



Arizona Canal Diversion Channel – 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge Replacement and Side Drain for Northwest Extension Phase II Light Rail Transit Project

## U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

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Public Notice No.: 408-SPL-PN-2020-0021 Permit No.: 408-SPL-2020-0021 Comment Period: 2020-06-01 to 2020-06-30

**Requester:** In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, the City of Phoenix through the Flood Control District of Maricopa County (FCDMC) has requested permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to alter the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel (ACDC).

## Location:

The proposed action would remove and replace a portion of existing bridge and install a side drain pipe at the 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge over ACDC east of Interstate Highway I-17 and north of W. Dunlap Avenue in the city of Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona. The proposed features are not inside the channel, and will therefore not require construction within the channel.

## **Requester's Proposed Action:**

The City of Phoenix is proposing to construct a new light rail bridge and storm drain outfall adjacent to and within the ACDC. The proposed light rail bridge would be located immediately east of the existing 25th Avenue Bridge and span the ACDC and Arizona Canal. Construction of the new light rail bridge would require reducing the width of the existing 25th Avenue bridge from approximately 64 feet to approximately 51 feet. Approximately 20 feet of the 25th Avenue Bridge would be cut on the east, and approximately 7 feet would be reconstructed. A light rail bridge would be constructed adjacent to the 25th Avenue Bridge and would match the profile of the existing bridge. To provide enough vertical space for the new bridge girders and to match the location of the existing girders, the top 7 feet of the ACDC channel wall would be removed from a 20-foot wide section. The channel height underneath the light rail bridge would be 33 feet wide and span the width of the ACDC, approximately 135 feet and contain a sidewalk and bicycle lane. The new bridge abutments would be placed approximately 10 feet behind the existing channel wall.

The proposed storm drain outfall would be located in the northern concrete channel wall approximately 150 feet east of the 25th Avenue Bridge and approximately 6 feet above the bottom of the concrete channel. The 48-inch storm drain pipe would be approximately 1,900 feet in length and stretch from the northwest corner of Mountain View Road and 25th Avenue terminating at the ACDC. The removal of the small portion of the existing bridge and

construction of the new light rail bridge would take approximately 8 months and tying in the new 48-inch storm drain outfall to the ACDC would take approximately three weeks.

The purpose of the project is to improve the mobility of residents of the study area by providing a more efficient and reliable transit option that conveniently connects with both regional and local destinations. The 25th Avenue bridge over the ACDC provides one lane of traffic in each direction and are not currently of sufficient width to accommodate light rail. Additionally, twenty-Fifth Avenue is an important roadway that needs to remain open as much as practicable to avoid major disruptions to community facilities and the traveling public. The Project would construct a stand-alone light rail bridge adjacent to the existing bridge so that during construction traffic on 25th Avenue would experience minimal disruption. The existing drainage system on 25th Avenue is inadequate and involves a substantial number of utility conflicts to repair or replace. Currently there is a 10-inch storm drain that outfalls into the ACDC west of the existing 25th Avenue bridge, but the water ponds and slowly drains into the ACDC. Additionally, the existing drainage system at Rose Mofford Sports Complex, where a light rail station would be located, is not functioning because the majority of the pipes are obstructed. The Project would construct a new drainage system through Rose Mofford Sports Complex, where there are no utility conflicts. The storm drain outfall would be located within the ACDC, east of the existing bridge. This new drainage system would prevent ponding of stormwater from 25th Avenue and drain Rose Mofford Sports Complex.

**Authority:** The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent use, occupation or alteration of any USACE Civil Works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended, codified at 33 USC 408 ("Section 408"). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of a USACE project if the Secretary determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project. The Secretary of Army's authority under Section 408 has been delegated to the USACE, the Chief of Engineers. The Chief of Engineers has further delegated the authority to the USACE, Directorate of Civil Works and Division and District Engineers, depending upon the nature of the activity.

**Limits of Section 408 Authority:** A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations, including any required permits from the USACE Regulatory Program under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC Section 1344), and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 USC 1413). In addition, an approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

**Consideration of Comments:** The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State and local agencies and officials, and other interested parties. Comments will be made part of the record, and they will be considered before permission is granted to proceed with this action. Please limit comments to the area of the alteration and those adjacent areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by the alteration described in this public notice.

**Submission of Comments:** Interested parties may submit, in writing, any comments concerning this proposal. Comments should reference public notice no. 408-SPL-PN-2020-0021 and be forwarded by the comment due date of June 30, 2020. Comments must be sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Engineering Division, ATTN: Priyo Majumdar, 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 930, Los Angeles, California 90017-3409. Alternatively, comments can be sent electronically to Priyodarshi.Majumdar@usace.army.mil.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS Los Angeles District, Corps of Engineers 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 930 Los Angeles, California 90017-3401 WWW.SPL.USACE.ARMY.MIL/MISSIONS/SECTION-408-PERMITS/