

This section summarizes the public involvement process and the list of preparers of this document. In general, this section describes the public and agency outreach activities that have taken place since the release of the Draft EIR in August 2002.

6.1 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND SCOPING

6.1.1 Public Involvement

In addition to the preparation of this Program EIR, WTA developed a parallel public involvement strategy and process that includes coordination with many other organizations, project stakeholders, and government agencies. Working under the direction of the WTA's enabling legislation, the project team structure was created to allow for continuous and substantive input from the various interests and stakeholders. The structure includes:

- **WTA** – WTA Board of Directors and supporting staff serve as the Lead Agency under CEQA and the sponsors of this project. The WTA Board of Directors has held regularly scheduled meetings that are open to the public.
- **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** – Technical review group including various interest groups such as affected public agencies, recreational, environmental, business, ferry vessel operators, organized labor, and the public at large. The group discusses technical issues related to the environmental review. The following subcommittees provided input to the IOP and EIR development process:
 - The **Agency Ad-Hoc Committee** was created as a TAC subcommittee to focus specifically on the environmental concerns and regulatory issues of partner and future permitting agencies. This group met several times throughout the environmental process, providing early feedback on the environmental technical studies and resource issues.
 - The **Clean Marine Ad-Hoc Work Group** was created as a TAC subcommittee to examine current and future ferry vessel technologies.
 - The **SOS Ad-Hoc Work Group** was created as a TAC subcommittee to provide a forum for discussion of ferry operations safety methods and technologies.
 - The **Clean Marine Ad-Hoc Committee** was created as a TAC subcommittee to examine current and future ferry vessel technologies.
 - The **Environmental Organizations Ad-Hoc Committee** was created as a TAC subcommittee to provide environmental organizations such as the Bluewater Network and the Sierra Club an opportunity to discuss environmental concerns.
 - The **Intermodal Design Ad-Hoc Committee** was created as a TAC subcommittee with transit providers and current ferry operators to provide input on efficient transit connections to ferry terminals.
 - The **Operators Ad-Hoc Committee** was created as a TAC subcommittee to provide input on efficient terminal/system design and operations.

- **Community Advisory Committee (CAC)** – Forum for representatives appointed by their local governments to raise issues of local concern and learn about the project. Members represent local jurisdictions around San Francisco Bay with potential ferry terminal expansion or new terminal sites. The group, composed primarily of elected officials, serves as a conduit for information to the larger community.
- **Interest Groups, the Public, and Other Public Agencies** – Information channeled through a comprehensive public outreach plan. The TAC and CAC members serve as a conduit of information to their larger constituencies. Input is provided through direct communication, information flyers, project website, public meetings/presentations, and public hearings. Informational project presentations were provided to local/regional governments, civic organizations, and the public at large. A listing of the meetings held through August 2002 was provided in the Draft EIR.

The Public Involvement process aims to keep stakeholders involved through the CAC, TAC, open public forums, and project updates. The following provides a comprehensive list of meetings and other outreach methods convened by the WTA to educate stakeholders throughout the environmental process.

- **TAC Meetings (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 101 8th Street, Oakland)**
 - May 1, 2001
 - September 13, 2001
 - December 13, 2001
 - March 12, 2002
 - June 11, 2002
 - July 9, 2002
- **Agency Ad-Hoc Meetings – TAC Subcommittee (Bay Conservation and Development Commission, 50 California Street, San Francisco)**
 - August 31, 2001
 - March 1, 2002
 - May 29, 2002
- **Clean Marine Ad-Hoc Work Group – TAC Subcommittee (Port of San Francisco, Pier 1, San Francisco)**
 - June 29, 2001
 - August 13, 2001
 - November 16, 2001
 - March 5, 2002
 - May 7, 2002

- **SOS Ad-Hoc Work Group – TAC Subcommittee (Port of San Francisco, Pier 1, San Francisco)**
 - October 19, 2001
 - March 8, 2002
 - April 18, 2002
 - June 04, 2002
 - July 12, 2002
- **Environmental Organizations Ad-Hoc Committee – TAC Subcommittee (WTA, 120 Broadway, San Francisco)**
 - August 16, 2001
- **Intermodal Design Ad-Hoc Committee – TAC Subcommittee (ARUP, 901 Market Street Suite 260, San Francisco)**
 - April 10, 2002
 - May 7, 2002
- **Operators Ad-Hoc Committee – TAC Subcommittee (WTA, 120 Broadway, San Francisco)**
 - January 28, 2002
 - March 25, 2002
 - April 17, 2002
- **CAC Meetings (425 Market Street, 26th Floor, SFSU Extension, San Francisco)**
 - May 2, 2001
 - September 5, 2001
 - December 12, 2001
 - March 27, 2002
 - July 10, 2002
- **Public Information Presentations (Various locations)** – Approximately 60 public information meetings and presentations were conducted by WTA staff with local governments, civic organizations, and interest groups. These presentations were held throughout the Bay Area to educate the public and decision-makers on the environmental process.
- **Project Website** – The project website at www.watertransit.org provides detailed and current information on the project. Many draft technical documents and presentations are available on the project website.

- **Project Update** – Distributed to a database of approximately 850 contacts, the project mailer provides stakeholders with a schedule and status report on the overall project. The Project Update is also distributed with information packets for the media and at stakeholder meetings.
- **Project Brochure** – The project brochure was developed to provide stakeholders with an overview of the entire program, including the environmental process. This is a full color, glossy, tri-fold brochure distributed at stakeholder meetings, conferences, presentations, and other public venues.

6.1.2 Public Hearings

The DEIR was released on August 26, 2002 and a public comment period was initially open until October 31, 2002. It was later extended to January 30, 2003. The Draft Implementation and Operations Plan (IOP) was submitted to the Legislature on December 12, 2002. The public comment period was open until October 31, 2002. During the public comment period, two public hearings were held on the DEIR and nine on the IOP. The hearings were a chance for members of the public to learn more about the program and to comment on the two documents. The following provides a comprehensive list of these hearings:

DEIR Hearings

- **September 10, 2002 – Oakland**
Metropolitan Transportation Commission Auditorium
101 8th Street, Oakland
- **September 17, 2002 – San Francisco**
Port of San Francisco
Bayside Conference Room
Pier 1, San Francisco

IOP Hearings

- **September 26, 2002 – Contra Costa County**
Senior Center
818 Green Street, Martinez
- **October 1, 2002 – San Mateo County**
The Municipal Services Building
33 Arroyo Drive, South San Francisco
- **October 3, 2002 – Alameda County**
Metropolitan Transportation Commission Auditorium
101 8th Street, Oakland

- **October 8, 2002 – Marin County**
Council Chambers
1400 5th Street, San Rafael
- **October 10, 2002 – San Francisco County**
Port of San Francisco
Pier 1, San Francisco
- **October 15, 2002 – Sonoma County**
Community Center
320 N. McDowell Boulevard, Petaluma
- **October 17, 2002 – Solano County**
JFK Library
505 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo
- **October 21, 2002 – Santa Clara County**
City Hall Council Chamber
456 W. Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale
- **October 24, 2002 – Napa County**
County Library
Coombs Street, Napa

6.1.3 Public Comments

The project's public involvement process included public comment periods for both the DEIR and the Revised DEIR. During the comment periods, project stakeholders and the public had the opportunity to review the documents and provide the WTA with comments.

The WTA then considered and responded to the comments received and developed the FEIR. Comments on both the DEIR and the Revised DEIR are addressed together as a separate volume to this FEIR.

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