



**Notice of Availability of the Extension of Comment Period of Draft
Environmental Impact Report
for the San Rafael Transit Center Replacement Project**

State Clearinghouse No. 2018102042

NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN: that the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District), has extended the comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the San Rafael Transit Center Replacement Project by three weeks. This Draft EIR was released for public review and comment on August 11, 2021. The original Draft EIR review period was scheduled to end on October 12, 2021; however, the District has decided to extend the review period an additional 3 weeks to November 2, 2021.

The Draft EIR may be accessed on the District's website at <https://www.goldengate.org/district/district-projects/san-rafael-transit-center/>. Copies of the Draft EIR are available for review at two local libraries: the San Rafael Public Library Main Branch located at 1100 E Street, San Rafael, CA 94901, and the San Rafael Public Library Pickleweed (Canal Neighborhood) Branch located at 50 Canal Street, San Rafael, CA 94901.

PROJECT LOCATION: The existing San Rafael Transit Center is in Downtown San Rafael, between 2nd Street, 3rd Street, Tamalpais Avenue, and Hetherton Street. All project alternatives are within Downtown San Rafael. Each alternative is within 500 feet of the existing San Rafael Transit Center and is bordered with a mix of office, residential, and retail uses.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Draft EIR analyzes a preferred alternative and three build alternatives; the Move Whistlestop Alternative (the preferred alternative), Adapt Whistlestop Alternative, 4th Street Gateway Alternative, and Under the Freeway Alternative. The preferred alternative and the three build alternatives would include provisions for 17 bus bays, pick-up/drop-off areas for passenger vehicles or taxis, bicycle parking, customer service and security space, passenger amenities such as weather protection and seating, bus operator restrooms, and parking for operations staff. The District estimates that construction activities would occur over 18 months following approval of the final design. Construction is estimated to start in 2023 or 2024. The project alternatives are not located on any list of hazardous materials waste sites compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. As required by CEQA, the Draft EIR also analyzes a No-Project Alternative.

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: The preferred alternative would not result in significant and unavoidable impacts. Significant impacts related to Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise and Vibration, and Tribal Cultural Resources would be reduced to less-than-significant levels after implementation of mitigation measures. Please see the Draft EIR for impacts related to other alternatives.

COMMENT PERIOD: The District is soliciting comments regarding the analysis in the Draft EIR. **All comments must be received by the District on November 2, 2021.** Written comments on the Draft EIR may be addressed to Raymond Santiago, Principal Planner, Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District, 1011 Andersen Drive, San Rafael, CA 94901-5318

and sent via U.S. mail. Comments may also be sent via email to SRTC@goldengate.org. All comments on environmental issues received during the public comment period will be considered and addressed in the Final EIR, which is anticipated to be available for public review by early 2022.