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PUBLIC WORKS

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News Release

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City releases survey results about potential American River crossings

Nearly 600 respondents completed a non-scientific survey about the purpose and need for another bridge over the American River. The survey – part of the [American River Crossing Alternatives Study](#) – was conducted this month by the City of Sacramento to obtain public input on bridge crossing objectives and travel habits for a section of the American River between I-5 and State Route 160.

Seventy-eight percent of survey respondents opined that additional river crossings between I-5 and State Route 160 were either important or very important. Other opinions include:

- More than 61 percent of respondents agreed that a new “all modes” bridge to serve cars, public transit, bikes and pedestrians was the best option.
- Some 22 percent of the respondents preferred a new bridge that served only bikes, pedestrians, and public transit, but not cars.
- A small percentage (6 percent) advocated limiting improvements to those benefiting only bicyclists and pedestrians on either a new or modified bridge, while 6 percent preferred no improvements at all.

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Crossings survey 2

The survey also asked respondents to provide input about what the City should consider when evaluating the potential location of a new and/or modified bridge. Over 64 percent stated that travel time reduction for cars, pedestrians, and cyclists should be a determining factor.

The remaining 36 percent of respondents were nearly evenly split between favoring reductions in miles driven by automobiles and reducing bicycling and walking time.

As for project goals, the survey respondents supported increased public transit options between the Central City and South Natomas, easier crossing for walking and biking, and reduced congestion on I-5 on short trips between the Central City and South Natomas as the top three outcomes to achieve.

“The survey was part of a larger effort to gain an understanding of the community’s perspective on the need and purpose of providing additional access across the American River,” said Fedolia “Sparky” Harris, the City’s project manager for this study. “In addition to this survey, the City has engaged a Stakeholder Advisory Committee with more than 25 representatives from environmental and parkway interests, as well as property owners and other community-based organizations to provide their input throughout the planning process. Also, the City will be hosting a community meeting early next year.”

The project will result in a final report to the Mayor and City Council in April.

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