

ADDENDUM TO THE  
SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT (SAMTRANS)  
BUILDING 200 INITIAL STUDY / NEGATIVE DECLARATION



San Mateo County Transit District

March 2025

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# 1.0 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

## BACKGROUND

The San Mateo County Transit District (District) is the administrative body for the principal public transit and transportation programs in San Mateo County, consisting of SamTrans bus service (SamTrans) and other public transportation services. This document is the District’s California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) addendum to the Building 200 Replacement Initial Study/ Negative Declaration (IS-ND).

The District published the Building 200 Replacement Draft IS-ND on October 7, 2024. During the 21-day public review period, the District received no comments on the Draft IS-ND. The District prepared the Final IS-ND. In December 2024, the District’s Board of Directors adopted the Negative Declaration, and the District filed a Notice of Determination with the San Mateo County Clerk.

Since completion of the 2024 Final IS-ND and filing of the Notice of Determination at the San Mateo County Clerk, the District has determined that, to maintain SamTrans operations and avoid disruptions for local riders, the project scope must be expanded to include a temporary facility to house Building 200 operations during demolition of the existing structure and construction of the new permanent structure. The District also determined that it would be most efficient for the Temporary Building 200 to not include building utility and mechanical equipment and, instead, to construct a permanent new building for this purpose (Building 800). Further details on each building are provided in Section 2.0.

## ADDENDUM PROCESS

When a proposed project is changed or there are changes in the environmental setting, the lead agency must determine whether or not an addendum or subsequent ND is prepared. CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15164 set forth criteria to assess which environmental document is appropriate. The criteria for determining whether an addendum or subsequent MND is prepared are outlined below. If the criteria below are true, then an addendum is the appropriate document:

- No new significant impacts will result from the project or from new mitigation measures.
- No substantial increase in the severity of the environmental impact will occur.
- No new feasible alternatives or mitigation measures that will reduce impacts previously found not to be feasible have, in fact, been found to be feasible.

Based upon the information provided in Sections 2.0 and 3.0 of this document, implementation of the Building 200 Replacement project, including the construction of Temporary Building 200 and Building 800, will not result in new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts previously identified in the 2024 IS-ND, and there are no previously infeasible alternatives that are now feasible. None of the other factors set forth in Section 15162(a)(3) are present. As such, an addendum is appropriate, and this addendum was prepared to address the environmental effects of the project modifications.

An addendum need not be circulated for public review, but it can be included in, or attached to, the IS-ND. The decision-making body (the District’s Board of Directors) shall consider the addendum with the IS-ND prior to making a decision on the revisions to the Building 200 Replacement project. Once adopted, the addendum, along with the original IS-ND, is placed in the administrative record, and a Notice of Determination will be filed with the County Clerk and State Clearinghouse (SCH #2024120321).

## 2.0 CHANGE IN PROPOSED PROJECT

The Building 200 Replacement project entails the replacement of a one-story, 10,650-square-foot (sf) building (Building 200) located in the southeastern corner of its North Base in the City of South San Francisco, San Mateo County, California. The new Building 200 would be a two-story, 31-foot-tall, 19,800 sf building, providing additional space for management offices, operator amenities, bus operations, meeting space, and support spaces.

Since adoption of the Final Negative Declaration in 2024, the District has determined that, to maintain SamTrans operations and avoid disrupting service to local riders, the project scope must be expanded to include construction of a temporary facility to house Building 200 operations during demolition of the existing structure and construction of the new permanent structure. The District also determined that it will be most efficient for Temporary Building 200 to not include building utility and mechanical equipment and, to instead construct a permanent new building (Building 800) for this purpose. **Figure 1** depicts the site plan for these buildings.

Prior to the demolition of the existing Building 200, the District will construct the “Temporary Building 200” within the North Base, north of the existing building. The Temporary Building 200 would be constructed to house operations currently located in the existing Building 200. See **Figure 2**. The Temporary Building 200 will comprise 6,400 square feet (sf), including a lobby; employee lounges; meeting/training rooms; a quiet area; office space for managers, supervisors, etc.; and outdoor areas underneath canopies. During the approximately 2-year construction period for the new permanent Building 200, all operations will occur out of the temporary facility. Upon completion of the permanent structure, operations will move into the new permanent Building 200. The temporary facility will be dismantled and removed from North Base over a two to four-week period.

Building 800 will be approximately 1,400 sf, with a total slab/first floor foundation area of the one-story building. A generator will be located on approximately 600 sf of the slab. In addition, a canopy will cover the entrance area of approximately 600 sf to the vault room to protect the loading/unloading activity against weather. Within Building 800 will be an area for trash, mechanical equipment, and telecommunications equipment (refer to **Figure 3**). Building 800 will be completed concurrent with the Temporary Building 200. These utility and mechanical systems will serve both the Temporary Building 200 and new Building 200.

No other substantial changes to the Building 200 Replacement project will occur.

## 3.0 UPDATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSES

### AESTHETICS

The area to be occupied by the Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 is currently area paved with asphalt. There are no scenic trees, rock outcropping, historic buildings, or state scenic highways on or adjacent to these areas. Construction activities will be temporary and will not result in a substantial degradation to the project site, surrounding area, or significant aesthetic resources. Existing scenic vistas will still be available from the San Francisco Bay Trail. Therefore, impacts to aesthetic resources will be less than significant, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

### AIR QUALITY

The construction of Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 will not significantly increase construction duration or substantially change construction activities. Temporary construction emissions will be substantially similar to those estimated in the 2024 IS-ND. The proposed project will incorporate construction air quality best management practices (BMPs) such that substantial concentrations of pollutants will not occur near these receptors. Sensitive receptors will not be exposed to substantial pollutant concentrations, and diesel odors will be dispersed by prevailing meteorological conditions. Air quality impacts will be less than significant, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

According to the National Wetlands Inventory, the area approximately 250 feet east of the Temporary Building 200 area and Building 800 is estuarine and marine wetland. See **Figure 5**.

Construction of the Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 will not disturb the coastal salt marsh, mudflats, wetlands, or open water. Construction staging and laydown activities will occur more than 250 feet from these habitats and resources within the boundary of the North Base. As indicated in the 2024 IS-ND, construction will comply with the National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES)/Construction General Permit, which will ensure that there is no siltation or other degradation of wetlands.

If project construction begins during the avian breeding season, pre-construction surveys will be undertaken to determine the presence of nesting birds. If nesting birds are observed, no site disturbance will occur within 250 feet of non-raptor nests and 1,000 feet of raptor nests until the chicks have fledged. These provisions will ensure that project construction complies with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Impacts to biological resources will be less than significant, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

As indicated in the 2024 IS-ND, there are no known archaeological or historic archaeological resources at North Base. The nearest previously identified archaeological site, the North Colma Creek Site (P-41-002164; CA-SMA-000380), is more than 1,000 feet to the west. The construction of a Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 will not disturb archaeological resources. There will be no impact, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

Active fault lines are located more than 3 miles away from the North Base. Construction of Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 would be designed and built in compliance with the 2022 California Building Code requirements. Conformance to the current building code recommendations and geotechnical recommendations does not constitute a guarantee that significant structural damage would not occur in the event of a maximum magnitude earthquake; however, it is reasonable to expect that a well-designed and well-constructed structure would not collapse or cause loss of life in a major earthquake. Such construction would reduce the risk of liquefaction beneath the new buildings.

There will be no impacts related to Geology and Soils, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

A search of hazardous sites databases was undertaken for the project. At North Base, no federal National Priority List (Superfund) or Hazardous Waste sites were identified. North Base itself (site T0608100723) is the only known or potentially contaminated area of concern (AOC) identified nearby; the base was a leaking underground storage tank (LUST) cleanup site. The case was opened June 29, 1993 and closed on July 26, 2002. Construction activities will be substantially similar to those described in the 2024 IS-ND. There will be no impact related to hazards and hazardous materials, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY**

As indicated in the 2024 IS-ND, in accordance with NPDES General Permit requirements, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared and implemented for project construction. The SWPPP will identify BMPs to address pollutant source reduction and provide measures and controls necessary to address potential pollutant sources. No permanent new impervious surface will be installed. As shown in **Figure 6**, portions of the area are located in the FEMA 500-Year Flood Zone (Zone X), 100-Year Flood Zone (Zone AE) and the 100-Year Flood Zone subject

to storm wave hazards (Zone VE). Construction activities will be substantially similar to those described in the 2024 IS-ND. Impacts to hydrology and water quality will be less than significant, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **NOISE**

Construction of Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 will lead to temporary noise increases associated with construction. The construction equipment used will be similar to that already proposed and analyzed in the 2024 IS-ND. These noise increases will be substantially similar to those already analyzed in the 2024 IS-ND for construction activity within the existing boundaries of North Base. There will be no changes in operations at the North Base, and therefore there will be no operational noise impacts. The impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **RECREATION**

Building 800 would be located approximately 180 feet from the San Francisco Bay Trail. The Temporary Building 200 would be located approximately 250 feet away. Therefore, the modified project will not adversely affect trail access or use. Construction activities will be substantially similar to those described in the 2024 IS-ND. Impacts to recreation will be less than significant, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Construction and operation of the Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 will not conflict with transportation plans or programs, increase operational vehicle miles traveled, induce hazards due to design features, or otherwise result in emergency access. Construction activities will be substantially similar to those described in the 2024 IS-ND. Impacts to transportation and traffic will be less than significant, and the impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS**

As described in the 2024 IS-MND, the North Base does not contain agricultural, forestry, or mineral uses, and is not zoned for such use. The area for Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 contains no existing housing units and no known tribal cultural resources. Existing land use plans and zoning allow for the two buildings. Construction activities will be substantially similar to those described in the 2024 IS-ND. Therefore, the construction and operation of Temporary Building 200 and Building 800 would not result in significant impacts to agricultural and forestry resources, energy, greenhouse gases, land use and planning, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, utilities and service systems, or wildfire. The impact conclusions from the 2024 IS-ND remain unchanged.

## **MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

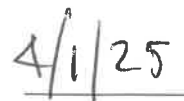
With incorporation of identified best management practices as identified in the 2024 IS-ND and this addendum, the proposed project will not have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The project does not have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable, and the project does not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The impact determinations of the 2024 IS-ND are unchanged.



Signature

Millie Tolleson,

Planning Director



Date

Figure 1 – Illustrative Site Plan

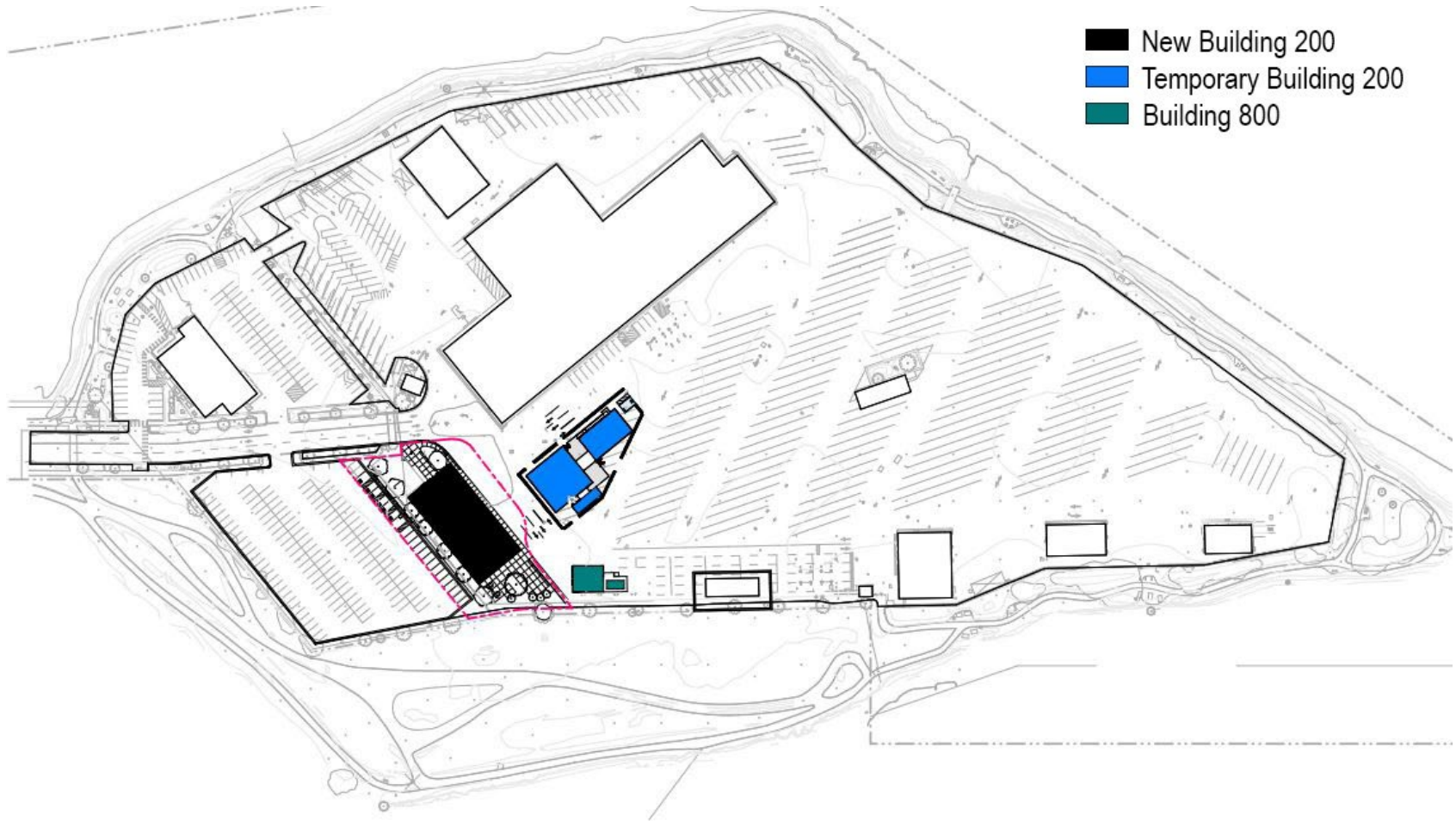
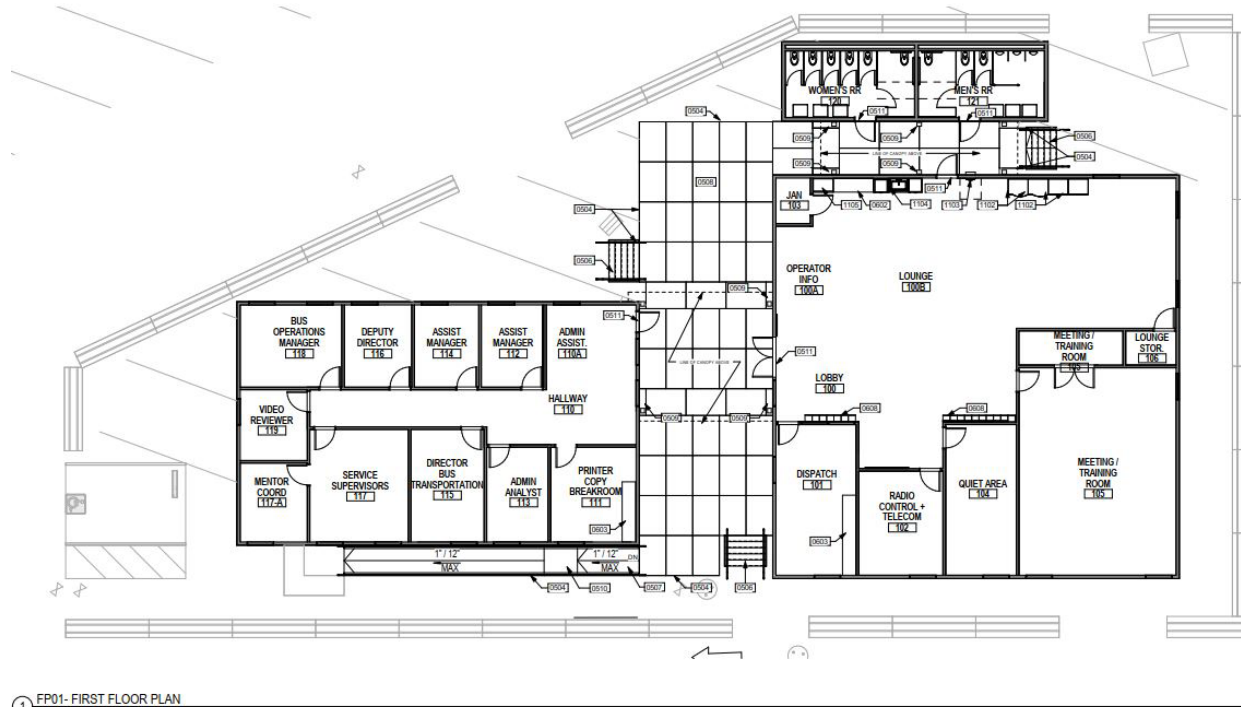




Figure 2 – Illustrative Temporary Building 200 First Floor Plan



1 FP01- FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
1/8" = 1'-0"

Figure 3 – Illustrative Building 800 Floor Plan

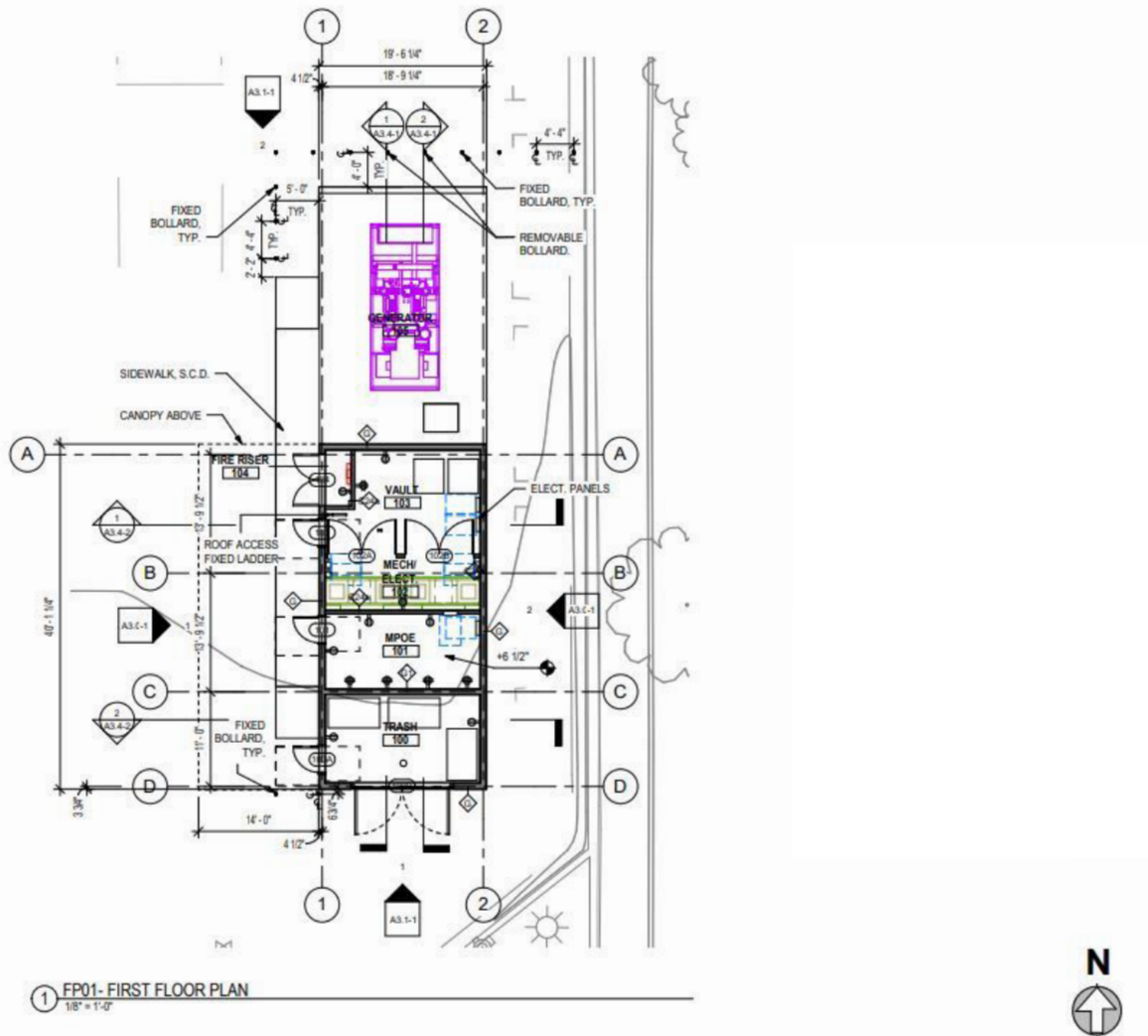


Figure 4 – North Base Aerial Map





Figure 5 – NWI Wetlands





Figure 6 – Flood Zone

