PUBLIC NOTICE
Availability of Notice of Preparation of Environmental Impact Report

Date: August 26, 2020
Comment Deadline: September 25, 2020
Case No.: 2019-023037ENV
Project Title: Waterfront Plan Project
Block/Lot: Multiple Piers and Seawall Lots
Project Sponsor: Diane Oshima—Port of San Francisco
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PURPOSE OF NOTICE
The San Francisco Planning Department has prepared a notice of preparation for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) regarding the Port of San Francisco’s Waterfront Plan Project. An EIR must be prepared for the proposed project prior to any final decision regarding whether to approve the project. The purpose of the EIR is to provide information about potential significant physical environmental effects of the proposed project, identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects, and describe and analyze possible alternatives to the proposed project.

A notice of preparation or EIR does not indicate a decision by the City to approve or to disapprove the project. The City must review and consider the information contained in the EIR prior to making a decision.

You may participate in the first public process concerning the project’s environmental effects by:

- contacting Sherie George via email (CPC.WaterfrontEIR@sfgov.org), phone (628) 652-7558, or by mail at 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA 94103; OR
- attending a video or teleconference public scoping meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 5 p.m. The planning department will hold the meeting using an online platform. You can join the meeting via the online platform link found on the Department’s webpage, sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs; or via phone, using the following phone number: 833.548.0282 (Toll Free); meeting ID 831 0306 4931. To request assistance in additional languages, please contact candace.soohoo@sfgov.org or (628) 652-7550 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to ensure availability.

The notice of preparation scoping meeting online platform link, and staff’s scoping meeting presentation are available here: sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs. You may also request a CD or paper copy by contacting Sherie George. Please also refer to the Project Description and Public Comment sections below for more information.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Port of San Francisco’s proposed 2019 Waterfront Plan Project (2019 Plan or proposed project) would update and amend the 1997 Waterfront Land Use Plan, which sets long-term goals and policies to guide the use, management, and improvement of 7.5 miles of properties under the Port’s jurisdiction, from Fisherman’s Wharf to India Basin.

The 2019 Plan provides a long-range policy framework to guide future Port improvement projects, programs, and stewardship initiatives. The nine goals and polices proposed by the Plan include but are not limited to preservation and enhancement of the waterfront’s function as a maritime port, hosting a diversity of activities and people, enhancing public access and open space along the waterfront, the design of quality new development and preservation of the waterfront’s historic character, strengthening the Port’s resilience to climate change impacts, and cultivating an environmentally sustainable port to limit the impacts of climate change. The EIR would analyze the physical environmental impacts of the proposed goals, policies, and objectives based on land use growth assumptions determined by the San Francisco Planning Department, and the resulting physical development that could occur under the 2019 Plan. Land use objectives proposed by the Plan are particular to each of the five waterfront subareas: Fisherman’s Wharf, Northeast waterfront, South Beach, Mission Bay and the Southern Waterfront. Proposed maritime land use objectives include but are not limited to (1) preservation of maritime berthing areas, ship repair, and drydock activities; (2) exploration of industrial maritime uses and activities; and (3) increasing cargo facility uses. Commercial and recreational objectives include but are not limited to supporting recreational boating, increased use of underutilized piers, and increased business services and amenities. Open space and public access objectives include but are not limited to enhancement of Blue Greenway public access in the Mission Bay and Southern Waterfront, integration of parks through public access infrastructure, and the provision of wayfinding systems to facilitate public access. Transportation objectives include the expansion of public and alternative transportation services. Overall, the land use objectives increase intensity of use, diversify uses, and enhance public access and transportation infrastructure throughout the waterfront.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The planning department welcomes your comments concerning the potential environmental effects of this project. Your comments should focus on significant environmental issues regarding this project, information that would help the environmental analysis, or factors to consider in the environmental analysis.

If you work for an agency that is a Responsible or a Trustee Agency, we need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is relevant to your agency’s statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency may need to use the EIR when considering a permit or other approval for this project. We will also need the name of the contact person for your agency.

If you have questions or comments concerning this notice, please contact Sherie George, CPC.WaterfrontEIR@sfgov.org, (628) 652-7558 by September 25, 2020.

Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the department. However, the department may make all written or oral communications available, including submitted personal contact information, for inspection and copying upon request from the public. These communications may also be posted on the department’s website or in other public documents.

Anyone receiving this notice is encouraged to pass on this information to others who may have an interest in the project.