



Notice of Availability of a Final Environmental Impact Report and an Environmental Assessment and Notice of Public Hearing

DATE: February 21, 2025

TO: Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Members of the Public

PROJECT: Ontario International Airport (ONT) Connector Project

The San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Ontario International Airport Connector Project (Project). Separately, but in parallel with the preparation of the CEQA EIR, an Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared, in coordination with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as the lead agency to comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The Final EIR summarizes revisions to the proposed Project that occurred since the release of the Draft EIR on October 18, 2024. In addition, the Final EIR includes all comments received during the Draft EIR public review period (October 18, 2024 through December 2, 2024) and responses to these comments. The Final EIR also includes the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) as well as other conditions of approval for the certification of the Final EIR. This notice is being provided to announce the release and availability of the Final EIR.

Project Location: The proposed Project is located in the City of Rancho Cucamonga and in the City of Ontario within San Bernardino County, as shown in Figure 1. The proposed Project alignment is a reversed L-shaped alignment consisting of Cucamonga Metrolink Station, Milliken Avenue, East Airport Drive, and ONT. Cucamonga Metrolink Station is located at 11208 Azusa Court in the City of Rancho Cucamonga and serves the Metrolink San Bernardino Line commuter rail. ONT is located at 1923 East Avion Street in the City of Ontario and provides international airport service with over 10 different airline partners.

Project Description: SBCTA proposes to construct a 4.2-mile-long transit service tunnel directly connecting the SCRRA Cucamonga Metrolink Station with ONT. The Build Alternative proposes to expand access options to ONT by providing a direct transportation connection from Cucamonga Metrolink Station to ONT. The proposed Project would provide a direct airport connection to ONT from Cucamonga Metrolink Station to support ONT's projected growth. Transit facilities would be constructed, including stations to serve Cucamonga Metrolink Station, ONT Terminal 2, and ONT Terminal 4; a maintenance and storage facility (MSF) to store and maintain vehicles; and an emergency access and ventilation (vent) shaft to provide a means of emergency passenger egress and first responder access. This new connection would increase mobility and connectivity for transit patrons; improve access to existing transportation services; provide a connection to future Brightline West service to/from ONT; and support the use of clean, emerging technology for transit opportunities between Cucamonga Metrolink Station and ONT.

Summary of Environmental Impacts: The Draft EIR identified that for the following topics, the proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts with the implementation of mitigation measures: Air Quality; Biological Resources, Cultural Resources and Tribal Cultural Resources; Geology, Soils, and Seismicity; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Land Use and Planning; Transportation and Traffic and Hydrology, Water Quality, Water Resources, and Floodplain. Mitigation measures were identified where applicable. The Draft EIR identified that, during construction, for Air Quality (cumulative) and

Paleontological Resources, avoidance of significant impacts is not feasible during construction even with mitigation measures and the impact would remain significant and unavoidable.

Public Review: The Final EIR is being made available for a 10-day public review period, from February 21, 2025 through March 3, 2025 at 5 PM. The Final EIR, along with other Project information, is available for review and download online at the SBCTA website at: <https://www.gosbcta.com/ontconnector/>.

Public Hearing: Please join SBCTA at the SBCTA Board Meeting located at SBCTA First Floor Lobby Board Room 1170 W. 3rd Street, San Bernardino, CA on March 5, 2025 at 10:00 AM. SBCTA staff will present key findings of the Final EIR at this meeting and the public will have an opportunity to provide oral comments. The SBCTA Board will also consider certification of the Final EIR and approval of the Project at this meeting.

For additional information, please contact:

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Figure 1. Proposed Project

