

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: November 3-4, 2010

Reference No.: 2.3a.(2).  
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Terry L. Abbott  
Chief  
Division of Design

Subject: **ROUTE ADOPTION, 07-LA-710 PM 3.6/5.0**  
**RESOLUTION HRA 10-05**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Submitted for transmittal to the California Transportation Commission (Commission) are Highway Route Adoption Resolution HRA 10-05 and a route location map for State Highway Route (SR) 710. The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the Commission approve the resolution and the route location map in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Engineer. The resolution grants approval of route adoption of SR 710 in the county of Los Angeles from Post Mile (PM) 3.6 to 5.0.

## **ISSUE:**

The Department and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) propose to modify the adopted route for SR 710 in Los Angeles County. A Project Report was approved on October 19, 2010. A Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact was prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Protection Act. This document was approved by the Commission on September 23, 2010.

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_  
RICHARD D. LAND  
Chief Engineer

**BACKGROUND:**

The project to replace the Gerald Desmond Bridge is being implemented by the Port of Long Beach as the Lead Agency for CEQA in cooperation with and under the oversight of the Department. The work will be performed in accordance with State and federal design standards and practices. The Department and the Port of Long Beach entered into a cooperative agreement on March 28, 2007 for the design and right of way phases of the project. An agreement for the construction phase is currently under discussion.

The existing bridge is located in the southwest portion of Long Beach. The bridge and its approaches are part of Ocean Boulevard and connect downtown Long Beach and the Port of Long Beach to marine terminal and transportation infrastructure facilities on Terminal Island. The proposed bridge and Ocean Boulevard are currently designated as the future location of State Route 710 in the State of California Streets and Highways Code.

Future traffic volumes on the existing bridge will result in a very poor level of service by 2030. The existing bridge is also in very poor physical condition. According to the County of Los Angeles inspection, the bridge received a sufficiency rating of 43 which warrants a consideration for replacement. In addition the existing bridge does not have sufficient clearance over the water to provide access for larger container ships.

In April 2002, the Port of Long Beach prepared a Conceptual Study to determine a conceptual “order of magnitude” assessment cost for replacing the existing Gerald Desmond Bridge. Project studies were initiated in early 2002 to develop viable alternatives for a Project Study Report (PSR). Project Development Team (PDT) meetings comprised of staff from the Port, the Department, the FHWA, and a consultant team.

To solicit comments on the project, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) and a Preliminary Environmental Analysis Report (PEAR) describing the proposed project was sent to all responsible and trustee agencies, to interested individuals, and Port of Long Beach tenants on October 25, 2002. A scoping meeting was held November 12, 2002, at the Port of Long Beach administration building to formally introduce the project and solicit comments from local and trustee agencies. A public scoping meeting was also held at the Port Administration Building on the same day. The community expressed no opposition to the project.

The PDT developed and analyzed a series of preliminary alternatives. The analysis resulted in two build alternatives being studied in more detail in the PSR: North Alignment (200-foot vertical clearance), and North Alignment (185-foot vertical clearance). The PSR for this project was approved March 28, 2003.

A Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) was issued by the Lead Agency on June 15, 2004, with the public comment period concluding on July 29, 2004. A public meeting was also held July 19, 2004; there was no opposition to the project. Subsequent to the comment period, the Port elected to issue a revised Draft EIR/EA dated November 2009 that contained three build alternatives: North Alignment (200-foot vertical clearance), South Alignment

(200-foot vertical clearance), and Rehabilitation Only. After consideration of public comments received on the revised Draft EIR/EA, the North Alignment was selected as the preferred alternative.

A Project Report for this project was approved by the Department on October 19, 2010. The Final Environmental Assessment-Finding of No Significant Impact/Environmental Impact Report was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act. The environmental document was approved by the Commission on September 23, 2010.

A Freeway Agreement will be developed and executed following Commission approval of this route adoption. The route segment will be conveyed from the City of Long Beach to the Department through a transfer of deed, but the conveyance will not take place until the Gerald Desmond Bridge has been replaced.

Attachments:

Resolution HRA 10-05

Location Map

Adoption Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
**Highway Route Adoption Resolution**  
**07-LA-710 PM 3.6/5.0**

**Resolution HRA 10-05**

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Long Beach in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Department) has completed studies for the replacement of the existing Gerald Desmond Bridge which is located along Ocean Boulevard and which connects State Route 710 to Terminal Island, in the City of Long Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department approved a Project Report on October 19, 2010 for the replacement of the Gerald Desmond Bridge and the adoption of the bridge into the State Highway System; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department completed the Final Environmental Assessment-Finding of No Significant Impact/Environmental Impact Report in accordance with the National Environmental and Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act for the bridge replacement project and the adoption.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the California Transportation Commission (Commission) that pursuant to the authority vested in it by law, this Commission does hereby adopt into the State Highway System that segment of Ocean Boulevard from West Broadway to the Terminal Island Freeway (State Route 47), in Los Angeles County, and officially designate it as 07-LA-710, a freeway, as said location is shown on the map submitted by Terry L. Abbott, Chief Design Engineer; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this segment of highway shall be conveyed from the City of Long Beach to the Department through a transfer by deed; and

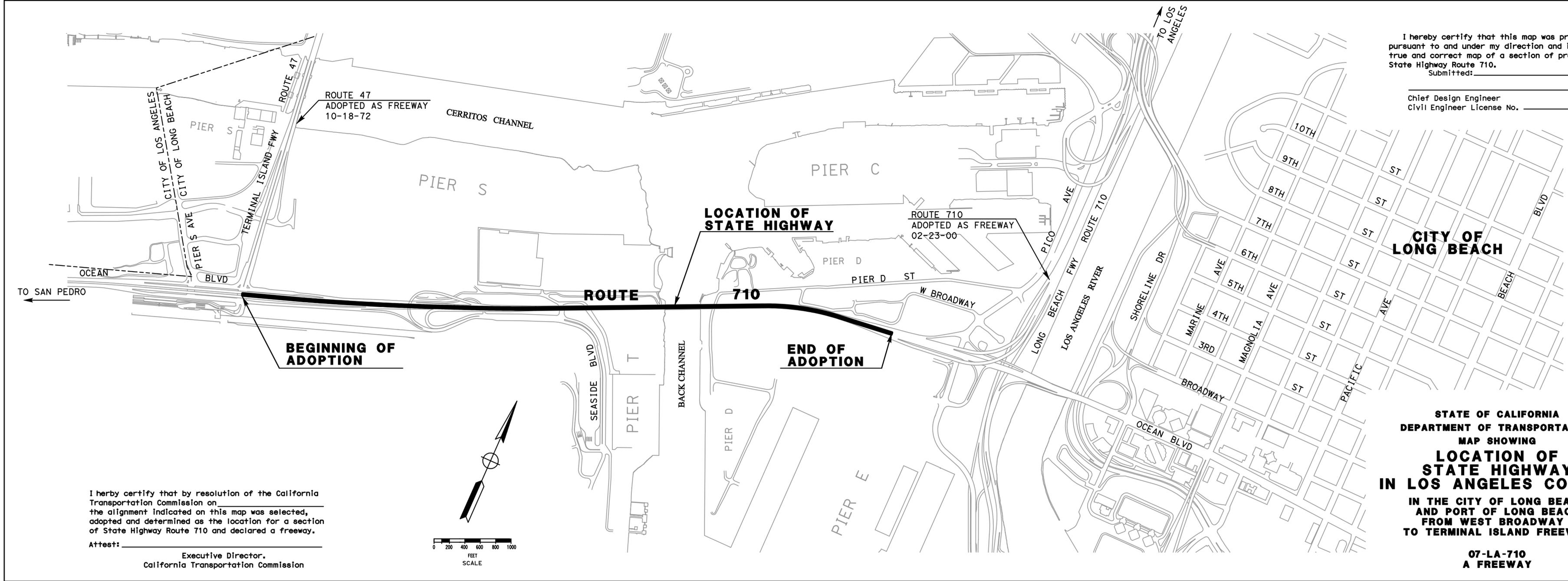
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that such conveyance will take place only after the construction of the new Gerald Desmond Bridge has been completed; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Commission has found and determined and hereby declares that such adoption of the location of said State Highway is in the best interest of the State.



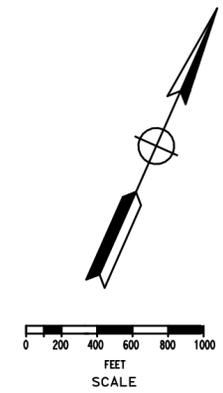
I hereby certify that this map was prepared pursuant to and under my direction and is a true and correct map of a section of proposed State Highway Route 710.  
Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Design Engineer  
Civil Engineer License No. \_\_\_\_\_



I hereby certify that by resolution of the California Transportation Commission on \_\_\_\_\_ the alignment indicated on this map was selected, adopted and determined as the location for a section of State Highway Route 710 and declared a freeway.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director.  
California Transportation Commission



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**MAP SHOWING**  
**LOCATION OF**  
**STATE HIGHWAY**  
**IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY**  
**IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH**  
**AND PORT OF LONG BEACH**  
**FROM WEST BROADWAY**  
**TO TERMINAL ISLAND FREEWAY**

**07-LA-710**  
**A FREEWAY**