedestrian friendly, street height.
- Bridge concept 2 looks nice! Bike/pedestrian access is critical.
- Keep pedestrian walkways separate from vehicular traffic with a structure and/or guard rails. Include pedestrian walkways for foot and bike traffic on both north and south sides. Seating for river viewing out of way of foot/bike traffic. Incorporate occupiable space in lift towers for office, residential, and/or public use. Lighting for safe pedestrian use all hours.
- Current bridge allows almost direct access for bikes and pedestrians to Old Sac and downtown business district. New bridge asks walkers and bikers to travel “bike” path along river south to get to Old Sac/downtown. This path would need better lighting at MINIMUM. Currently it is an unsafe path of travel. Timing of removing approach structures must occur after Bercut and Railyard Blvd have been fully developed. Access to train station and light rail station from West Sacramento has not been thought through for walking.
- I like that you are putting effort into it! Why do we have to look at the old bridges for ideas when we want Sacramento to be a city of the future? Keep the road lanes narrow; bike and pedestrian lanes wide! Why do we need to build a new one? You would benefit presenting the larger context effects of the bridge, but great presentation and workshop!
- When removing the Jiboom viaduct, an improved pedestrian facility connecting the new bridge to downtown along the river (shortest walking distance) should be established. Include lighting, benches, bike racks. Direct connection to train platforms and I Street also. I like concept #1 a lot. The mechanics exposed in concept #3 is great too.





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The following comments were submitted on comment cards:

Bridge Design Continued

- I am a resident of West Sacramento (Washington Area). Would love to see the new bridge as a light looking structure (maybe glass and thin supports) - appearance of a floating bridge. Don't see much point in copying the look of older bridges in the area. Out of 3 proposed designs, like first option the most. Could we maybe eliminate the towers altogether? Go for a slightly different look. Don't like the use of stained glass and red paint. Let's make it classy, clean, and modern.
- Bridge design - love all 3 concepts, especially #1 and #2. But please use gold if introducing a color, to be consistent with Tower Bridge, Gold Rush, etc. NOT red like the Golden Gate in SF.
- Include separate lanes for pedestrians and bicycles, designated either by different paving or by signs on the pavement. Finland and other European countries do this, so it's very clear where the bikes are supposed to ride and keeps the pedestrians out of their way. Be sure to allow enough space for this. Keep the look of the bridge fairly open, so there are views from the bank under the bridge and from the bridge to the river. If the bridge becomes a destination that folks would want to walk across (like the Golden Gate) be sure to plan in some short term parking and/or viewing areas at one end or the other.

Access

- I am very excited about the project and love the conceptual designs! I have questions about how traffic will feed into Sacramento. Will it primarily feed into the Richards area, or will we have more direct access to Old Sacramento/Downtown via a street-level frontage road? Or will it maybe be a separate future project?
- Important to have good bicycle and pedestrian access. The American River Bike Trail is accessed by many in West Sacramento. Also consider how new bridge affects commuters using the Amtrak service, might get to CalSTRs and future jobs planned for Riverfront area.
- Need a direct connection between West Sacramento and Amtrak. Plans show circulation through Railyards. Bike/pedestrian access is not direct?? Interested in traffic projections for traffic across bridge. Metro Place has on-street parking that needs to be retained.



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access continued

- For those of us who walk across the I Street Bridge from West Sacramento to Downtown Sacramento, I hope that the trolley will be operational soon after the closure of the I Street Bridge to pedestrians. The new bridge will significantly increase the length of my daily walks to get to work.
- Like bridge. Concern that the proposed location will affect access to my property. I own property on 2nd Street and will significantly impede waterfront views. Property is currently zoned high density residential.
- Resident at Metro Place. Excited about West Sacramento's future. Excited about new bridge. Concerned about new bridge pedestrian access to rail station (old bridge currently provides this). Concerned about the homeless (big difference in the last month... keep up the good work!) Proud of our mayor, City Council and my town!



Environmental

- Thank you for the meeting. Great kickoff workshop! My question is regarding the bats in the existing approaches to the bridge. With teardown, the bats will be displaced. Can a bat-friendly bridge design be implemented in the new bridge please? A good example is the Congress Avenue Bridge in Austin, TX. Also FHWA has a number of bat-friendly designs. I worked for Caltrans for 8 years as a biologist and I have been working with bats for 18 years. I am currently a biology professor at Sacramento City College. Please feel free to call on me anytime for information or advice.

Additional Comments

- All funding for the bridge should be spent on American companies and employees. Do not out source.



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APPENDIX

Project Funding

Caltrans allocated \$76.6 million in federal funds towards the design and construction of the new bridge. The cities of West Sacramento and Sacramento have agreed to share the local expenses associated with delivering the project, this includes federal matching requirements and other non-federally eligible expenses. Cities will be pursuing other grant funds for match requirements.



For more information

Jesse Gothan, Project Manager
Office: 916-808-6897
Email: jgothan@cityofsacramento.org

Or visit the project webpage to sign up for the mailing list:
<http://bit.ly/Qb6lbt>

Cities working together to build a new bridge for bikes, pedestrians, and motor vehicles.



I STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project Overview

The Cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento are beginning the process of planning to build a new low-level, "neighborhood friendly" bridge across the Sacramento River. The bridge will be located upstream of the existing I Street Bridge and will serve motorists more efficiently while providing better access for bicycles and pedestrians. The existing I Street Bridge will remain in place for commuter and freight trains, but all other modes of transportation will be shifted to the new bridge. With traffic shifted to the new bridge, the large approach ramp viaduct structures can be removed which will open up the water front. To assist with the planning for the new bridge, the cities have hired a consultant team. The project team will be analyzing environmental impacts over the next year.

Project Goals

- Improved traffic conditions
- Provide improved access for bicycles and pedestrians
- Improve access and connections between Sacramento and West Sacramento
- Open up the water front area on both sides of the river
- Increase economic development
- Improve potential for planned urban development



Project Milestones

<p>2010 Sacramento River Crossings Alternatives Study recommended a new crossing of the Sacramento River north of the I Street Bridge.</p>	<p>2012 Sacramento River Crossings Alternatives Study accepted by Sacramento and West Sacramento City Councils.</p>	<p>February 2013 Sacramento City Council directed staff to apply for federal funds for a new crossing of the Sacramento River.</p>	<p>May 2013 Caltrans allocated \$76.6 million in federal funds towards the design and construction of the new bridge.</p>	<p>March 2014 Cities hire consultant team; work begins on I Street Bridge Replacement Project.</p>	<p>June 2014 I Street Bridge Replacement Project Community Open House.</p>	<p>2014 - 2015 Work on preliminary engineering and environmental clearance for both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).</p>
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OPEN HOUSE

Join Us

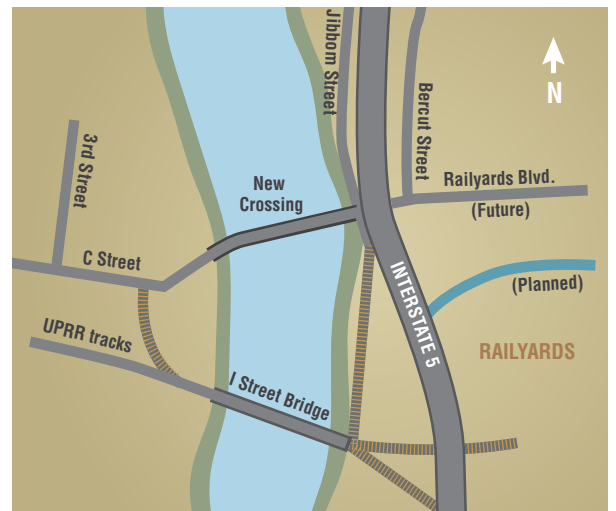
The Cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento are hosting a community open house to share information about the I Street Bridge Replacement Project. The I Street Bridge experiences traffic congestion during commute hours and unfriendly conditions for bicycles and pedestrians. As a result, the Cities are beginning the process of planning to build a new low-level, “neighborhood friendly” bridge upstream of the existing I Street Bridge.

The open house will provide an opportunity for the community to learn about the project and provide their input and ideas. Staff and members of the project team will be available to answer questions.

Thursday June 19th
5:30 – 7:30 pm

Stanford Gallery
111 I Street
Sacramento

A brief presentation will begin at 5:45



For more information

contact Ciara Zanze, czanze@aimconsultingco.com



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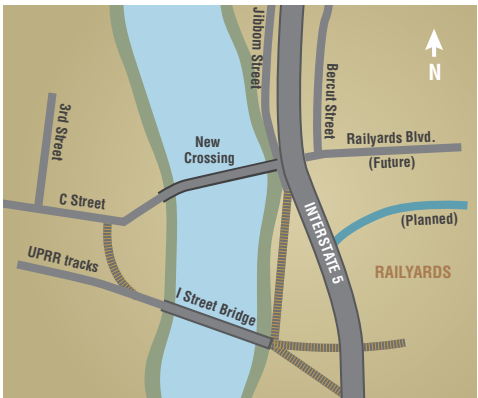


OPEN HOUSE

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New City Hall
Suite 2000
816 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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OPEN HOUSE

June 19th, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

For more information
contact **Cara Zenas**, czenas@raincoconsulting.com



OPEN HOUSE COMMENT CARD

Please share your thoughts, comments, or questions about the project

Name _____

email _____

phone _____

You may submit your comments to staff tonight or directly to Ciara Zanze at czanze@aimconsultingco.com or fax (916) 442-1186.