



10/21/2014

VIA EMAIL

Dana Mahaffey, Associate Planner
City of Sacramento Community Development Department
300 Richards Blvd., Third Floor
Sacramento, CA 95811

RE: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed I Street Bridge Replacement Project

Dear Ms. Mahaffey:

WALKSacramento has reviewed the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the I Street Bridge Replacement Project. We offer the following comments on the scope of the EIR.

Walking provides many benefits to individuals and the public, among which are improved physical health and mobility. Walking, instead of driving, between Sacramento and West Sacramento can help people attain the minimum-recommended physical activity of thirty minutes of moderate exercise per day, and it can reduce the demand for vehicle crossings on the proposed bridge replacement and the existing and new roadways connecting to the bridge.

In order to fully evaluate the impacts of the proposed bridge replacement on pedestrians, the EIR should consider changes to pedestrian mobility and safety that occur due to construction and operation of the bridge. Mobility evaluation could include pedestrian travel time between the 3rd Street/C Street intersection in West Sacramento and the 2nd Street/I Street intersection in Sacramento. Because the bridge landing point on the Sacramento side changes considerably with the new bridge, travel times to several destinations could also be calculated to evaluate overall mobility. Safety of pedestrians on sidewalks should be considered if there is mixing of pedestrians and bicyclists. Pedestrian safety should also be considered in respect to changes to new or additional intersection and road crossings required to complete walking trips. Wider roadways with longer crossing times, greater crossing distances and less frequent crossing opportunities can put pedestrians at greater risk to vehicle collisions.

WALKSacramento is working to support increased physical activity such as walking and bicycling in local neighborhoods as well as helping to create community environments that support walking and bicycling. The benefits include improved physical fitness, less motor vehicle traffic congestion, better air quality, and a stronger sense of cohesion and safety in local neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 446-9255 or cholm@walksacramento.org.

Sincerely,

Chris Holm
Project Analyst