



PUBLIC NOTICE

AVAILABILITY OF NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

PROJECT INFORMATION

Date: *May 31, 2023*

Project Title: *Islais Creek Bridge Project*

Project Address: N/A

Case No.: **2022-000112ENV**

Block/Lot No.: N/A

Zoning District(s): Production, Distribution, Repair (PDR-2)/Heavy Industrial (M-2)

Neighborhood: Bayview

Project Sponsor: San Francisco Public Works, Thomas Roitman, 628.271.2404, thomas.roitman@sfdpw.org

EIR Coordinator: Elizabeth White, 628.652.7557, CPC.IslaisCreekBridgeProject@sfgov.org

The San Francisco Planning Department has issued a notice of preparation (NOP) of an environmental impact report (EIR) in connection with this project. Next, the department will begin the preparation of an EIR as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. The department welcomes your comments regarding the scope of the EIR. Refer to the Project Description and Purpose of Notice sections below for more information.

Project Description

San Francisco Public Works (Public Works) is proposing to replace the existing Islais Creek Bridge (officially named the Levon Hagop Nishkian Bridge) along Third Street in the City and County of San Francisco (City). The existing Islais Creek Bridge is structurally deteriorated and seismically deficient, and the existing drawbridge has not been used for large ships for approximately 50 years. The proposed replacement bridge would meet current structural and seismic standards, and would be resilient to predicted sea-level-rise impacts.

Construction of the proposed project would result in replacement of the existing drawbridge with a fixed bridge and large ships would no longer be able access the Islais Creek channel west of the new bridge. With the exception of a new pedestrian/bike path, the project would not change the existing lane configuration of the bridge. The new bridge would accommodate a center 26-foot-wide dedicated light-rail transit (light rail) tracks, two 11-foot travel lanes in each direction, a 12-foot-wide shared pedestrian/bicycle path on the eastern side of the bridge, and a 16-foot-wide shared pedestrian/bicycle path on the western side of the bridge.

Construction is estimated to be approximately 24 months and would begin no sooner than spring 2025. Throughout the construction duration, there would be no access for vehicles, the T-Third Street light rail service,

or pedestrians to the bridge or Third Street between Marin Street to the north and Cargo Way to the south. Vehicles would be detoured around the site to other routes, including the Illinois Street Bridge. During construction, T-Third Street passengers would use bus shuttles in lieu of light rail service south of Islais Creek Bridge and transfer to light rail service north of Islais Creek Bridge. The 15 Bayview Hunters Point Express bus would be detoured around the project site. Public Works is coordinating with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to develop alternative transportation options to minimize the transportation impacts of the project.

Purpose of Notice

The Planning Department has determined that 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, to identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects, and to describe and analyze possible alternatives to the proposed project. Preparation of an NOP or EIR does not indicate a decision by the city to approve or to disapprove the project. However, prior to making any such decision, the decision makers must review and consider the information contained in the EIR.

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

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Planner: **Elizabeth White, Senior Environmental Planner**

Via Mail: **49 South Van Ness Ave, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103**

Via Email: CPC.IslaisCreekBridgeProject@sfgov.org

From May 31, 2023 to 5 p.m. on June 30, 2023

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 concerning environmental review of the proposed project, please contact the environmental planner listed above. Environmental review focuses on the *physical environmental effects* of the project. Comments regarding your like or dislike of the project or if you think officials should approve or disapprove the project will not be addressed in the environmental review document. Instead, we encourage you to provide these comments to the project sponsor, Thomas Roitman (628.271.2404, thomas.roitman@sfdpw.org).

This notice is available for public review on the San Francisco Planning Department’s website at sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs and at the San Francisco Permit Center, 49 South Van Ness Avenue, 2nd Floor Viewing Room, San Francisco, CA 94103. Referenced materials are available through the following Planning Department’s web pages: sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs and sfplanning.org/resource/permits-my-neighborhood.

General Information about Procedures

Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Commission or the Department. All written or verbal 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.