

Chapter 2

Project Description

2.1 Introduction

The Sixth Street Viaduct Division of the City of Los Angeles (City) Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering (BOE), is proposing the construction of the Sixth Street Park, Arts, River & Connectivity Improvements (PARC) Project (proposed Project). The Sixth Street PARC Project includes the creation of public recreational space on approximately 13 acres, in areas underneath and adjacent to the upcoming Sixth Street Viaduct (Viaduct) in the City of Los Angeles (Project Site). The City is the Lead Agency for the proposed Project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

2.2 Project Location and Environmental Setting

The proposed Project would be located under and adjacent to the Sixth Street Viaduct between Mateo Street to the west and the United States Highway 101 (U.S. 101) to the east, in the City of Los Angeles (Project Area) (see **Figure 2-1**, Regional Location and **Figure 2-2**, Project Area). The Project Area, which includes the potential area of direct and indirect impacts resulting from the proposed Project, spans from the Downtown Los Angeles Arts District on the west side of the Los Angeles River (“River” or “LA River”) to the neighborhood of Boyle Heights on the east side of the LA River.

The Sixth Street Viaduct was a vital connection between Downtown Los Angeles and Boyle Heights. The majority of the Project Area is currently a construction site for the Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project (“Viaduct Replacement Project”), which began in 2016. As such, the Project Area primarily consists of fencing around an area of exposed soil with staged construction equipment and materials.

The Project Area is located in Council District 14 at the boundary of the City of Los Angeles’ Central City North and Boyle Heights Community Plan areas. Land uses along the north and south sides of the Viaduct are predominately industrial and commercial. The nearest residence borders the northeastern edge of the Project Area at the intersection of South Clarence Street and Inez Street, and the eastern edge of the Project Area at the intersection of Boyle Avenue and Whittier Boulevard.

Railroad corridors are adjacent to the east and west banks of the LA River within the Project Area. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Amtrak, and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) own and/or operate railroad corridors within the Project Area. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power’s (LADWP) Transmission Right of Way (TLRW) is also located along the east and west banks of the River.

The segment of the LA River within the Project Area is a trapezoidal concrete-lined channel, which serves as a flood control channel that receives stormwater runoff from the surrounding watershed. The River discharges to an estuary south of the project area in Queensway Bay, in the Long Beach Harbor. An existing tunnel (LA River Access Tunnel) is located under the railroad tracks west of the River. LADWP

Figure 2-17: Arts Plaza – View of Performance Stage (Non-Event)

Figure 2-18: Arts Plaza – View of Performance Stage (Event)



CANOPY & OBJECTS
ARTS PLAZA - VIEW FROM BERM (EVENT)



FIGURE 2-18. ARTS PLAZA - VIEW OF PERFORMANCE STAGE (EVENT)
Sixth Street PARC Project

Figure 2-19: Arts Plaza – View from Upper Walkway (Non-Event)



FIGURE 2-19. ARTS PLAZA - VIEW FROM UPPER WALKWAY (NON-EVENT)
Sixth Street PARC Project

Figure 2-20: View from Upper Walkway (Event)



CANOPY & OBJECTS
ARTS PLAZA - VIEW FROM UPPER WALKWAY (EVENT)



FIGURE 2-20. ARTS PLAZA - VIEW FROM UPPER WALKWAY (EVENT)
Sixth Street PARC Project