



Building Bridges, Raising Economies

THE REPLACEMENT OF THE GERALD DESMOND BRIDGE

The Gerald Desmond Bridge has become a vital part of the nation's infrastructure, with nearly 15 percent of the nation's waterborne cargo trucked across the bridge. It is a critical access route for the Port of Long Beach, downtown Long Beach and surrounding communities.



To better meet today's growing traffic volumes, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Port of Long Beach have begun a project to replace the Gerald Desmond Bridge. The project is a joint effort of Caltrans and the Port, with funding contributions from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro).

The new bridge will be built with a cable-stayed design. With 205 feet of clearance over the water, the new bridge will be high enough to accommodate the newest generation of the most efficient cargo ships. And with three lanes in each direction plus safety lanes, it will be wider and better able to serve the 68,000 vehicle trips a day and about 18 million trips a year.

The route is an important one. The Gerald Desmond Bridge has been designated as a National Highway System Intermodal Connector Route and part of the Federal Strategic Highway Network. It is a critical structure serving the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, the City of Long Beach, Los Angeles and Orange counties and the nation.

Construction of the new bridge's foundations is expected to begin in mid-2014. During construction, the current bridge will remain in use for drivers and will be taken down once the new bridge is completed.



**Gerald Desmond Bridge
Replacement Project**

Caltrans • Metro • Port of Long Beach • US Department of Transportation

PROJECT BENEFITS:

- Three lanes in each direction for improved traffic flow
- Emergency lanes on both sides to reduce traffic delays and safety hazards from accidents and vehicle breakdowns
- A 205-foot vertical clearance to accommodate the world's largest "greener" vessels
- A reduction in the bridge's steep grades for further improvements to traffic flow
- The Mark Bixby Memorial Bicycle Pedestrian Path with scenic overlooks
- Additional improvements include reconstruction of the Terminal Island East Interchange and the I-710/Gerald Desmond Bridge connector

PUTTING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TO WORK

The bridge project will generate about **3,000 jobs** throughout construction.

WHAT IS A DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT?

The Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement Project is one of 10 "design-build" projects now underway in the State of California. This method combines project design and construction into one contract, as opposed to the standard process done in three stages: design, bid, build. By being more efficient, design-build projects have the potential to be built faster, and at a lower cost, than traditional construction projects.



NEW BRIDGE FACTS

HEIGHT OF TOWERS (2): 515 feet*

SUPPORT COLUMNS: Approximately 90 combined for east, west approach spans

FOUNDATIONS: About 350 below-ground piles supporting the above-ground columns

TOTAL LENGTH: Approximately 8,800 feet, including 2,000 feet for cable-stayed span

CABLES: 40 for each tower. Each cable consists of 30-80 strands, depending on cable location.

STEEL: 17.5 million pounds of structural steel, 72 million pounds of rebar (approx.)

CONCRETE: 182,000 cubic yards (approx.)

**Once built, this would make it the second-tallest cable-stayed bridge in the U.S. with the highest vertical clearance of any cable-stayed bridge in the U.S.*

A MODERN PORT

The bridge, expected to cost approximately \$1.2 billion, is part of \$4.5 billion of improvements at the Port of Long Beach to remain modern, competitive and big-ship ready.

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The Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement Project is creating a new, iconic bridge in the City of Long Beach, and we want you to stay connected!

Through our free mobile app get up-to-the minute traffic conditions, photos, videos, access to live cameras, text alerts and weekly audio alerts in English and Spanish.

Download the app by searching "LB Bridge" in the app store for Android, iOS and Windows Phone.