



Contact: Tonya Durrell
213-978-0333
Tonya.Durrell@lacity.org

THREE FIRMS SELECTED TO COMPETE IN THE BRIDGE DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE SIXTH STREET VIADUCT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

LOS ANGELES (July 27, 2012) – Today, City Engineer Gary Lee Moore, P.E. announced that the following three firms have been selected to participate in a design competition for the Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project: AECOM, HNTB, and Parsons Brinckerhoff.

Earlier this year Mayor Villaraigosa and Councilmember Huizar directed the Bureau of Engineering to solicit design proposals from the most qualified bridge design teams throughout the world by conducting an international bridge design contest. Last month, nine firms submitted proposals. Six of those firms were selected to participate in interviews held July 16 and 19. The three firms selected for the design competition will further develop their design concepts, which will be presented at public meetings on September 12, 13, 17, and 18--meeting times and locations will be announced soon. The final winner of the competition will be contracted to prepare the plans and specifications to construct the new Sixth Street Viaduct in 2015.

“The 6th St Bridge design competition is making sure the new bridge reflects our City’s spirit and our style,” said Mayor Villaraigosa. “As we go through this process, we are making sure the community is informed and involved every step of the way.”

Constructed in 1932, the existing Sixth Street Viaduct concrete elements have suffered cracking and deterioration over the past 80 years due to an internal chemical reaction called Alkali Silica Reaction (ASR). This ongoing and irreversible chemical reaction means the viaduct’s concrete has lost significant strength, and the structure is subject to failure during a major earthquake.

As the Councilmember for the 14th District, which includes the 6th Street Bridge, Councilmember Huizar worked with the Bureau of Engineering to ensure that substantial community outreach and input took place before ushering in the Council vote in November to replace the bridge as the safest and most cost-effective alternative.

-MORE-

2-2-2 BRIDGE CONTEST

"These three finalists are all of top-notch firms whose work is of the highest caliber," said Councilmember José Huizar. "I look forward to the public meetings in September when residents will have a chance to view the final designs and provide input to help select the winning bridge design. I am confident that the final design will be what the residents of Los Angeles expect – a stunning structure that lives up to the history and iconic status of the original."

City Engineer Gary Lee Moore said "This is a wonderful time in our city. Three of the most talented bridge design teams in the world now have an opportunity to weave a story of community, functionality, beauty, and sustainability into bridge design that is world-class in stature. We look forward to the final design and a bridge that will ultimately take its rightful position as one of LA's greatest attractions."

Last month, Mayor Villaraigosa and Councilmember Huizar introduced their appointments to the Sixth Street Viaduct Design Aesthetic Advisory Committee (DAAC), comprised of community leaders and professionals that will provide input on bridge aesthetics during the design of the new viaduct. DAAC members attended the bridge design contest interviews and provided feedback to the selection panel.

Please visit our project website for project information, meeting schedules and other updates at <http://6stbrp.nationbuilder.com/>.

#