

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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July 23, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

WATER RESOURCES CORE SERVICE AREA
GRANT OF EASEMENTS FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES RIVER PARCELS 1637, 2249, 2250, 2255, 2270, 2271, AND 2282
IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4)
(3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Public Works is seeking Board approval to grant easements for highway, temporary access, and construction purposes affecting Parcels 1637, 2249, 2250, 2255, 2270, 2271, and 2282 related to the Los Angeles River, in the City of Long Beach, from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to the State of California for the Los Angeles River Bridge Seismic Retrofit project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

- 1. Acting as a responsible agency, find that the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this Board letter and in the record of the project.
- 2. Find that the grant of easements for highway, temporary access, and construction purposes affecting Parcels 1637, 2249, 2250, 2255, 2270, 2271, and 2282 related to the Los Angeles River, in the City of Long Beach, and the subsequent use of said easements will not interfere or be inconsistent with the primary use and purposes of the affected parcels by the Los Angels County Flood Control District.

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- 3. Approve the grant of easements for highway, temporary access, and construction purposes affecting Parcels 1637, 2249, 2250, 2255, 2270, 2271, and 2282 related to the Los Angeles River, in the City of Long Beach, from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to the State of California for the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project.
- 4. Delegate authority to the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or his designee to negotiate and execute the necessary documents and authorize delivery to the State of California.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to find that the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and allow the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to grant easements for highway, temporary access, and construction purposes affecting Parcels 1637, 2249, 2250, 2255, 2270, 2271, and 2282 related to the Los Angeles River, in the City of Long Beach, as shown on the enclosed map, to the State of California.

The State requested the grant of easements for its Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project to seismically retrofit the Los Angeles River Bridge and the De Forest Avenue undercrossing.

The recommended actions will benefit the State and County residents by facilitating the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project, which will provide improved transportation services.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These recommendations support the County Strategic Plan: North Star 3, Realize Tomorrow's Government Today, Focus Area Goal G, Internal Controls and Processes, Strategy ii, Manage and Maximize County Assets, by providing accessible funds for the District's programs, which will help to promote fiscal responsibility. The recommended actions will allow the State to complete the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project improving transportation efficiency and promoting sound, prudent, and transparent policies and practices while preserving the quality of life for County residents.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The State will deposit a not-to-exceed amount of \$3,139,000 for the grant of easements, which represents fair market value. This amount will be deposited into the Flood Control District Fund (B07, Revenue Source Code 9906-Sale of Capital Assets-Easements).

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The proposed grant of easements is authorized by Section 2, Subsection 13, of the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act. This section provides as follows: "The Los Angeles County Flood Control District is hereby declared to be a body corporate and politic, and has all the following powers...13. To lease, sell or dispose of any property (or any interest therein) whenever in the judgment of the board of supervisors of the property, or any interest therein or part thereof, is no longer required for the purposes of the district, or may be leased for any purpose without interfering with the use of the same for the purposes of the district..."

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The grant of easements is not considered adverse to the District's purposes and will not hinder the use of Los Angeles River for possible transportation, utility, recreational corridors, or flood control purposes. Moreover, the instrument reserves paramount rights to use the affected parcels for the District's purposes.

County Counsel will review and approve the necessary documents as to form prior to execution and they will be recorded.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

As a responsible agency with respect to the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project, the District reviewed the exemption determination of the State, the lead agency for the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project, which found that the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project is exempt pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 (c). The District is a responsible agency for the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project because it is granting easements for highway, temporary access, and construction purposes affecting District-owned parcels. The District's independent judgment on the record has determined that the recommended actions, with respect to its approvals for the Los Angeles River Seismic Retrofit project, are exempt pursuant to Sections 15031(c) and 15304(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1(x), Subsections 11, and Class 4(h) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, based on the record of the project.

Upon the Board's approval of the recommended actions, Public Works will file a Notice of Exemption with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk in accordance with Section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This transaction will allow for the joint use of the District's right of way without interfering with the primary mission of the District. There will be no impact on current services or projects.

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CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Survey/Mapping & Property Management Division.

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Respectfully submitted,

MARK PESTRELLA, PE

Director

MP:GE:db

Enclosures

c: Auditor-Controller (Accounting Division–Asset Management)
Chief Executive Office (Chia-Ann Yen)
County Counsel

Executive Office

