



Agenda Report

June 12, 2017

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Department of Public Works
SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING: BRIDGE NAME CHANGE – LA LOMA BRIDGE TO JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP BRIDGE

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed bridge name change from La Loma Bridge to John K. Van de Kamp Bridge is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment; and
2. Adopt a resolution changing the name of La Loma Bridge to John K. Van de Kamp Bridge.

BACKGROUND:

The La Loma Bridge is an open-spandrel arch structure constructed in 1914 over the Arroyo Seco and was described at its opening as the “handsome small sister of the Colorado Street Bridge.” The 378-foot-long bridge carries two travel lanes with a five-foot sidewalk on both sides. The architectural style is highly decorative and influenced by nostalgic views of Greece and Rome. Due to its historical significance, the bridge has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The City recently completed the seismic retrofit rehabilitation of La Loma Bridge, and the grand opening is scheduled for June 24, 2017. Councilmember Madison proposes renaming the La Loma Bridge to John K. Van de Kamp Bridge.

The proposed name change is “John K. Van de Kamp Bridge” to honor the late John Van de Kamp, who was born and lived most of his life in Pasadena and graduated from John Muir High School. He served as Los Angeles District Attorney, California Attorney General, 80th president of the State Bar, and president of the board of directors for the

Planning and Conservation League. During his distinguished career, he was instrumental in pioneering a computerized fingerprinting system.

The bridge name change has been reviewed by the United States Post Office and the City of Pasadena Police and Fire Departments, and does not present any operational impacts or necessitate any address changes.

Public notices announcing this public hearing were posted on both sides of La Loma Bridge, sent to property owners within a 1,000-foot radius of the bridge, and posted at City Hall, Central Public Library, San Rafael Public Library, and Allendale Public Library.

Staff has contacted Mr. Jay Correia, State Historian III and Supervisor of the Registration Unit of the California Office of Historic Preservation, who confirmed that the renaming of the La Loma Bridge, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places under its original name as the Huntington Terrace Bridge, will not affect the bridge's National Register listing. The City may choose to notify the State of the name change; however, this is not required because the original name of the bridge is of primary importance to their records.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The City's procedure for street name changes is consistent with the requirements of Chapter 2 of Division 2, Section 970.5 of the California Streets and Highways Code.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed bridge name change from La Loma Bridge to John K. Van de Kamp Bridge is categorically exempt from CEQA under Section 15061(b)(3). Section 15061 sets forth the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. No construction is proposed with this action.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost to purchase and install the bridge name plaques (one for each side of the bridge) is estimated at \$3,500. Sufficient funding is available in the La Loma Bridge Retrofit and Rehabilitation Project Capital Improvement Program project (budget account 73124).

Respectfully submitted,



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