

City Of San Diego Cabrillo Bridge (Laurel Street Overcrossing) REHABILITATION AND RETROFIT PROJECT

THE PROJECT

This is a California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) (in conjunction with the city of San Diego) rehabilitation and retrofit project of the Cabrillo

Bridge (Laurel Street overcrossing) over State Route 163.

The bridge is located in Balboa Park and was built for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. It is considered to be one of the earliest examples of a Spanish Colonial Style closed (hollow) spandrel arch bridge in the United States. The bridge is an integral part of Balboa Park, which is listed as a National Historic Landmark. The bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is on the California Register of Historic Resources and has been a landmark listed by the city of San Diego.

The 769 foot long bridge serves as the primary eastwest route into the park and spans over a state highway which is one of only two routes leading out of the city's downtown section. Collapse or severe earthquake damage can seriously hamper emergency response efforts as well as tourism, business and freight supported commerce. This project is not just about preserving a beautiful and historic structure. It is also about safety and commerce.



GOALS

The purpose of this project is to improve the structural integrity of the Cabrillo Bridge, to help ensure the safety of the traveling public passing under the structure and across the bridge, and to provide safe access for maintenance staff inspecting the bridge. The improvements are proposed to take place while providing a context sensitive solution with the utmost respect for the historical nature of the bridge and its environment. The goal is to preserve a beautiful, historical and important city icon.

SCHEDULE/DETAILS

The project will begin in summer of 2013 and end summer of 2014.

Some of the traffic road closures on SR-163 will be routine and conducted at certain times to maximize safety and minimally inconvenience the traveling public. Laurel Street is the bridge road deck that leads into the park from 6th Avenue and points west, it will be closed to vehicular traffic from January 2014 through April 2014.

Work on the roadway/deck surface will be conducted in stages allowing for pedestrians and bicyclists to access the park through clearly-marked passageways either on the right, left or center of the road.

We are looking for Input;

Project Manager Lou Melendez is soliciting input and ideas from the public to make the road closures as convenient as possible for all park visitors and customers.

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