



ADOPTION OF THE RELOCATION PLAN FOR THE THIRD STREET GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

CITY COUNCIL
June 25, 2024

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BACKGROUND

1. On April 11, 2017, Council received a report regarding the review and prioritization of potential railroad grade separations along BNSF railroad at Jackson, Mary, Spruce and Third Streets.
2. The Third Street Grade Separation (Project) was approved as top priority and Public Works was directed to issue an RFP to complete the project and Environmental Document Phase of the Project.
3. The Project proposes to construct a railroad underpass at Third Street and BNSF railroad, lowering Third Street from Vine Street to Park Avenue, and constructing a bridge to convey rail traffic. In addition, the Project will realign Commerce Street, construct slopes and retaining walls, a storm water pump station, and relocation of wet and dry utilities.

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BACKGROUND

4. Pursuant to the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, 40 CFR Part 24, and California Code of Regulations at Title 25, Division 1, Chapter 6, the City, through its consultant, Romo Acquisition & Relocation Services, LLC (Romo) prepared the Relocation Plan (Plan) to address the displacements caused by the Project.



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DISCUSSION

1. The Plan assesses the circumstances and needs of the affected to be displaced and the availability of commercial replacement properties.
2. The Plan also summarizes how mandatory procedures will be followed to assure the relocation benefits are made available and that they will be fully informed of the nature of the procedures for obtaining relocation assistance and benefits.
3. There are several suitable commercial replacement sites within a 10-mile radius of the Project site with additional sites in the surrounding areas of the City and Riverside County.



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DISCUSSION

4. The relocation program to be undertaken conforms to the standards and provisions of the State of California Relocation Law, Government Codes, and Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act.
5. The Plan was made available to those impacted and property owners on May 24, 2023. On the same day, copies of the Plan were placed at the Marcy Library, the Riverside Main Library, and the Chicago Avenue Branch Library for a period of 30 days.
6. The review period was extended an additional two weeks , from July 6, 2023 to July 21, 2023. During this time, one comment was received from Ken Stacy of the Stacy Company correcting the square footage of his building.



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STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

Strategic Priority 6 – Infrastructure, Mobility & Connectivity

Goal 6.2 – Maintain, protect and improve assets and infrastructure within the City's built environment to ensure and enhance reliability, resiliency, sustainability, and facilitate connectivity.

Cross-Cutting Threads



Community Trust



Fiscal Responsibility



Sustainability & Resiliency



Equity



Innovation



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

1. Adopt the Relocation Plan prepared by Romo Acquisition & Relocation Services, LLC; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute all documents and instruments associated with the Relocation Plan that are necessary to complete the transaction, including making minor and non-substantive changes.



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