SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design

Community Open House #2 – June 12th, 2018, 5:30 – 7:00 PM

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Open House Agenda

• Welcome

• Brief Presentation
  • Project Background and Purpose
  • Concept Development
  • Summary of Concepts

• Feedback and Discussion
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)
Project Schedule

Outreach
- 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
- Final Environmental Impact Report

Preliminary Engineering
- Preliminary Design Fall 2020

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

Subject to change depending on project process.
What 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
Previous Outreach

• Open House held March 20\(^{th}\), 2018
• Online survey open March 20\(^{th}\) through May 1\(^{st}\) – 206 responses
March 20th Open House

• Community Priorities:
  • Pedestrian access
  • Enhance bicycle connectivity
  • Ease of transferring between different bus routes
  • Provide a safe and comfortable facility for users
  • Ease of transferring to and from SMART
  • Provide flexibility to meet future transit needs
March 20th Open House

• Design Priorities
  • Real Time Information
  • Enhanced Weather Protection
  • Bike Share
  • Engage with 4th Street
  • Memorable Plaza and Paving Elements
  • Green Spaces
Online Survey Results

• When considering where to put a new transit center and what it should look like, how important are the following factors to you?
  1. Having a safe transit center
  2. Pedestrian access to the transit center
  3. Minimizing impacts to surrounding vehicle traffic

• I would use transit more, or my transit experience would be better, if the transit center:
  1. Had better waiting areas
  2. Is located in a more easily accessible location by foot
  3. Is located in a more easily accessible location by car
Purpose & Need

• A Purpose & Need statement is required for 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
Project Purpose

• Improved transit connectivity

• Enhance local and regional transit use 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

• Provide a secure, safe, and inviting space for transit patrons

• Create a more accessible transit facility for all users

• Provide convenient pedestrian connections to surrounding land uses
Project Need

• The SMART extension to Larkspur will cut through the Transit Center and result in the loss of some essential facilities

• Address near-term and long-term transit needs while improving the desirability and usability of transit

• To the extent feasible, minimize traffic congestion and facilitate smooth transit operations while also promoting pedestrian safety
Design Considerations

• **Transportation System Operations**
  
  • Improve traveler safety, convenience and connectivity between all modes: bus movements, bus transfers, bicycle/pedestrian access, SMART, and passenger pick-up/drop-off

• **Universal Design**
  
  • Develop access to transportation services through universal design, consistent with user expectations and intuition with a focus on accessibility, wayfinding, and safe and clear paths of travel, limiting the need for special accommodations
Design Considerations (cont.)

• Placemaking
  • Create a welcoming, attractive, memorable, vibrant place for all users that includes design elements that help incorporate the facility into San Rafael’s urban fabric

• Sustainable Design
  • Improve storm water treatment, energy efficiency, and other sustainability goals using durable and environmentally-sound materials.

• Durability and Maintenance
  • Consider safety, cleanliness, and long-term maintenance needs in design
Design Requirements - Facilities

• Bus bays
  • 17 bays, matching current transit center

• Customer waiting areas

• Customer service in close proximity

• Wayfinding and transit information

• Bike parking

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

• Security and lighting

• Operator facilities
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
Understanding Trade-offs

- Smaller sites may be lower cost with less impact
  - Larger sites can reduce bus movements on City streets

- Sites closest to downtown provide best access for patrons
  - Sites closest to downtown may introduce more conflicts for pedestrians

- Consolidated sites make transfers and wayfinding easier
  - Consolidated sites may have greater effect on City streets to facilitate bus routing
Study Area
Concepts for Input
Two-Story Concept

Lower Level

Upper Level
Across the Freeway Concept
Across the Freeway Concept – Hetherton Shift Option
4th Street Gateway Concept
Whistlestop Block Concept
Provide Feedback on Concepts

• We have listed pros and cons for these concepts – which of these are the most important to consider?
  • Add dots next to the pros and cons

• What do you like about these concepts?
  • Add a post-it note

• What would you change about these concepts?
  • Add a post-it note
Opportunities for Public Input

• Four phases of public engagement
  1. Listening (March 20\textsuperscript{th} Open House)
  2. Input on Specific Concepts (Current Phase – June 12\textsuperscript{th} Meeting)
  3. Identification of Alternative(s) for Environmental Analysis
  4. Share Findings of Environmental Analysis

• A combination of open houses, smaller-scale meetings, online forums, stakeholder engagement, and presentations to agency boards/committees
Project Contact Information

• E-mail: SRTC@goldengate.org
• Phone: (415) 257-4444 (dedicated project line)
• View our website at: goldengate.org/SRTC
• Take our survey: http://bit.ly/SRTCSurvey