



DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

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NEWS RELEASE

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Railyards milestone

\$45 million railroad track construction project goes out to bid

The City of Sacramento and its private development partner, Inland American, are requesting bids beginning tomorrow for the long-awaited cornerstone project that will clear the path for development of the Railyards, and in the interim sustain more than 1,000 jobs.

The Track Relocation Project constitutes a series of new railroad tracks, passenger platforms, and three tunnels. The bid request will be available on the City's webpage at <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/generalservices/procurement/bids/> under "Construction Bids." Once a contract is awarded, a ground breaking event will be held in early May.

"Staff has worked tirelessly to get this project ready to rebid – in between coordinating with a new property owner/partner on a dozen new agreements, so as not to jeopardize any of the \$45 million in federal and state funding that has been cobbled together for this much anticipated project," said Jerry Way, director of the Department of Transportation.

The project will place new railroad tracks 500 feet north of the present ones, which stand in the way of opening up the Railyards to the rest of downtown. Work is expected to take a total of two years to complete. With the current tracks out of the way and access to and from downtown provided, the gateway will open for future housing, shops, museums and entertainment venues and for future expansion of the depot into a world-class regional multi modal transportation center.

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Track relocation project at Railyards, 2

The City of Sacramento and Thomas Enterprises, Inc., the former private development partner, started construction of bridges that will go over the railroad tracks at 5th and 6th streets last May. The two bridges are nearly finished. Since that time, Inland American has taken over as the City's partner. Work to transfer all the agreements between the City and Inland American is still underway.

Although bids for the track relocation piece went out to bid last spring, bids came in \$12 million too high and had to be rejected. The Department of Transportation has since either simplified or deleted some of the items requested to meet the budget.

Work at the Sacramento Railyards is among the state's largest public works projects. Construction, along with the historic Central Shops abatement work, total a public investment of approximately \$115 million, which should sustain or create nearly 3,300 jobs over two years (according to the FHWA formula of one job per \$35,000 investment).

More information on the track relocation project and the planned multi-modal transit facility is at <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/transportation/director/sitf/index.html>.

The Department of Transportation's mission is to ensure the City's transportation system supports and enriches the quality of life for present and future generations.