

Public Hearing
Long Beach Cruise Terminal Improvement Project
Appeal Application No. 1909-08

City Council Meeting of December 3, 2019





Approvals and Appeals

November 7, 2019: Planning Commission approved a Site Plan Review for the project with conditions.

November 13 -22, 2019: Five appeals were filed:

Coalition for Clean Air

Citizens About Responsible Planning

Sierra Club Los Cerritos Wetlands Task Force

Coalition for a Safe Environment

Concerned Faculty of USC and UCLA

Summary of appeals: (1) City approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration without consultation with the Long Beach Harbor Department; (2) an environmental impact report is necessary to assess environmental issues including air quality, kelp, marine mammals, birds, fish habitat, noise, and dredge disposal; (3) the baseline is faulty; (4) the City violated CEQA by segmenting the project; and, (5) lack of sanctions if mitigation measures are not met.

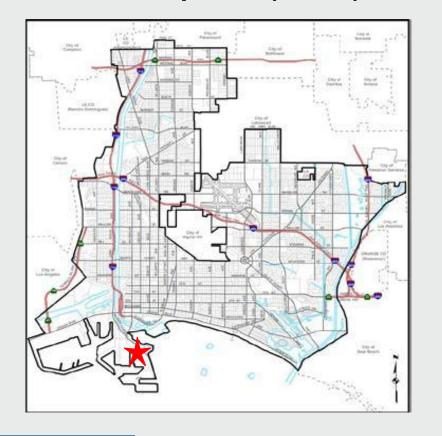




Vicinity Map



The Project Site is located in the Queensway Bay Planned Development (PD-21)

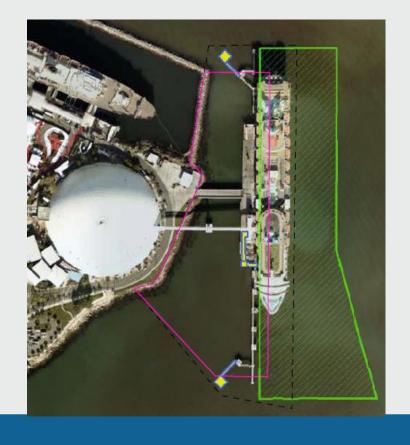


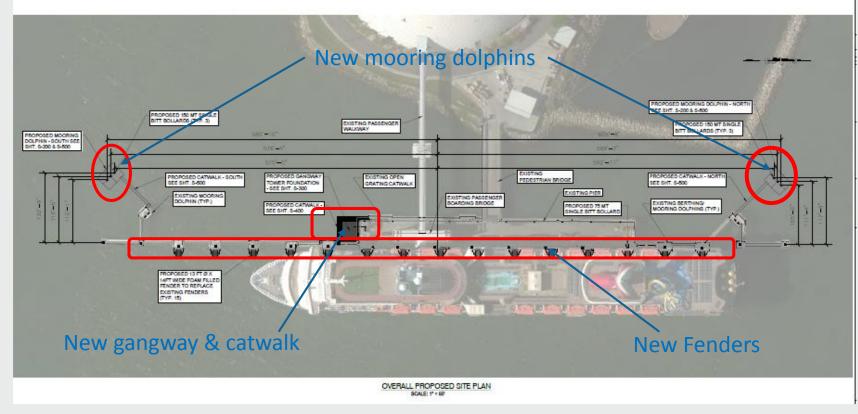




Project Proposal—Maritime Improvements

 Dredge and expanded leasehold area





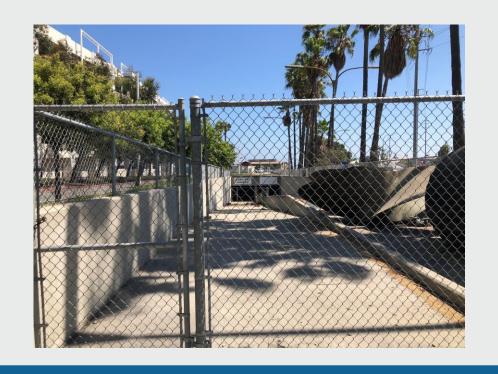
- Mooring Dolphins and Catwalks
- Passenger Walkway Bridge Extension
- Fender replacements

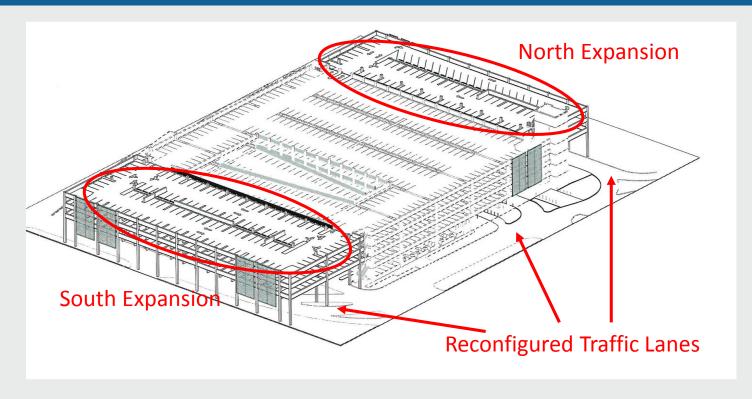




Project Proposal—Landside Improvements

Abandonment and fill of an existing tunnel





- Expansion of the existing parking structure by 657 spaces.
- Reconfiguration of the existing leasehold traffic lanes.





Findings

Site Plan Review

- Design of the parking structure expansion is compatible, and will integrate seamlessly, with the existing structure.
- The project is consistent with the PD-21 development standards that include landside facilities related to embarking and disembarking of passengers on cruise lines.

CEQA

 The project was analyzed as part of a mitigated negative declaration (MND 08-19).





Appeals

The five appeals assert a variety of issues with the CEQA document, the more significant assertions include lack of City consultation with Long Beach Harbor Department and that a faulty baseline was utilized.

Staff Response

- There has been constant and ongoing communication with Harbor Department staff.
- Existing conditions as of the date a project is submitted typically constitute the baseline conditions by which a lead agency determines whether an impact is significant.
- The proposed project will not result in an effect on the environment with the incorporation of the mitigation measures.
- The proposed project, with mitigations, would be consistent with all required findings.





Recommendation

- Adopt a resolution approving and certifying the Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact (08-19) for the maritime and onshore improvements.
- Uphold the Planning Commission's decision to approve a Site Plan Review (SPR 19-026) for the expansion of an existing parking structure to include 657 new parking spaces, abandonment and fill of an existing tunnel, and reconfiguration of leasehold traffic lanes.





