

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

Date: August 8, 2022

To: Public Agencies, Organizations and Interested Parties

From: City of Fremont, Planning Division

Subject: Notice of Public Review and Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to the *State of California Public Resources Code and the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act*, as most recently amended, this is to advise that the City of Fremont has prepared an Initial Study to evaluate the environmental effects of the project identified below:

Project Title: Interstate 880 Innovation Bridge and Trail Project (PWC8907)

Project Location: Approximately 0.4 miles north of the I-880/Mission Boulevard/W. Warren Avenue interchange

Project Description: The City of Fremont (City) proposes the I-880 Innovation Bridge and Trail Project ("Project"), located within the Warm Springs/South Fremont Innovation District (WSI District). The WSI District includes the Bayside Industrial Community Plan Area, which is part of a regional employment center that will eventually provide approximately 40,000 jobs. The proposed Project would increase overall mobility by providing a bicycle and pedestrian facility between the Bayside Industrial Community Plan Area located west of I-880 and the WSI District and the BART station located east of I-880.

The Project includes an approximately 850-foot overcrossing bridge over I-880 (Post Mile 2.61/2.9). The Project represents the southernmost segment of the East Bay Greenway (EBGW) regional trail and consists of the following elements:

- **At-grade Class I multi-use trail** for approximately 3,300 feet along the west side of Kato Road south of the intersection of Industrial Drive to the eastern approach ramp for the I-880 overcrossing bridge and approximately 540 feet between the western approach ramp and Fremont Boulevard.
- **I-880 overcrossing bridge** would be approximately 850 feet in length with approach ramps totaling approximately 625 feet (310 feet for the eastern approach ramp and 315 for the western approach ramp). The bridge concept features an architecturally prominent single-tower cable-stayed structure with a 200-foot-tall pylon that accentuate the drastic curvature of the main span immediately west of Landing Parkway. The area next to the pylon would include a pathway and staircase, low shrubbery, lighting, irrigation, and signage.
- **A raised cycle track** would be installed along the eastern side of Fremont Boulevard connecting to the Fremont Boulevard/Industrial Drive intersection from the south.

The I-880 overcrossing would consist mostly of an aerial structure located between the existing I-880/Fremont Boulevard interchange and the I-880/Mission Boulevard/W. Warren Avenue interchange. Caltrans' overhead signs and one bridge column would be constructed within Caltrans right of way (ROW).

Portions of the proposed Project site are within existing public ROW and a segment of Kato Road that is private. Near Agua Caliente Creek, the proposed trail would be adjacent to the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (ACFCWCD) Agua Caliente Creek maintenance road. Permanent aerial easements would be needed for the bridge improvements above the ACFCWCD ROW. There are two portions of the trail that require a permanent easement or ROW agreement with private property owners. One of these locations is along Kato Road, and the other location is between Landing Parkway and Fremont Boulevard.

Based upon the conclusions set forth in the Initial Study, the City of Fremont proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration. The project site is not on a list of hazardous material sites as described by Government Code 65962.5 (Cortese List).

Public Review Period: The public review period will begin on August 11, 2022. Written comments must be submitted to the City of Fremont, Planning Division, 39550 Liberty Street, Fremont, CA 94538 (address noted below) no later than September 12, 2022. The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, supporting documentation and project details are on file and available for viewing with the City of Fremont Planning Division at 39550 Liberty Street on Mondays and Wednesdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and are also available online at: <https://www.fremont.gov/government/departments/community-development/planning-building-permit-services/environmental-review>.

Public Hearing: Fremont's City Council will consider the proposed project and recommendation to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration at a public hearing. Notice of the date and time of the public hearing will be published and/or mailed as provided by law.

The City of Fremont has deemed it necessary in the interest of public health to limit the attendance of public assemblies to prevent or mitigate the effects of Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). As such, the public hearing will be held via teleconferencing and made accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to impose and promote social distancing under the authority of Executive Order N-25-20, as amended.

For questions or to submit comments, please contact Principal Planner, Wayland Li, (510) 494-4453, wli@fremont.gov

Project Area Map

