



News from

Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego — District Three

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: March 3, 2015

Contact: Katie Keach, 619-847-8274

\$9.5 Million Approved to Repair Historic San Diego Bridge *Renovations to Georgia Street Bridge Will Fix Structural Deficiencies*

SAN DIEGO, CA (March 3, 2015) – Councilmember Todd Gloria today announced a critical step forward for renovations to the historic 100 year old Georgia Street Bridge, which spans University Avenue. The City Council today approved acceptance and expenditure of \$9.5 million of federal funds to complete construction of the project. The Infrastructure Committee tentatively approved the funding on February 11.

“These federal funds will ensure the historic Georgia Street Bridge will remain a landmark between North Park and Hillcrest,” said Councilmember Gloria. **“Addressing our public infrastructure is a wise and worthy investment, and I look forward to the completion of these renovations in 2016.”**

The Georgia Street Bridge was initially constructed in 1914 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. The bridge requires seismic retrofitting and rehabilitation, and the city has been working with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration to determine the most effective engineering alternatives to address the seismic, geometric and structural deficiencies in compliance with both Caltrans and historic guidelines.

The scope of the project includes seismically retrofitting and rehabilitating Georgia Street Bridge and the existing walls that extend along University Avenue between Florida Street and Park Boulevard.

- The bridge will be reconstructed from the arch ribs up;
- University Avenue will be lowered approximately 2 feet 4 inches underneath the bridge to increase the vertical clearance, and the lowering will transition to existing street grade before the Florida Street and Park Boulevard intersections;
- New soil nail walls will be constructed in front of the existing walls;
- New curbs and gutters will be constructed on both sides of University Avenue;
- The buffer on the north side which diverts traffic away from the arch rib and exists from Florida Street to just west of the bridge will be reconstructed;
- The sidewalk on the south side of University Avenue will be replaced and feature a minimum width of 5 feet extended to the cross walk at Park Boulevard where the missing curb ramp and pedestrian push button will be installed;
- New asphalt will be placed between the Florida Street and Park Boulevard intersections; and
- Bike sharrows will be added to the outside lanes.

Construction is anticipated to begin by Fall 2015 and last approximately one year. The renovations are being coordinated with SANDAG’s [North Park – Mid-City Bike Corridors Project](#) improvements.

The city previously received \$1,742,240 of federal funds to complete the engineering work. Today’s action brought the total amount of federal funds to \$11,242,240 for the Georgia Street Bridge Improvements Project.

###