



January 30, 2023

Mayor and Council Members
City of Sacramento, 915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
Sent via email

SUBJECT: Jan 31, 2023 Council Meeting - Consent Item 2: Establish Capital Improvement Project and Budgetary Adjustments: Truxel Bridge Concept and Feasibility Study (T15235000), File ID: 2022-02456

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

ECOS supports the concept of a Truxel Bridge, and we applaud the joint funding of the study by SACOG, SacRT and the City. The bridge is critical infrastructure to expand SacRT's transit network and to provide an additional connection between Natomas and downtown Sacramento. We also support Truxel as the transit route north of the river.

However, we ask for the item to be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

- We ask the Council to re-examine the basic project components given the 2013 American River Crossing Alternatives Study was completed before regional goals for GHG and VMT reduction were understood.
- For the transit alignment south of the American River and north of Richards Blvd., we would like to see a quick comparison done of Sequoia Pacific Blvd and 7th Street -- with another station at the north end of 7th -- to ensure the transit is as convenient as possible to the bulk of the forecasted population (residents and workers). If the transit alignment were located on 7th, we recognize the bridge to Truxel would be longer and would cost more for construction. But if the transit is located sub-optimally, the costs in ridership not gained, GHG emissions not reduced, and mobility and lifestyle choices not available will continue to accrue year after year.
- Finally, we would like to see Truxel Road given the "Complete Streets" treatment -- with priority for pedestrians, then bicyclists and transit-riders, and lastly cars/trucks. This treatment can provide a place for South Natomas residents to walk and gather, and it will slow car and truck traffic. The valley oaks on the east side of Truxel should be protected so they provide shade over new wide sidewalks; bikeways should be separated from car/truck traffic; transit should have a consistent dedicated area/s, either center or side; and at transit stations, new community plazas should be flanked with local shops and restaurants.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan Herre".

Susan Herre AIA AICP
President of the Board of Directors