

# COMMISSION AGENDA

Item No: 4E

Meeting: 09/21/17

**DATE:** September 21, 2017

**TO:** Port Commission

**FROM:** John Wolfe, Chief Executive Officer  
Sponsor: Jason Jordan, Director, Environmental and Planning Services  
Project Manager: Christine Wolf, Senior Planner

**SUBJECT:** Project Authorization for work associated with the 11th Street Bridge Study ILA with City of Tacoma

## A. ACTION REQUESTED

Request authorization for the Port of Tacoma's Chief Executive Officer or designee to enter into a new Interlocal Agreement with the City of Tacoma, for a \$25,000 contribution to the East 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and Viaduct Study.

## B. BACKGROUND

Since July 18, 2014, the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and Viaduct have been closed to all traffic due to severe deterioration of both the bridge across the Puyallup River itself and the viaduct approach on 11<sup>th</sup> Street on the Central Peninsula. The closure reduces emergency access and egress, eliminates an evacuation route and reduces freight and personal mobility.

Today, spalling of concrete that drops to the ground under the viaduct, or into the water under the bridge structure has heightened safety concerns. Thus, determining the future of the Bridge is an immediate need and high priority for the City's Public Works and Fire Departments. The crossing includes a City water line.

A second major component of the analysis will be to determine the Bridge's impact on freight and personal mobility. Today, the Lincoln Avenue Bridge across the Puyallup River and Port of Tacoma Round are carrying the majority of Peninsula freight and passenger trips.

Replacing the capacity of the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge would provide an alternative option and would reduce congestion.

The goal of the study is to determine if the bridge and viaduct should be replaced, repaired or demolished without replacement, based on its ability to improve emergency access, serve as an evacuation route, and increase freight and personal mobility.

### **C. PREVIOUS APPROVALS**

This is the first request for authorization related to the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and Viaduct Corridor Study.

This request is separate from any Port contribution to a Tideflats Subarea Plan. The Subarea Plan is intended to include a transportation infrastructure component. However, this Bridge and Viaduct Study is focused on asset management and safety, with a secondary mobility component.

### **D. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The scope of work will include:

- An evaluation of the bridge's ability to improve freight and personal mobility, serve as an evacuation route, and enhance emergency response;
- An evaluation of combining both parts of the APL terminal into a single facility;
- Based on that evaluation, and an analysis of the structural condition of the two bridge elements, a determination whether the bridge and/or the viaduct should be replaced, repaired or demolished without replacement;
- Development of basic cost estimates for replacement, repair and demolition of the bridge and viaduct;
- Public outreach

Since the Bridge is owned by the City of Tacoma, the study will be led by its Public Works Department. Port staff will be part of the technical committee working with the study consultant, reviewing and commenting on work products.

### **E. REQUESTED AUTHORIZATION**

Ability of the Chief Executive Officer to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Tacoma for a \$25,000 contribution to the East 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and Viaduct Study.

### **F. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Work on the study is expected to begin in early October of 2017, with a completion date of late February 2018.

### **G. FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

#### **Estimated Cost of Study**

The cost of the study to the Port of Tacoma is capped at \$25,000. The total estimated cost of the Study is \$135,000. Tacoma Public Works (\$60,000), Fire and Water (\$25,000 each) Departments are responsible for \$110,000 of the total study cost. Any potential cost savings would be redistributed proportionately to the study partners.

**H. ECONOMIC INVESTMENT/JOB CREATION**

This study will determine whether replacement or repair of the bridge and viaduct will improve personal and freight access and egress to the Central Peninsula. The economic and job creation impacts will depend on the study outcome and subsequent decisions related to the replacement, repair or demolition of the two structures. The potential role of the bridge as an emergency response and evacuation route cannot be monetized.

**I. NEXT STEPS**

Pending the outcome of the study, the City of Tacoma may begin bridge design for replacement, repair or demolition without replacement. Pending the outcome, the City may request the Port's financial assistance to replace or repair the bridge.

**J. ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: ILA with the City of Tacoma.