

# Eastside Parkway Update

Fort Ord Committee meeting  
September 7, 2017

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- Eastside Parkway Background
- Environmental Review Process
- Milestones
- Public Participation and Engagement

▶ 1997 Fort Ord Reuse Plan (Reuse Plan):

- Identified Eastside Road as a facility within the “**on-site**” portion of the Fort Ord transportation network
- Established “**Fair Share Financing Program**” (section 3.11.5.3 (a)):

**FORA shall fund** its “Fair Share” of “on-site,” “off-site,” and “regional” roadway and transit capital improvements based on the TAMC regional transportation model.

# Annual CIP Adoptions

- ▶ On December 11, 2009, FORA Board approved the 2009/10 mid-year CIP.
- ▶ This approval prioritized Eastside Parkway funding in the CIP.
- ▶ The Board maintained Eastside Parkway funding prioritization in subsequent CIP approvals.

- ▶ **January 2012:** Draft Preliminary Initial Study Checklist recommended EIR preparation for Eastside Parkway
- ▶ **November 2016:** FORA Board approved the Eastside Parkway environmental review contract with Whitson Engineers
- ▶ Whitson Engineers conducted a Request for Proposals (RFP) selection process for **environmental consulting services**
- ▶ **August 2017:** Denise Duffy and Associates selected
- ▶ **September 2017:** Project kickoff

- ▶ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Goals
  - A **high-quality environment** now and in the future
- ▶ CEQA Functions
  - **Facilitate** interagency coordination
  - **Increase** public participation
  - **Inform** decision makers about significant environmental effects
  - **Identify** ways environmental damage may be avoided or reduced (mitigated)
  - **Mitigate** environmental damage
  - **Disclose** to the public why a project is approved even if it leads to environmental damage

## ▶ **What is a Lead Agency?**

- Agency primarily responsible for issuing permits to project

## ▶ **Lead Agency Roles**

- Responsibility for conducting analysis in accordance with CEQA
- Consults with **responsible agencies**

- ▶ **Provides information** to decisionmakers and the public about the environmental effects of the project
- ▶ **Process**
  - **Notice of Preparation (NOP)**
  - **Public Scoping Meeting(s)**
  - **Draft EIR**
  - **Notice of Availability (NOA)**
  - **45-day Draft EIR review period**
  - **Final EIR**
  - **Lead agency certifies finished EIR**



- ▶ Project **description** and statement of project's **objectives**
- ▶ Description of project's **environmental setting**
- ▶ Consideration and discussion of environmental impacts (including **significant impacts**)
- ▶ Consideration and discussion of **mitigation measures** for significant impacts
- ▶ Consideration and discussion of **alternatives** to the proposed project – including “no project”
- ▶ Economic and social impacts may be considered

- ▶ **Reasonable and feasible** alternatives to project
  - Alternatives achieve **most project objectives**
  - Analyze alternatives that could avoid or lessen the project's significant impacts
  - Evaluate a “**No Project**” alternative
  - Designate an “**Environmentally Superior Alternative**”
  - Alternatives must be feasible

- ▶ Needed to write the project description and **statement of project's objectives**
- ▶ Help develop a **reasonable range of alternatives** for the EIR
- ▶ Support the **evaluation of project alternatives**
- ▶ Aid decision makers in **preparing findings**

- ▶ November 2017 – **Project Goals and Objectives**  
FORA Board Presentation
- ▶ April 2018 – **Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meetings**
- ▶ October 2018 – **Public Draft EIR**
- ▶ May 2019 – **EIR Certification and Project Approval**  
by FORA Board

- ▶ Website
- ▶ Public Participation Plan
- ▶ FORA Board hearings
- ▶ Scoping Meetings
  - Vary locations and times
- ▶ Public meeting during Public Draft EIR review period

# Questions?

