



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

## City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604  
www. CityofSacramento.org

Consent  
June 15, 2010

Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

**Title: Establish Capital Improvement Project and Transfer of Funds: Guy West Bridge Scoping Study (K15105000)**

**Location/Council District:** Guy West Bridge at California State University at Sacramento. Location Map – Exhibit A of Resolution. (District 3)

**Recommendation:** Adopt a **Resolution:** 1) establishing a new Capital Improvement Project for the Guy West Bridge Scoping Study (K15105000); and 2) transferring funds in the amount of \$150,000 to the project.

**Contact:** Ryan Moore, Supervising Engineer, 808-8279

**Presenters:** None

**Department:** Transportation

**Division:** Engineering Services

**Organization No:** 15001131

### Description/Analysis

**Issue:** The Guy West Bridge is an off-street bicycle/pedestrian bridge structure connecting the Campus Commons/University Drive area on the east side of the American River with California State University at Sacramento (CSUS) on the west side of the American River. The bridge is in need of an inspection and rehabilitation work.

**Policy Considerations:** This action requested herein is consistent with the City of Sacramento's Strategic Plan goals of improving and expanding public safety, enhancing livability, and promoting use of alternative modes of travel.

### Environmental Considerations:

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** Establishment of a Capital Improvement Project and the transfer of funds are not subject to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the general rule (Section 15061 (b)(3)) that CEQA applies only to projects that

have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Implementation of individual projects would require CEQA clearance.

**Sustainability Considerations:** Maintenance and rehabilitation of the Guy West Bridge meets the City's sustainability goals of reducing dependence on the private automobile, promoting bicycling and walking, and providing a wide array of transportation choices.

**Other:** None.

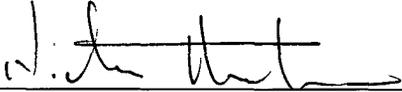
**Commission/Committee Action:** None.

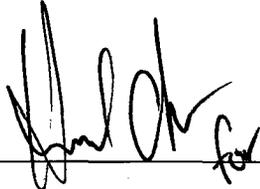
**Rationale for Recommendation:** A scoping study of the Guy West Bridge will identify deficiencies in the structure, recommend improvements, and specify a cost estimate for repairs. The study will provide staff with a specific scope of work needed, which will inform and facilitate subsequent discussions with local, state and federal funding agencies as staff works to identify construction funding.

**Financial Considerations:** The Guy West Bridge Study (K15105000) is estimated to cost \$150,000 and will be funded by a transfer of Transportation Development Account (TDA) funds (Fund 2013) from the Bike Trail Repair Project (K19000200). TDA funds are State funds administered by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), and are only eligible for the planning, design, and construction of bicycle facilities.

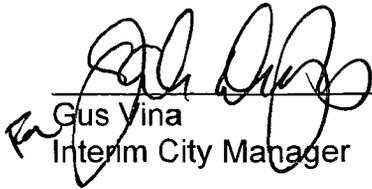
There are no General Funds planned or allocated for this project.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** Not applicable as no goods or services are being purchased.

Respectfully Submitted by:   
Nicholas Theocharides  
Engineering Services Manager

Approved by:   
Jerry Way  
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:



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Gus Vina  
Interim City Manager

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**Attachments**

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## Attachment 1

### Background:

The Guy West Bridge is a steel suspension bridge which carries bicycle and pedestrian traffic over the American River approximately one-half mile south of the H Street vehicular bridge over the American River. Built in 1965, the bridge is not only a vital alternative modes river crossing, it is also a local landmark and a centerpiece of the City's network of bicycle facilities. In addition to providing an alternative modes route for City residents in the Campus Commons, East Sacramento, and CSUS neighborhoods, it is also a facility of regional importance as it provides one of the few river crossings dedicated expressly to alternative mode traffic. As a steel suspension bridge, the structure is a relatively high maintenance facility. Typically, a bridge of this type would receive regular (at least bi-annual) inspections, periodic maintenance including painting. Regular re-painting is an essential element for the maintenance of steel structures as it prevents corrosion. It is for this reason that steel structures are relatively rare in California, where concrete is the construction material of choice for most bridge structures.

Most of the bridge structures in the City's inventory receive bi-annual inspections by qualified Caltrans bridge inspectors. The Guy West Bridge is an exception because, as it does not carry public vehicular traffic, it falls outside of Caltrans' jurisdiction. An additional complicating factor is that as a suspension bridge, the structure requires specialty equipment and specially certified inspectors to conduct an inspection. As a result, the Guy West has not been inspected for several years, and has never received inspections on a regular basis.

The major contributory factor in the irregular maintenance schedule for the Guy West Bridge is that as an off-street bicycle facility there are very limited funding sources available to fund work of this nature. The off-street bicycle maintenance funds that are available to the City (through both the Department of Transportation and the Department of Parks and Recreation) are extremely limited as they typically provide for maintenance of relatively small facilities such as off-street asphalt bicycle paths. Funding for the maintenance of a facility as large and complex as the Guy West Bridge is difficult to come by.

Staff believes that there are potential sources of funding that may be used for rehabilitation of the Guy West Bridge. These sources could include a federal earmark, a SACOG program, Bicycle Transportation Account funds, Transportation Development Account funds, and Measure A off-street bicycle fund program. However, due to the anticipated cost associated with rehabilitation of the Guy West Bridge, none of these sources are likely to be able to provide 100% of the funding in any single fiscal year. The study recommended in this staff report would provide a solid cost estimate and scope of work, which staff could in turn use to generate a finance plan to complete the necessary rehabilitation work. This plan may include a grant application and/or the accrual of funds over several years from one or more of the funding sources outlined above.

**Attachment 2**

**RESOLUTION NO.**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**ESTABLISH A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS  
TO THE GUY WEST BRIDGE SCOPING STUDY**

**BACKGROUND**

- A. The Guy West Bridge is a vital alternative modes link and a local landmark for the City of Sacramento.
- B. Due to the complexity of the bridge and its characterization as an off-street bicycle facility, the bridge has no regular stream of funding for inspection or maintenance.
- C. A scoping study is necessary in order to ascertain the deficiencies with the structure, the scope of the needed rehabilitation work, the cost for rehabilitation, and to develop a finance plan to pay for the eventual rehabilitation.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. The Guy West Bridge Scoping Study (K15105000) is established as a new Capital Improvement Project.
- Section 2. The FY09/10 Capitol Improvement Program is amended by transferring \$150,000 from the Bike Trail Repair Project (K19000200) (Fund 2013) to the Guy West Bridge Scoping Study (K15105000).
- Section 3. Exhibit A is incorporated into and made part of this resolution.

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- Exhibit A: Guy West Bridge Location Map

EXHIBIT A

Location Map for  
Guy West Bridge Scoping Study

