

Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Report



State Clearinghouse No. 2018102042

Date: October 27, 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: that the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq.; 14 California Code of Regulations §§ 15000 et seq. [“State CEQA Guidelines”]) to evaluate the environmental effects associated with the proposed San Rafael Transit Center Replacement Project. A Draft EIR was prepared and circulated for public review and comment from August 11, 2021, through November 2, 2021.

The District received comments on the Draft EIR from state, regional, and local agencies, interested organizations, and members of the public. The District has prepared responses to all comments received consistent with State CEQA Guidelines §15088. The Final EIR consists of comments received on the Draft EIR and a list of commenters, the District’s responses to comments, and changes to the Draft EIR as a result of comments received. This Notice of Availability has been issued to notify interested parties that the Final EIR has been prepared and is available for review. Please note the District is not required to respond to comments on the Final EIR. If written comments are received, they will be provided to the District Board of Directors for consideration.

The District Transportation Committee Meeting will discuss the Final EIR on December 15, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The public may attend the audio-only Transportation Committee Meeting by calling (415) 569-6446. Additional information about the meeting is available here: https://www.goldengate.org/events/transportation-committee---december-2022/?F_y=2022&F_m=12&F_c=.

The District Board of Directors will consider certification of the Final EIR and action on the proposed project at the Board of Directors meeting on December 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. The public may attend the audio-only Board of Directors meeting by calling (415) 569-6446 or the public overflow number: (415) 636-8761. Additional information about the meeting is available here: <https://www.goldengate.org/district/board-of-directors/board-calendar/events/board-of-directors---december-2022/>.

LOCATIONS WHERE THE FINAL EIR IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW: An electronic copy of the Final EIR may be accessed on the District’s website at <https://www.goldengate.org/district/district-projects/san-rafael-transit-center/>. A hard copy of the Final EIR is available for review upon request at the District’s office at 1011 Andersen Drive, San Rafael, CA 94901-5318.

PROJECT LOCATION: The existing San Rafael Transit Center is in Downtown San Rafael, between 2nd Street, 3rd Street, Tamalpais Avenue, and Hetherton Street.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Final EIR analyzes a preferred alternative and three build alternatives: the Move Whistlestop Alternative (the preferred alternative), Adapt Whistlestop Alternative, 4th Street Gateway Alternative, and Under the Freeway Alternative. The preferred alternative and the three build alternatives would include provisions for 17 bus bays, pick-up/drop-off areas for passenger vehicles or taxis, bicycle parking, customer service and security space, passenger amenities such as weather protection and seating, bus operator restrooms, and parking for operations staff. The District estimates that construction activities would occur over 18 months following approval of the final design. Construction is estimated to start in 2025. The project alternatives are not on any list of hazardous materials waste sites compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. As required by CEQA, the EIR also analyzes a No-Project Alternative.

FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information, please contact:
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