



NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Downtown San Francisco Ferry Terminal Expansion Project Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

As the federal and local Lead Agencies, respectively, the FTA and WETA are preparing a joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the proposed expansion and improvements to the Downtown San Francisco Ferry Terminal at the Port of San Francisco Ferry Building. The EIS/EIR will be prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act.

Project Location:

The project is located in the northeastern section of San Francisco, California, at the San Francisco Ferry Building, situated at the foot of Market Street. The study area encompasses Port of San Francisco property between Pier 1 on the north and Pier 14 on the south, and includes the Ferry Building, ferry gates, and the Ferry Plaza.

Project Description:

The purpose of the Downtown San Francisco Ferry Terminal Expansion Project is to support and expand ferry service on San Francisco Bay, as established by WETA in its Implementation and Operations Plan, and in accordance with city and regional policies to encourage transit use. Furthermore, the project would address deficiencies in the transportation network that impede ferry operation and ferry patron access and circulation at the Downtown San Francisco Ferry Terminal.

The project would expand the number of ferry gates and improves ferry patron circulation, boarding, and wayfinding in and around the Ferry Building. In addition, the project would enhance emergency response capabilities to evacuate people from San Francisco and/or mobilize first responders to San Francisco via ferries if a catastrophic event occurs.

The WETA-sponsored improvements represent the continuation of improvements at the San Francisco Ferry Terminal and would include:

- Demolition and removal of Pier ½ and Pier 2;
- Construction of Gate A in the north basin, and Gates F and G in the south basin;
- Installation of boarding area amenities such as weather-protected areas for queuing, ticket machines and fare collection equipment, improved lighting, and ferry boarding and arrival/departure information signs;
- Widening of ferry access pathways along existing pedestrian promenades, and separation of ferry patron queuing from other pedestrian and vehicular movements where possible;
- Improved wayfinding signage in the vicinity of the Ferry Building, that will indicate ferry boarding areas and transit connections; and
- Filling in the lagoon to prepare for and accommodate staging and circulation of evacuees following a catastrophic event.

Public Scoping Meeting: The purpose of the Scoping Meeting is to present information regarding the environmental review process, and to provide opportunities for public input on the scope of the environmental analysis to be conducted for this project. Information about future opportunities for public comment will also be provided. A resource agency staff meeting (also open to the public) will take place in the same location from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



The public scoping meeting will be held:

April 26, 2011
Open House 5:30 p.m., presentation 6:15 p.m.
Bayside Conference Rooms
Pier 1, The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111

A Notice of Preparation and Notice of Intent are being circulated by WETA and FTA for the purpose of defining the scope and content of the EIS/EIR. The 45-day period for the public to provide comments ends on May 16, 2011. Copies of the Notice of Preparation and Notice of Intent are available for public review via the web at: <http://www.watertransit.org/>, or at WETA's office: Pier 9, Suite 111, The Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA.

For More Information: Please direct questions regarding the Scoping Meeting to Mike Gougherty, WETA Project Manager, at (415) 364-3189. The meeting will be accessible to persons with disabilities. If special translation or signing services or other special accommodations are needed, please contact Mike Gougherty at least 48 hours before the meeting.

If you are not able to attend the Scoping Meeting but would like to provide written comments for consideration in the EIS/EIR, please send to:

Mike Gougherty
WETA Project Manager
San Francisco Bay Water Emergency Transportation Authority
Pier 9, Suite 111, The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111.

Comments must be received by May 16, 2011 to be considered.

A fact sheet providing further details about the proposed project can be found at: <http://www.watertransit.org/>.