



PUBLIC NOTICE

AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROJECT INFORMATION		PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION	
Project Title:	Portsmouth Square Improvement Project	Hearing Date:	September 9, 2021
Project Address:	733 Kearny Street, 750 Kearny Street	Time:	1 p.m. or later
Case No.:	2018-013597ENV	Location:	Remote or in-person hearing (see below and visit https://sfplanning.org/planning-commission for details)
Block/Lot No.:	0209/017, 0208/024	Case Type:	Environmental (Draft EIR)
Zoning District(s):	P (Public), C-3-O (Downtown, Office)	Hearing Body:	Planning Commission
Neighborhood:	Chinatown, Financial District		
Project Sponsor:	Cara Ruppert, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, 628.652.6645		
EIR Coordinator:	Megan Calpin – 628652.7508 CPC.PortsmouthSquareEIR@sfgov.org		

The San Francisco Planning Department (San Francisco Planning) has studied this project’s potential physical environmental effects and welcomes your comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR. Refer to the Project Description and Purpose of Notice sections below for more information.

Project Description

A Draft EIR has been prepared by San Francisco Planning in connection with this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to study the project’s potential physical environmental effects.

The project sponsor, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, proposes to renovate Portsmouth Square, located on the block bounded by Washington Street to the north, Kearny Street to the east, Clay Street to the south, and Walter U. Lum Place to the west, with a new children’s playground, exercise equipment, shade structures, seating areas, wayfinding, signage, sidewalks, landscaping, terraces, ramps, and a new 8,300-square-foot clubhouse. The proposed project would demolish and remove the pedestrian bridge spanning Kearny Street that connects Portsmouth Square to 750 Kearny Street, a 27-story hotel building (currently managed as a Hilton Hotel) which includes the Chinese Culture Center on the third floor. The proposed project would re-waterproof the roof of the Portsmouth Square Garage located underneath the park and portions of the adjacent streets and sidewalks, and seismically upgrade portions of the parking garage. The proposed project would also replace curb cuts and a portion of the streets and sidewalks adjacent to Portsmouth Square for utility connections. Curb cuts would be replaced at the following intersections: Kearny and Washington streets; Washington Street and Walter U. Lum Place; Walter U. Lum Place and Clay Street; and Clay and Kearny streets.

Draft EIR: The Draft EIR finds that implementation of the proposed project would lead to significant and unavoidable project-level impacts related to historic architectural resources. The Draft EIR provides a detailed project description, an analysis of the physical environmental effects of the project, and identifies feasible mitigation measures and alternatives that would avoid or lessen the severity of project impacts. The Draft EIR is available for public review and comment on San Francisco Planning’s website at sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs and at the San Francisco Permit Center, 49 South Van Ness Avenue, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103. Paper copies and electronic copies (on a flash drive) of the Draft EIR are

available upon request to the EIR Coordinator listed above. Referenced materials are available through the following web pages: sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs and sfplanning.org/resource/permits-my-neighborhood.

Purpose of Notice

You are not required to take any action. If you wish to comment on the adequacy of the Draft EIR, you may do so in either or both of the following ways:

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Planner: **Megan Calpin, EIR Coordinator**
Via Mail: **49 South Van Ness Ave, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103**
Via Email: CPC.PortsmouthSquareEIR@sfgov.org
From August 5, 2021, to 5 p.m. on September 20, 2021

COMMENTS AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

Live Stream: <https://sfgovtv.org/planning>, or live on Cable Channel 78
September 9, 2021, at 1 p.m. or later
Due to the COVID-19 emergency, this hearing may occur in person at San Francisco City Hall or remotely using videoconferencing technology.

The purpose of the public hearing is for the San Francisco Planning Commission and San Francisco Planning staff to receive comments on the adequacy and accuracy of the Draft EIR. The commission will not respond to any of the comments or take action on the project at this hearing. Certification of the Final EIR will be considered at a later hearing. Additional information may be found on San Francisco Planning's website or by contacting the EIR coordinator listed above.

General Information about Procedures

Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with San Francisco Planning Commission or staff. All written or oral communications, including submitted personal contact information, may be made available to the public for inspection and copying upon request and may appear on the department's website or in other public documents. Only commenters on the Draft EIR will be permitted to file an appeal of the certification of the Final EIR to the Board of Supervisors.

At the close of the public review period, San Francisco Planning Department will prepare a Responses to Comments document to respond to all comments on the Draft EIR presented at the public hearing and received in writing during the public review period. This Responses to Comments document and all other associated documents will be made available at sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs.

This notice is being issued during the suspension of certain CEQA filing and posting requirements pursuant to executive orders N-54-20 and N-80-20, and its issuance complies with the alternative posting requirements stated in the order. This notice also complies with local requirements under the March 23, 2020, Fifth Supplement to the Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency dated February 25, 2020.

Projects on State Hazardous Materials Lists

As required by CEQA Guidelines section 15087(c)(6), the following information is provided because the project site is included on the following list compiled pursuant to California Government Code section 65962.5.

- *List:* Leaking Underground Storage Tank Sites, State Water Resources Control Board
- *Regulatory Identification Number:* T0607500470
- *Address of Listed Site:* 733 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94111
- *Assessor's Block/Lot:* 0209/017
- *Date of List:* March 7, 1997