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POWERPOINT PRESENTATION
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Scoping Meeting Purpose

• Requirement for CEQA
• Review of Notice of Preparation
• Receive written public comments on alternatives to be considered and scope of environmental analysis
Open House Format

• Background Information
  • Project Information
  • Environmental Process, Purpose & Need
  • Transit Center Concepts
• Provide Scoping Comments
Project 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)

We are here
Project Schedule

- Outreach:
  - Winter 2018
  - Spring 2018
  - Summer 2018
  - Fall 2018
  - Winter 2019
  - Spring 2019
  - Summer 2019
  - Fall 2019
  - Winter 2020
  - Ongoing Stakeholder Outreach Activities

- Identification of Transit Center Alternatives:
  - Determine Transit Center Needs
  - Develop Transit Center Alternatives
  - Alternatives Evaluation

- Environmental Analysis:
  - Environmental Scoping
  - Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
  - Final EIR

- Preliminary Engineering:
  - Preliminary Design

Community engagement activities include: Meetings, presentations, online surveys and in-person engagement at the transit center. Subject to change depending on project process.
Community Outreach Process

- Community stakeholders initially raised concerns regarding project development and concept selection processes; the project team worked collaboratively to implement an open and transparent process

- Five phases of public engagement
  1. Listening (March 20th Open House & March Survey)
  2. Input on Specific Concepts (June 12th Open House, Canal Outreach, June/July Survey)
  3. **Scoping for Environmental Analysis (October 30th Meeting)**
  4. Selection of Alternatives (Spring 2019)
  5. Share Findings of Environmental Analysis (2019)
Community Engagement – First Round

• Goals: Introduce project, reset community perceptions of process
• Open House held March 20\textsuperscript{th}, 2018
  • Approximately 75 attendees
• Online survey open March 20\textsuperscript{th} through May 1\textsuperscript{st}
  • 206 responses received

Community Engagement – Second Round

• Goals: Share proposed concepts and receive feedback
• Open House held June 12\textsuperscript{th}, 2018 – approximately 60 attendees
• Online survey open June 12\textsuperscript{th} through July 15\textsuperscript{th} – 187 responses
• Two pop-up events in the Canal Neighborhood
• Letters received from community groups
Study Area
Design Requirements - Facilities

• Must accommodate transit operations
  • 17 bus bays, matching current transit center
  • Customer waiting areas
  • Customer service in close proximity
  • Operator facilities

• Wayfinding and transit information

• Bike parking

• Pick-Up/Drop-Off curb space for taxis and TNCs

• Security and lighting
Concept Development Process

- Identify sites that are capable of meeting the program and meet the transfer needs of patrons
- Assess bus routing and circulation that allows for bus access/exit
- Delineate space for pedestrian and bicycle circulation internally and externally
- Identify opportunities for supportive uses, urban design, and placemaking components
Alternatives Evaluation Process

• Alternatives evaluated against project purpose and need
• Assessment of environmental impacts
  • Technical analysis based on CEQA requirements
• Stakeholder agency input
• Community input
Provide Scoping Input

• Potential environmental issues to be analyzed in the environmental document
• Feedback on alternatives currently identified
• Other alternatives that should be considered
• Provide written feedback on comment forms or via e-mail (SRTC@goldengate.org)
What Happens Next

• Project team review of scoping comments
• Preparation of environmental technical studies
• Evaluation of alternatives
• Public Meetings
• Selection of a Preferred Alternative
Project Contact Information

- E-mail: SRTC@goldengate.org
- Phone: (415) 257-4444 (dedicated project line)
- View our website at: goldengate.org/SRTC
4th Street Gateway Concept
Across the Freeway Concept

Hetherton Shift Option
Design Requirements

The following considerations will guide design efforts:

• Create a welcoming, attractive, memorable, vibrant place for all users that reflects San Rafael’s history and culture, and enhances the city’s economy.

• The site should serve as a "gateway" to Downtown San Rafael.

• Maximize the vitality of 4th Street.

• Design the site for safety, incorporating best practices of crime prevention through environmental design, including space for security staff and extensive lighting.

• Provide convenient pedestrian and bike connectivity to surrounding destinations, including Downtown San Rafael.

• Accommodate transit operations (including Greyhounds and airport shuttles) with at least 17 bus bays.

• Position bus platforms so that they can be easily accessed from the direction they are approaching, reducing bus traffic on local streets.

• Provide for transfer activity (for both bus-to-bus and bus-to-SMART transfers) to occur within the pulse window.

• Create high quality waiting areas.

• Reduce conflicts between pedestrians, vehicles, and bikes.

• Provide adequate space for customer service.

• Provide safe and secure bike parking.

• Designate a nearby location for pick-up/drop-off activities, including taxis and Transportation Network Companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft).

• Provide flexibility for current and future fleet sizes and characteristics.

• Develop access to transportation services through universal design, with a focus on accessibility, wayfinding, and safe and clear paths of travel.

• Provide weather-protected and comfortable accommodations and amenities for transit riders, pedestrians and bicyclists.
North of 4th Street Concept
**Project Information**

**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.*

**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.*

**What is the project?**

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
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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
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology, Soils, & Seismicity
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise and Vibration
- Population and Housing
- Transportation and Transit
- Utilities and Public Services
- Cumulative Impacts
- Growth-Inducing Impacts
- Alternatives to the Project
Two-Story Concept

Upper Level

Lower Level
Whistlestop Block Concept

Additional area under consideration for transit center facilities
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