



# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER



Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design

## Project Background Information November 2020



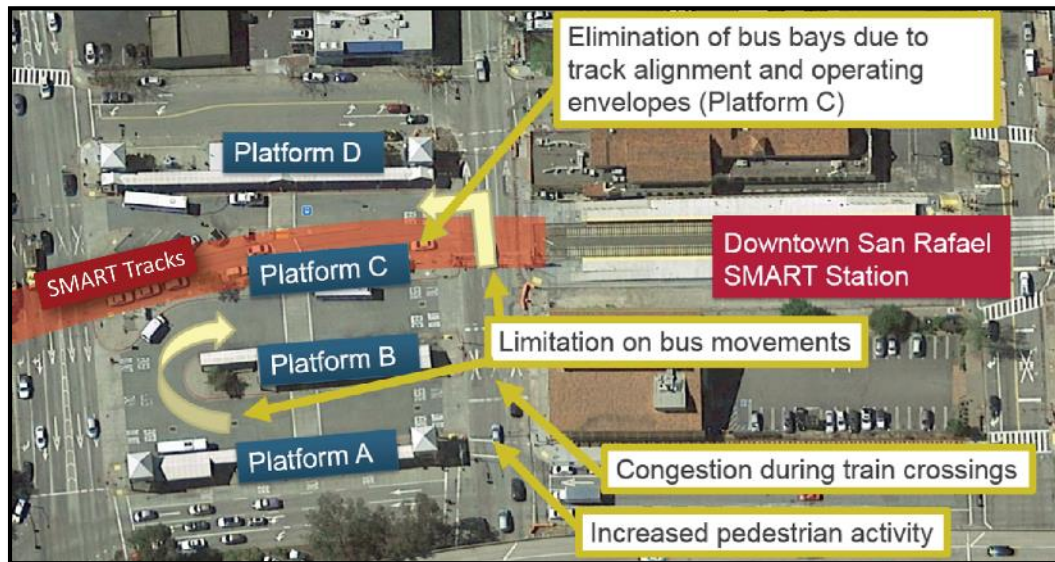
**SAN RAFAEL**  
THE CITY WITH A MISSION





## Why a New Transit Center?

- The SMART extension to Larkspur bisected the existing San Rafael Transit Center (SRTC), significantly impacting bus operations and pedestrian movements
- The SRTC will operate in an interim condition until a replacement transit center is constructed





# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



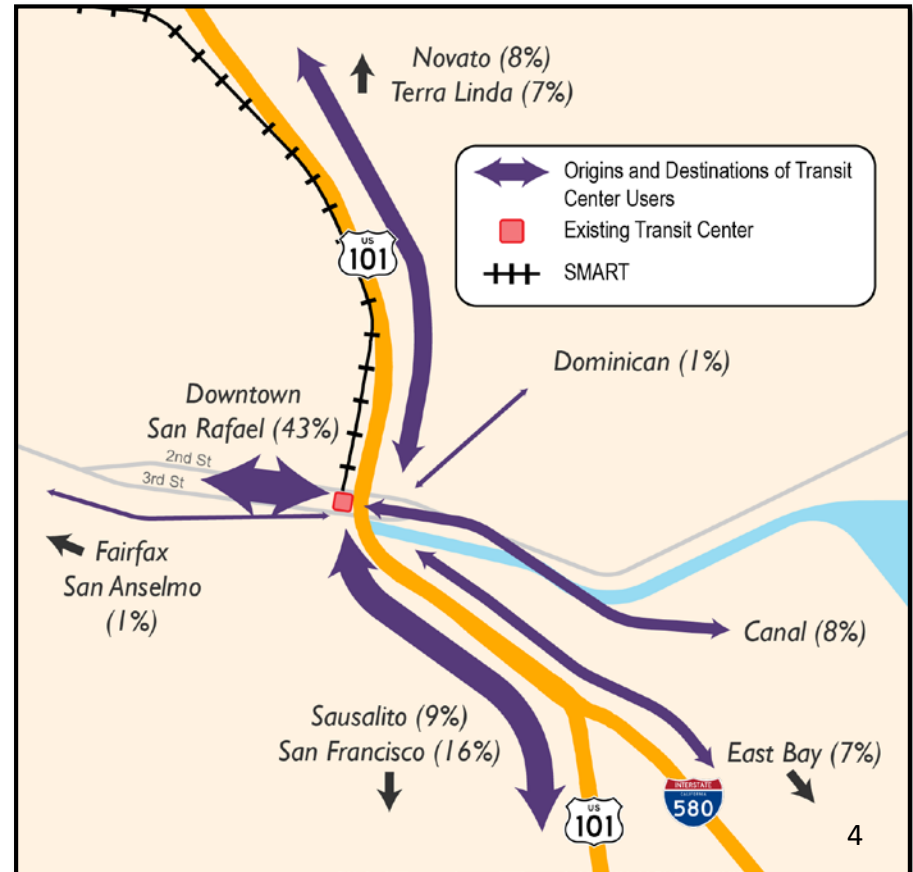
## What Transportation Services are Available at the Transit Center?





## How is the Transit Center Used?

- 9,000 daily bus boardings and alightings
- Over 500 bus trips a day
- Start and end point for many riders' trips







# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



## Study Area

- Locations outside of this area were explored as part of *Relocation Study* and eliminated





## Project Objectives

- Complete an environmental impact report (EIR) which analyzes the transit center alternatives under consideration
- Select a preferred transit center location and configuration
- Preliminary design for the preferred transit center



## Elements of the Proposed Transit Center

- 17 bus bays
  - Same capacity as current transit center, fully utilized at peak times (even during pandemic)
- Existing SMART Station
- Security
- Clipper machines
- Covered waiting areas and passenger seating
- Bike parking
- Green (LEED) treatments
- Wayfinding
- Customer service and transit information
- Lighting
- Landscaping and public spaces
- Ancillary retail space
- Maintenance parking
- Pick-up/Drop-off space
- Taxi and shuttle space
- Driver relief facilities
- Public restrooms



# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



## IDENTIFY ALTERNATIVES

## EVALUATE OPTIONS/ ENVIRONMENTAL

Current stage

## PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING

- Determine Transit Center functional and operational needs
- Conduct preliminary issue and opportunity identification
- Identify and screen alternatives

- Prepare 15% design for each alternative
- Evaluate access and circulation
- Study environmental impact of options
- Define scale and placement of key amenities
- Identify public realm opportunities

- Prepare 30% design for selected alternative
- Further define costing; level of finish, materials, and programs.

## FINAL DESIGN

- Final design conducted in the next project phase



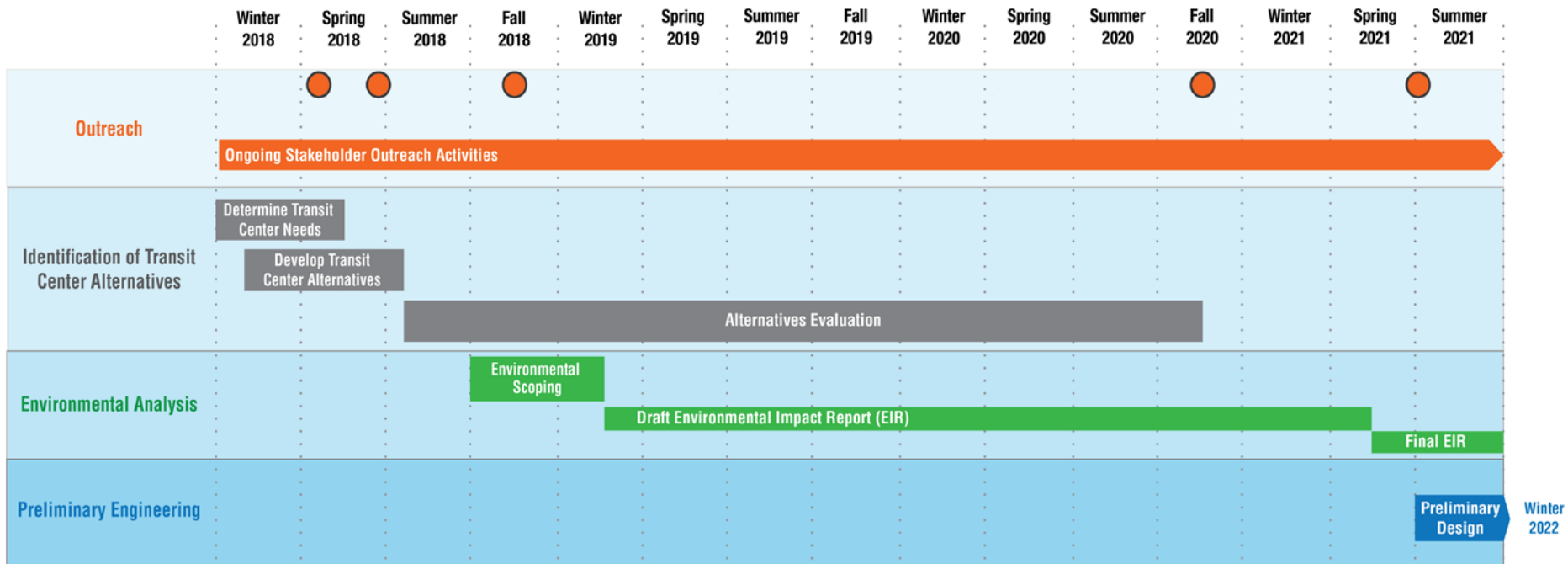


# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



## Project Schedule



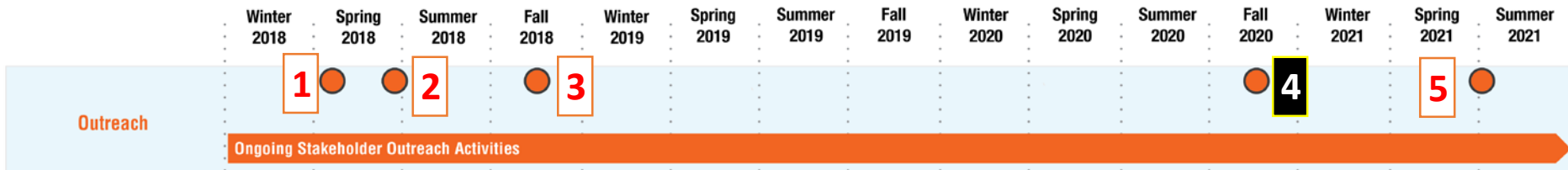
● Community engagement activities include: Meetings, presentations, online surveys and in-person engagement at the transit center

Subject to change depending on project process



## Community Outreach Process

- Five phases of public engagement
  1. Listening (March 2018 Open House & Survey)
  2. Input on Specific Concepts (June 2018 Open House, Canal Outreach, Survey)
  3. Scoping for Environmental Analysis (October 2018 Meeting)
  4. **Project Update/Review of Alternatives (November 2020)**
  5. Review Findings of Environmental Analysis (anticipated Spring 2021)





# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

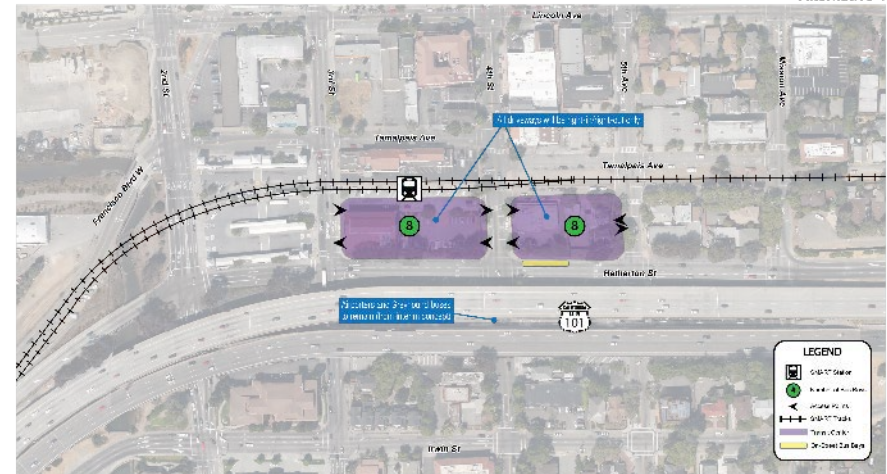
Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



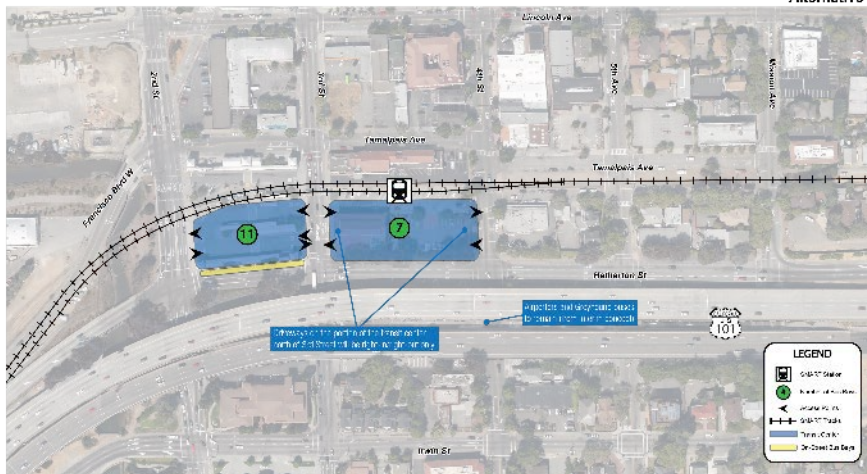
## Initial *San Rafael Transit Center Relocation Study (2017)*

- Led by City of San Rafael in partnership with transit agencies and TAM
- Initial nine concepts with three analyzed in detail
- No preferred concept selected

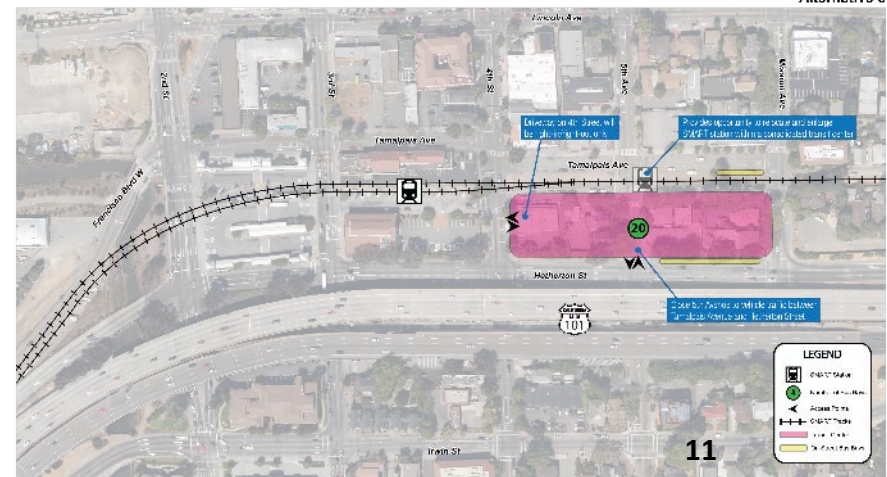
Alternative 4



Alternative 2



Alternative 5





## **Concepts Removed from Consideration in Initial Design and Outreach Activities**

- Reuse of existing transit center site
- Three *Relocation Study (2017)* Alternatives
- Downtown San Rafael Station Area Plan Station Concept (2012)
- **Options did not meet purpose and need of project and/or were not consistent with community priorities**



## Notice of Preparation

- Notice of Preparation (NOP) of Draft Environmental Impact Report started environmental analysis process
- Scoping period in October and November 2018
- Community meeting in October 2018 with approximately 100 attendees
- Received over 200 comments at meeting, via e-mail, and mail



## **Narrowing of Alternatives**

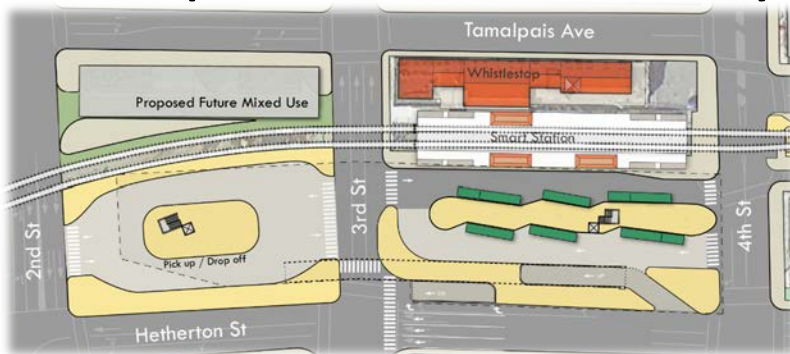
- NOP included 5 alternatives
- 1 additional alternative was proposed by public comment in scoping period
- Since Fall 2018, three alternatives were removed from further consideration based on technical analysis and community input and the other alternatives were further refined



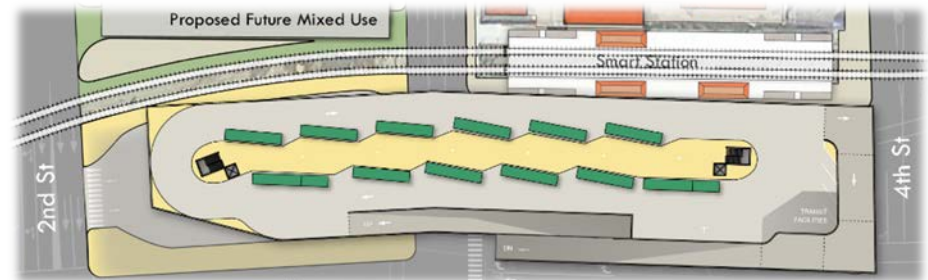


## **Previously Considered Alternatives (NOP): Two-Story Concept**

- Not well received by the community in past meetings
- Concerns about security, cost, aesthetics, and operational flexibility



Lower Level

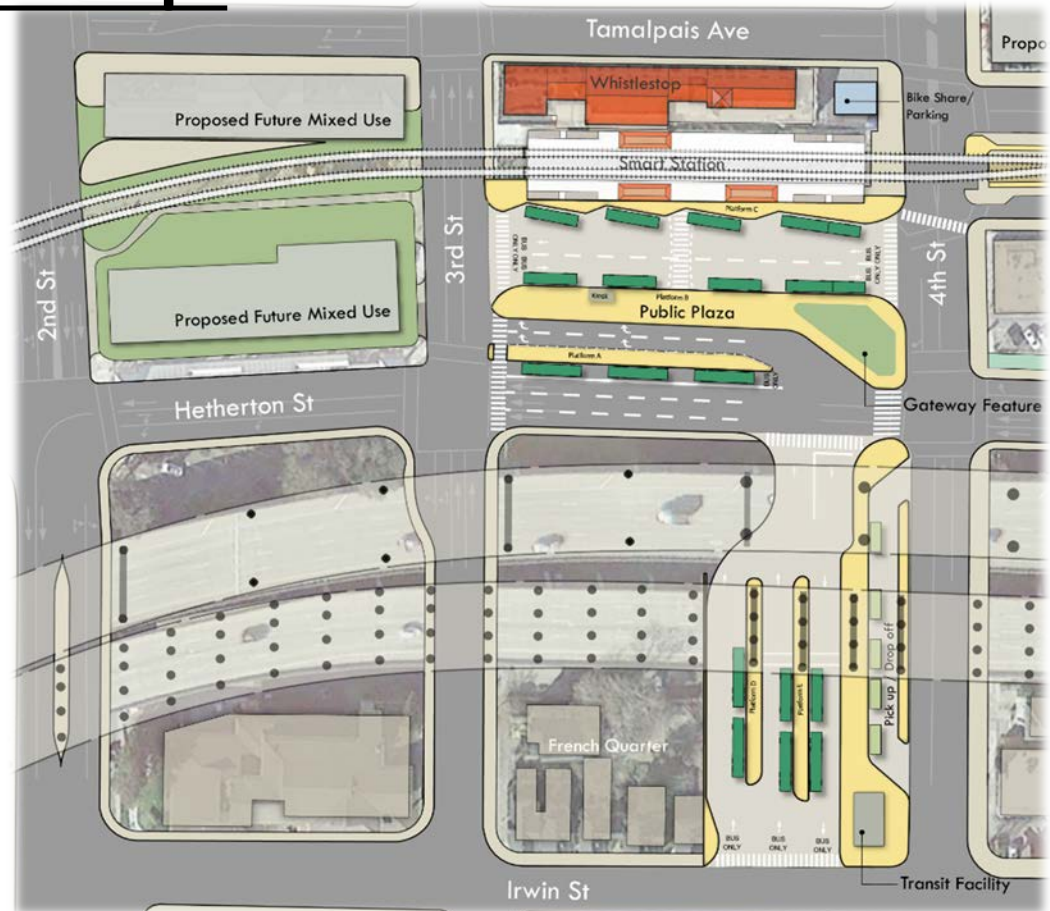


Upper Level



## Previously Considered Alternatives (NOP): Across the Freeway Concept

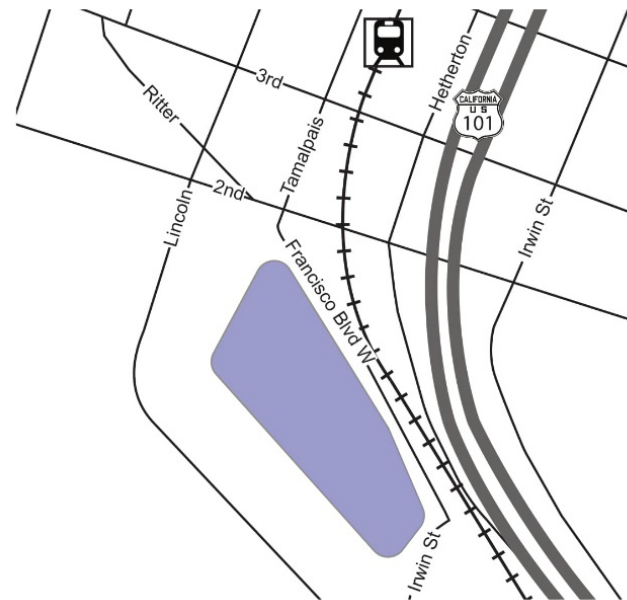
- Not well received by the community in past meetings
- Undesirable for transfers between transit services as transit center is bisected by Hetherton Street





## Previously Considered Alternatives (Comment Provided on NOP): Glass & Sash Site

- Poor connectivity to Downtown – pedestrians must cross 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets
- Would require significant diversion of bus routes to serve this location
- Reduces connectivity between bus and SMART





## Project Efforts Since Fall 2018 Outreach

- Prepared detailed concepts and refined the three remaining alternatives based on feedback received from the public and other stakeholders
- Completed traffic circulation and transit operations analysis
- Prepared cost estimates
- Advancing an evaluation and environmental analysis of the three alternatives
- Began considering design aesthetics and prepared visual renderings

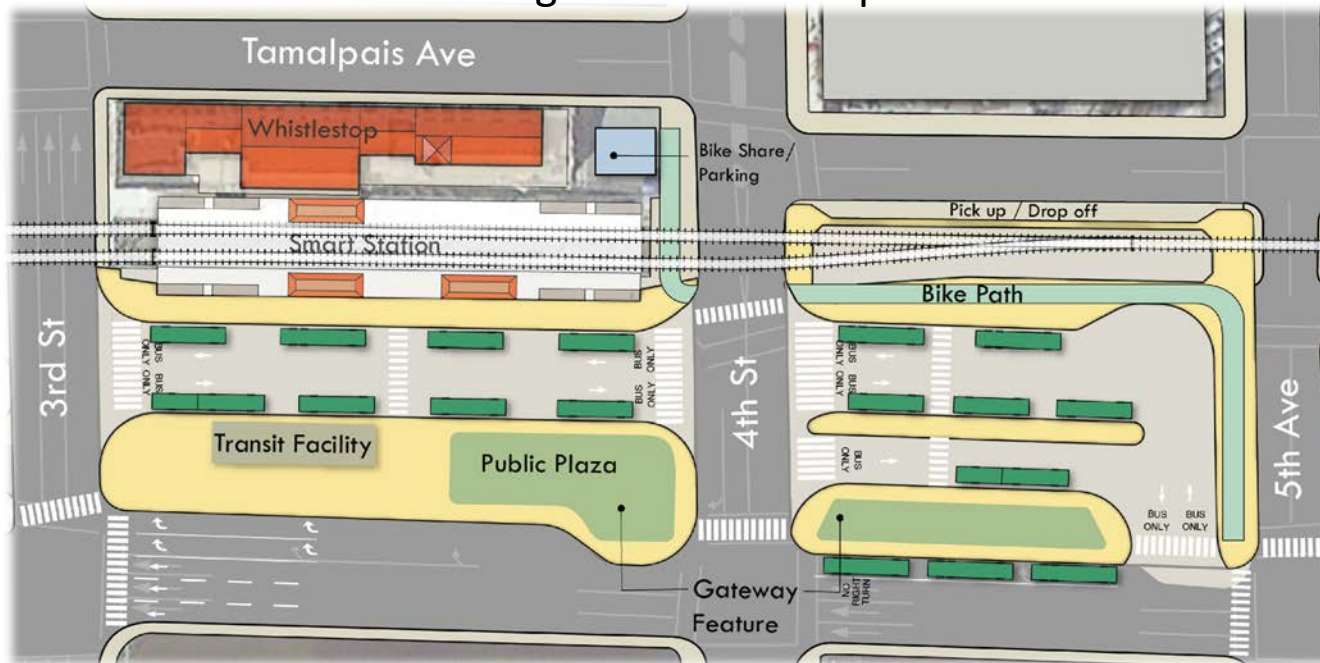


## **NOP Alternative: 4<sup>th</sup> Street Gateway Concept**

How this concept has changed since the NOP:

- Minor site modifications

Original NOP Concept







# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



- SK** Security Kiosk
- TVM** Ticket Vending Machine
- .....** Project Limits

## 4<sup>th</sup> Street Gateway Concept



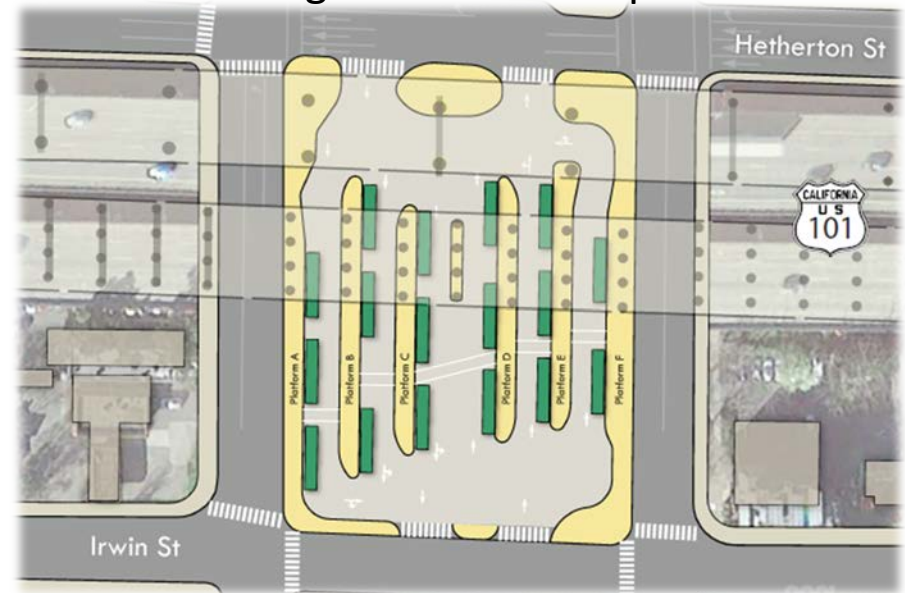


## **NOP Alternative: North of 4<sup>th</sup> Street Concept**

How this concept has changed:

- Expanded to include property south of 4<sup>th</sup> Street in order to meet project definition (renamed as Under the Freeway Concept)
- Reconfigured the site north of 4<sup>th</sup> Street to include building space and other amenities

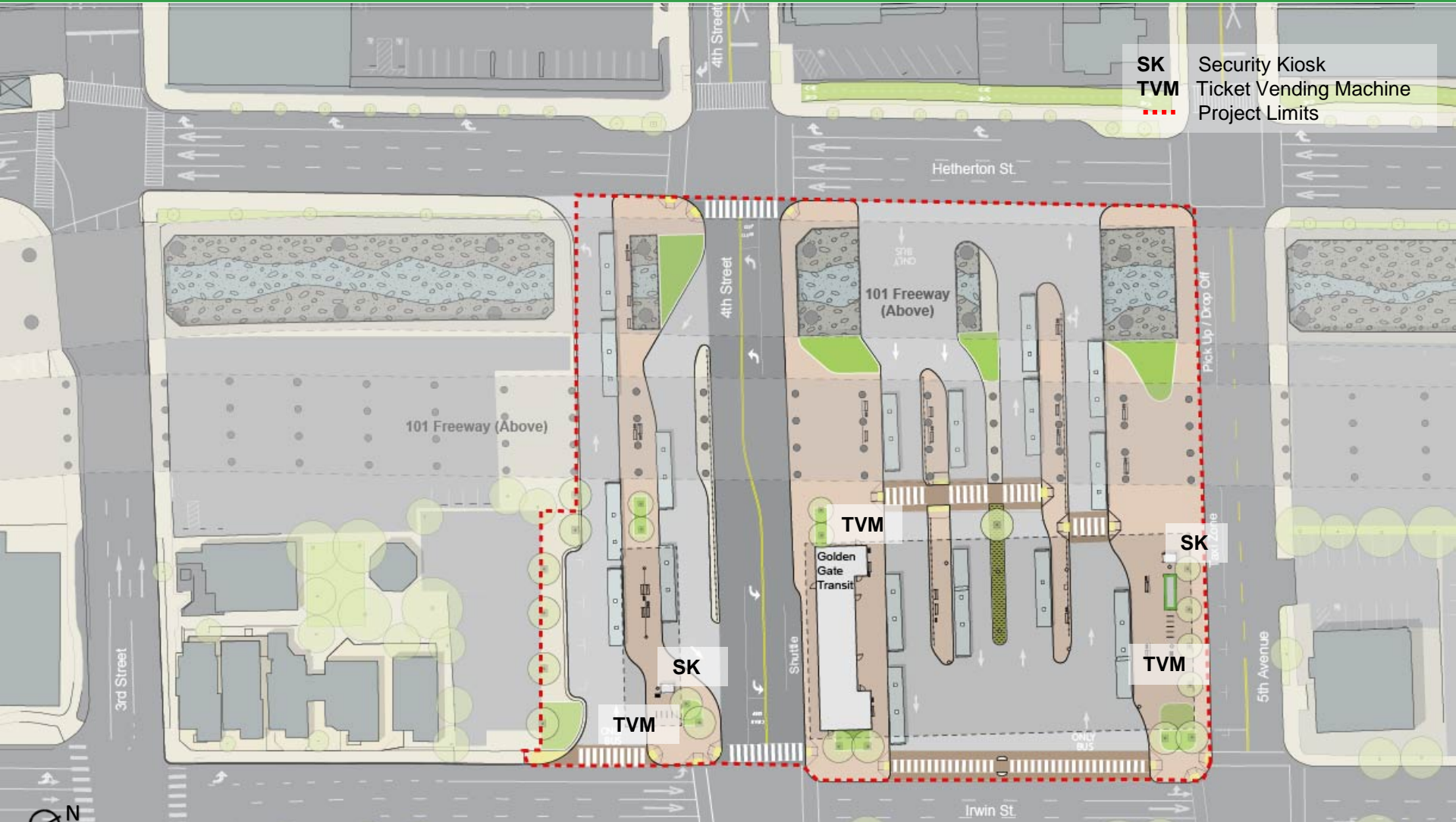
Original NOP Concept





# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



**SK** Security Kiosk  
**TVM** Ticket Vending Machine  
..... Project Limits



## Under the Freeway Concept

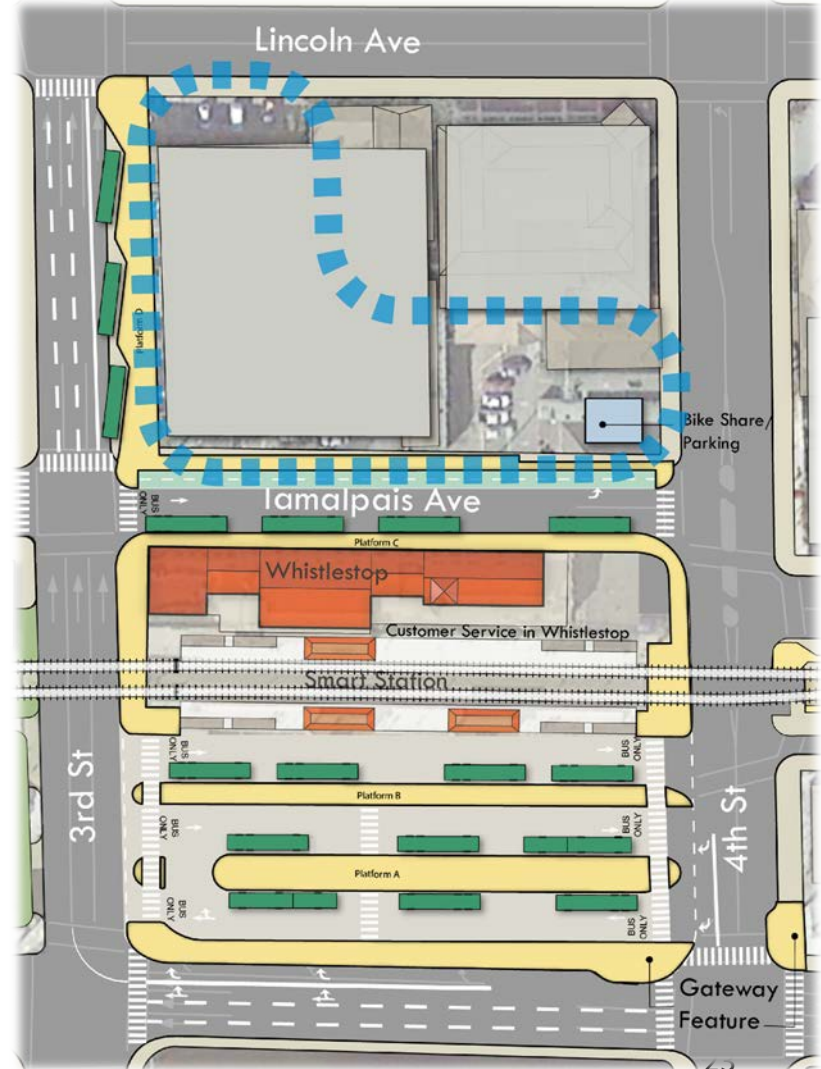


## **NOP Alternative: Whistlestop Block Concept**

How this concept has changed since Fall 2018:

- Uses bays on both sides of Tamalpais instead of on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street
- Considering two options:
  - Keep the existing Whistlestop building where it is
  - Either moving building or re-constructing building on west side of Tamalpais Avenue

Original NOP Concept

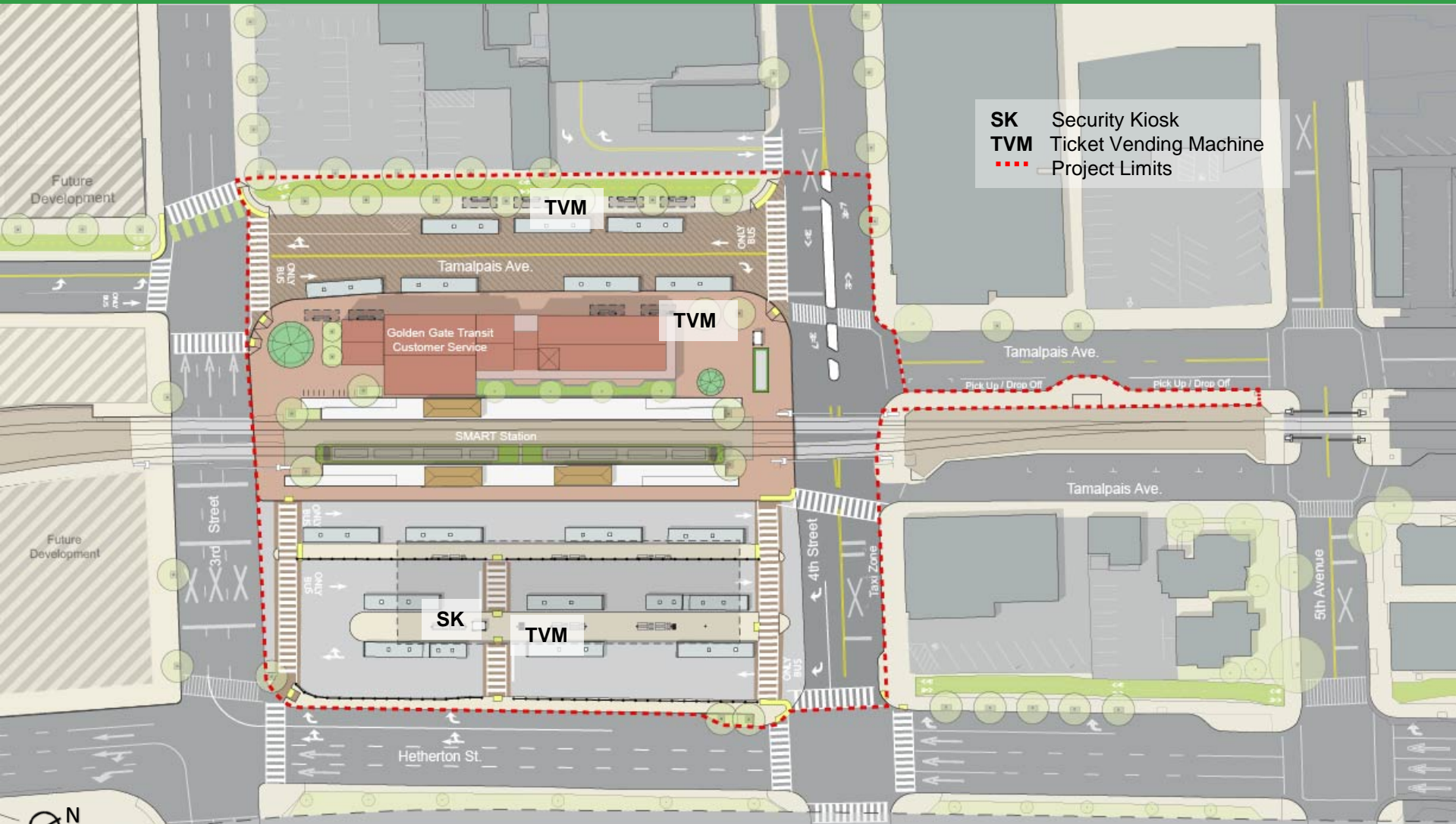






# SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



**SK** Security Kiosk  
**TVM** Ticket Vending Machine  
- - - - - Project Limits

## Whistlestop Block Concept



## SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design



Please see the **Alternatives Presentation** for additional information on the current alternatives under consideration



## We Want Your Input!

- Provide your feedback through the online survey (**see link**)
  - Tell us how these alternatives rate under different categories
  - Tell us what you like or would like to change about any of the three alternatives
- Survey open through **November 30<sup>th</sup>**