Los Gatos Creek Bridge Replacement / South Terminal Phase III Project

Board Meeting
January 9, 2014

Presentation Topics

- Overview
- Location and Scope
- Environmental Review
- Project Construction Schedule
- Community and Regulatory Outreach
- Tasks Accomplished and Next Steps
Overview

Existing Conditions

• Owned by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
• Built in 1935, exceeded its life expectancy
• Southern timber span was damaged by fire
• Existing bridge does not meet existing State and Federal safety and seismic standards.

Project will:
• Build a bridge compliant with current standards.
• Address the immediate rail safety need – critical safety project
Operational Limitations

• Each day 34 Caltrain trains use the bridge
• Lack of a tail track creates delays along corridor
• Existing bridge does not support planned service expansions at San Jose Diridon station, including electrification

Project will:
• Decrease system-wide delays
• Improve operations to and from the San Jose Diridon station
• Facilitate Caltrain electrification, which will reduce noise and vibration

Location and Scope
Project Location

- In San Jose
- 2,000 ft. south of San Jose Diridon station
- Along Caltrain right of way

Project Scope

- Demolish existing bridge one track at a time
- Replace existing bridge with a new, wider bridge
  - Will meet current safety and seismic codes
  - Will require building a “shoofly” (third track) to maintain the two tracks in operations throughout construction
- Shoofly will be retained as a tail track to improve rail operations from San Jose Diridon station
- Combined project cost range $40M - $45M
Environmental Review Process

- Includes analysis of existing conditions and potential impacts (short-term and long-term) and strategies to address the impacts
- NEPA: Documented Categorical Exclusion, Section 7 Biological Resources Formal Consultation
  Lead Agency: Federal Transit Administration
- CEQA: Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
  Lead Agency: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
Potential Impacts

Noise and Vibration Impacts:
- Temporary: Only during construction
- Permissible hours coordinated with City of San Jose
- Operational measures to ensure construction equipment will not exceed noise and vibration thresholds

Creek Impacts:
- Construction activities have the potential to impact the creek and its habitat
- Design and construction staging plan will minimize impacts

Project Construction Schedule
Construction Sequence

Creek Access:
- Limited to July through October (window)
- Requires special measures to protect creek habitat and species

Construction:
- Will take two windows to complete
- Perform work in creek only during window
- Other work outside window

Construction Schedule

Two-year construction duration

- Year 1 Winter: Work (outside creek bed) begins
- Year 1 Summer: Replace half bridge
- Year 2 Winter: Maintain site and minor site work
- Year 2 Summer: Complete bridge work
- Year 2 Autumn: Final track and site work
Community Outreach

Outreach Efforts

- Publication of CEQA NOA/NOI in local newspapers
- Publication of Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration Environmental Document with the State Clearinghouse
- Two public comment periods on the IS/MND Document
- Two public meetings in San Jose
- Communications and meeting with residents of the Town Homes in San Jose
- Close coordination with the City of San Jose
- Outreach to relevant community organizations
Tasks Accomplished and Next Steps

Tasks Accomplished

- Initiated preliminary engineering design (35%)
- Initiated NEPA & CEQA review processes
- Prepared and published Draft IS/MND
- Compiled and answered public comments
- Prepared and re-circulated Revised Draft IS/MND
- Received comments to re-circulated Draft IS/MND
- Conducted public meetings
- Coordinated regularly with regulatory agencies
- Coordinated regularly with the City of San Jose
Next Steps

• Compile and answer comments to revised Draft IS/MND
• Prepare Final IS/MND and Mitigation Monitoring & Reporting Program documents
• Request Board approval of the IS/MND and MMRP in February
• Complete the NEPA review process - Summer 2014
• Proceed with Engineering Design in coordination with relevant permitting regulatory agencies
• Continue coordination with the City of San Jose and the Trail project
• Provide public project updates

Questions?