North of 4th Street Concept
**What is the project?**

**The project:** working to identify a new San Rafael Transit Center (SRTC).

**Project Lead Agency:** Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District (GGBHTD)

“**Responsible Agency” under CEQA:** City of San Rafael

**Cooperating Agencies:**
* Marin Transit
* Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM)
* Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART)

**This project will include:**
* Determination of facility requirements
* Analysis and identification of potential sites in downtown San Rafael
* An environmental impact review process

---

**Why does it need to be relocated?**

* The planned SMART tracks extension will go through the current San Rafael Transit Center site south to Larkspur.

**Why does it function best in downtown San Rafael?**

* Downtown is a point of intersection for major north-south and east-west bus routes.
* Access to major arterials will help reduce time buses spend on City streets.
* Downtown is a destination for work and play.
* Consolidation of services downtown will help to reduce riders’ travel time.
* A downtown location is fiscally responsible and can help reduce operating costs.

---

**Project Information**

Where are people using the Transit Center going to or coming from?

The Transit Center is purposely located where a number of east-west and north-south bus lines intersect.

---

**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**

**Identification of Transit Center Alternatives**

Build on the previously prepared Relocation Study and identify potential transit center sites and configurations.

**Environmental Analysis**

Identify potential environmental impacts associated with the project.

**Preliminary Engineering**

Prepare initial designs for the transit center.

**Final Design & Construction**

(not a part of this study)

Environmental analysis and preliminary design is anticipated to be completed in 2020. Subsequent project efforts after 2020 will include final design and construction.
Purpose & Need

Project Purpose*:

- Provide improved transit connectivity and ease of use in and around downtown San Rafael.
- Enhance local and regional transit use by bringing together multiple modes of the transportation network—including the SMART-bus connection—into a hub which affords transit users the safest, most efficient means of using bus and rail services.
- Efficiently accommodate transit users and services and reduce operating costs and improve transit desirability.
- Design a functional, attractive, cost-effective facility that can meet long-term projected service levels and be implemented in an expeditious manner, so as to minimize the period of use of the interim facility.
- Provide a transit facility that is readily accessible to individuals with disabilities, transit users, and transit dependent populations, including those with low incomes.
- Provide a secure, safe, and inviting space for transit patrons.
- Create a more accessible transit facility for all users by reducing vehicular, rail, bicycle, and pedestrian conflicts and improving safety.
- Provide convenient, pedestrian connections to surrounding land uses.

The SRTC project is needed for the following reasons:

- To preserve and enhance the functionality and effectiveness of the transit center following the implementation of the SMART Phase 2 line to Larkspur and the resulting loss of some of the transit center facilities.
- A new transit center solution in downtown San Rafael would address near-term and long-term transit needs while improving the desirability and usability of transit for both local residents and regional commuters.
- It would also, to the extent feasible, minimize traffic congestion and facilitate smooth transit operations while also promoting pedestrian safety.

* A Purpose & Need statement is required as part of the environmental process. A project’s “need” is an identified deficiency or problem. A project’s “purpose” is the set of objectives that will be met to address that deficiency.
INFORMATIONAL BOARDS
**Scoping & Environmental Process**

**What is Scoping?**
- Scoping is the process of determining the focus and content (scope) of an environmental document through outreach to other agencies and the public.
- As part of this process, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) is prepared. This document provides notice to the public and other agencies that a draft environmental document is being prepared, and initiates their involvement in the process.

**How You Can Provide Input**
- Tell us the environmental issues that should be studied as part of the environmental impact report (EIR).
- Provide comments in written format on comment cards or via e-mail to SRTC@goldengate.org.
- Submit written comments in comment box or mail to:
  Raymond Santiago  
  Principal Planner  
  Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District  
  1011 Andersen Drive  
  San Rafael, CA 94901-5318
- Comments must be received by **November 19, 2018**.

**What Happens Next?**
- All comments will be documented at the end of the scoping period.
- The comments received will inform the technical studies in the EIR, as well as the evaluation and selection of alternatives.
- There will be two additional public meetings:
  - **Spring 2019** – This meeting will be held to share further evaluation results to inform the selection of alternatives.
  - **Fall/Winter 2019** – This meeting will share the results of the draft EIR.

---

**Topics Required to be Considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Report**
- Aesthetics
- Noise and Vibration
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases
- Population and Housing
- Biological Resources
- Transportation and Transit
- Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Public Services
- Geology, Soils, & Seismicity
- Cumulative Impacts
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Growth-Inducing Impacts
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Alternatives to the Project
- Land Use and Planning
Two-Story Concept

Upper Level

Lower Level