



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Planning and
Development
Department No.: 053
For Agenda Of: August 14, 2018
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Dianne Black, Director (805) 568-2086
Director(s)
Contact Info: Jeff Wilson, Deputy Director (805) 568-2518
SUBJECT: Emergency Bridge Replacement - Arroyo Paredon Bridge Replacement and Road Repairs Emergency Permit
Case No. 18EMP-00000-00005, Toro Canyon Area, First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file this report on the Arroyo Paredon Bridge Emergency Permit 18EMP-00000-00005, which authorized the continued debris removal, culvert clean-out and repair, road and shoulder replacement, and complete bridge and abutment replacement including bridge rails. A copy of the Emergency Permit is included herein as Attachment 1;
- b) Determine that issuance of the emergency permit is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a), as this action was necessary to replace facilities damaged as a result of a disaster as specified in Attachment 2 of this Board Letter; and
- c) Determine that receiving and filing this report is not a project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), as it is an administrative government activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, as specified in Attachment 3 of this Board letter.

Background

The existing bridge over Arroyo Paredon Creek at Post Mile 15.4-15.6 on Highway 192 (Foothill Road) in Carpinteria received significant damage during the January 9, 2018 storm event, when heavy rains brought mud, boulders, and debris from surrounding burnt hillsides down the creek. The bridge rails were knocked off on the north side of the bridge and trees and vegetation in the surrounding area were heavily damaged. The bridge has been closed for public use due to public safety concerns and the inability to reconstruct the railings due to the structural deficiencies with the bridge. This has necessitated replacement of the bridge in order to re-open this portion of Highway 192, which represents a major east-west travel corridor along the foothills between Carpinteria and Santa Barbara.

The existing bridge is approximately 38 feet long and 22 feet wide and the roadway on either side of the bridge consists of non-standard 11-foot wide travel lanes with minimal road shoulders. On May 30, 2018, the County issued an Emergency Permit to Caltrans to allow for the replacement of the Arroyo Paredon Bridge, along with associated roadway approach improvements on either side of the bridge to meet Caltrans' standards.

Section 35-171.6 of the Article II Coastal Zoning Ordinance requires the Director to submit a written report describing the nature of the emergency and the work involved to the Board of Supervisors after issuing an Emergency Permit. This Board Letter fulfills the ordinance requirements.

Summary Text

Section 35-171.2 of the Article II Coastal Zoning Ordinance authorizes the Director of the Planning and Development Department (P&D) to temporarily defer standard permit requirements of the Coastal Zoning Ordinance and issue an Emergency Permit when emergency action is warranted. The nature of the emergency in this instance is that failure to immediately replace the bridge could lead to an extended period of time in which this key roadway connector between Santa Barbara and Carpinteria is not available for emergency access. Additionally, this roadway serves as a key alternate route when emergencies trigger closure of the highway. Reopening this roadway is a priority to ensure full use of Highway 192 in anticipation of the next emergency.

On March 7, 2018, Caltrans submitted an application for an Emergency Permit to replace the Arroyo Paredon Bridge. Subsequent to submittal of the Emergency Permit application, Caltrans worked closely with interested neighbors and P&D staff to modify the design where feasible to address neighbor concerns, including narrowing of the road shoulders from 8 feet to 4 feet.

Once the design and scope of the project was finalized, P&D issued the subject Emergency Permit on May 30, 2018, authorizing the replacement of the Arroyo Paredon bridge on Highway 192 (Foothill Road) that was damaged by the January 9, 2018 storm event, along with associated roadway approach improvements on either side of the bridge to meet Caltrans' standards, including 12-foot wide travel lanes and 4-foot wide road shoulders for approximately 690 feet westward of the bridge and 290 feet eastward of the bridge. The project also includes: 1) rock slope protection along the creek banks upstream and downstream of the bridge; 2) relocated driveway apron on the southeast side of the bridge approximately 170 feet east; 3) grading of approximately 120 cubic yards of cut and 4200 cubic yards of fill associated with the roadway improvements and 1900 cubic yards of cut associated with channel excavation; 4) removal of approximately 26 native and non-native trees; and 5) guard rails and a 24-foot long retaining

wall on the westward side of bridge. These associated improvements are necessary in order to construct the new bridge. Pursuant to Article II, Section 35-171.2, a notice was mailed to surrounding property owners and residents, and three (3) notices were posted at the subject property.

Pursuant to Article II Coastal Zoning Ordinance Section 35-171.5.3, an Emergency Permit does not constitute an entitlement to development. Section 35-171.5.3 requires an application for a Coastal Development Permit and any discretionary permit no later than 30 days following the granting of an Emergency Permit. As required, Caltrans submitted for the necessary Conditional Use Permit and Coastal Development Permit on June 28, 2018 and review of those applications is currently in process.

Issuance of the Emergency Permit is consistent with the Local Coastal Plan and Article II, as the action provides an immediate response to an emergency situation in the interest of health, safety, and public welfare. P&D granted the Emergency Permit based on a statutory exemption (CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a)) due to the need to restore use of Highway 192 between Carpinteria and Santa Barbara, which provides critical access for both emergency and non-emergency purposes. A copy of the CEQA Exemption is included herein as Attachment 2.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

County costs for preparing the Emergency Permit are reimbursed by the applicant in conformance with the current Board-approved fee resolution. Funding for this project is budgeted in the Permitting Budget Program on page D-272 of the FY 2018-19 budget. The fixed fee for an Emergency Permit is \$2,673.24. Future permitting costs will be paid by the applicant.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Emergency Permit 18EMP-00000-00005 (with Site Plans)

Attachment 2: CEQA Exemption Supporting Emergency Permit

Attachment 3: CEQA Exemption Supporting Board Receipt and File of Report

Authored by: Alex Tuttle, Planner (805) 884-6844