



Transbay Transit Center

Archaeology at the Transbay Transit Center

The Transbay Joint Powers Authority has sponsored an archaeological research project within the future Transit Center site. Archaeologists studied the project area extensively and identified various locations where remnants of San Francisco’s past might be preserved below ground. These carefully selected locations then became the focus of archaeological excavations.

LIFE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The South of Market neighborhood was densely settled in the late 1800’s, with a large number of its residents working in the nearby “Tar Flat” industries. At the time, the neighborhood was composed of a large number of pre-fabricated homes shipped in from New England, which replaced the tents that had formerly filled the area at the beginning of the gold rush in 1849.

THE WATERFRONT AND THE RISE OF INDUSTRY

The new Transbay Transit Center is being built on what was once a part of Yerba Buena Cove. The cove was slowly filled in as bay gave way to industry in the neighborhood. With the close proximity to the gold and silver mines at the time, the South of Market neighborhood was home to many industrial enterprises that catered to the mining business.



THE MOVEMENT OF CULTURES

Businesses and shops were abundant in the South of Market neighborhood, as evidenced by a Chinese laundry the archaeologists excavated. The laundry, located on what would be Minna Street today, was one of the few select businesses where Chinese residents could gain employment at the time. Artifacts were unearthed from places as far as China and Europe. Even then, San Francisco was a truly international city.



Learn more at:

www.transbaycenter.org



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About The Transbay Transit Center

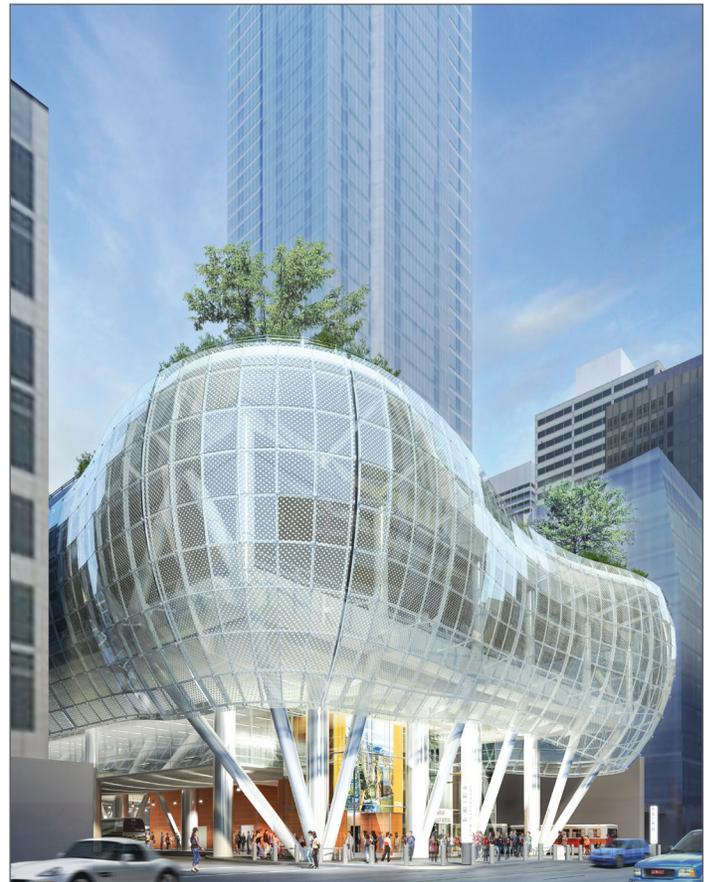
The Transbay Transit Center, known as “the Grand Central of the West,” is currently being built in the heart of downtown San Francisco to replace the previously outdated and seismically unsound Transbay Terminal. This new multi-modal facility will serve 11 transit systems: AC Transit, Amtrak, BART, Caltrain, Golden Gate Transit, Greyhound, Muni, Paratransit, SamTrans, WestCAT Lynx, and future High Speed Rail.

The Transbay Transit Center will also create a new neighborhood South of Market and become a destination for Bay Area residents and visitors. The new facility will:

- Stimulate the economy by creating more than 125,000 jobs
- Serve up to 45 million people per year
- More than double the amount of open space in the neighborhood by creating a 5.4-acre rooftop park with an amphitheater, children’s playground, walking paths, and more
- Use cutting edge designs and technologies to achieve LEED Gold Certification
- Include approximately 100,000 square feet of new retail space
- Feature local artists through an extensive public arts program

The Transbay Redevelopment Plan, adopted by the City of San Francisco in 2005, will facilitate the creation of 2,600 new housing units, including 1,000 permanently affordable units. What was once a blighted area will become the new heart of downtown complete with wide sidewalks, bicycle lanes, views of the San Francisco Bay, cafés and markets.

The Transbay Transit Center will also connect this new urban community with employers and residents throughout the Peninsula and Silicon Valley with the new downtown Caltrain extension. Currently, there are more than ten times the number of jobs located within one-half mile of the new Transit Center compared with the current stop at 4th and King. This improved access to downtown will increase Caltrain ridership by approximately 20,000 passengers every day, reducing carbon dioxide emissions by more than 36,000 tons each year.



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