



Transbay Transit Center Excavation Facts

How much of the soil is recycled?

- Approximately 60% of the excavated soil is recycled. Most of the site was clean sandy soils and was sold for reuse in California.
- Approximately 99% of the concrete from the demolition of the old Transbay building was crushed and recycled, and a portion of the material was used onsite for temporary roads and building pads for heavy equipment.

Soil layers excavated down to 65 feet below street level:

1. Fill- Earthquake/Debris	Street level - 10 feet deep	1906-Present
2. Dune Sand/Gold Rush Era	10 - 20 feet deep	1849-1906
3. Bay Mud	> 20 feet deep	1849 – 6000B.C.
4. Marine Sand	> 30 feet deep	6000 B.C. - 12,000 B.C.
5. Colma Sand	> 40 feet deep	12,000 B.C. - 100,000 (Ice Age)
6. Old Bay Clay	> 95 feet deep	100,000 – 130,000 (Before the last Ice Age)

Excavation Facts:

- Excavation of soil from nearly four city blocks took a little more than two years to complete. Excavation began in December 2011 and finished in February 2014.
- Over 640,000 cubic yards of soil were removed from the site during excavation.
- Much of the excavated soil was recycled and sold for reuse on other construction projects. Some soils such as bay mud or soil with high clay content went to clean landfills.
- More than 2000 40' long Douglas Fir timber piles, which were installed in the 1930's, were pulled out intact and recycled.
 - Recycled wood was used as architectural components in buildings including millwork, woodwork and casework.
 - Recycled piles were used in a Super bowl commercial for Military Families.
- In order for the excavation to be completed across the four block long construction site, three temporary traffic bridges were built and installed, keeping traffic flowing on some of the busiest streets in San Francisco.

Excavation Fun Facts:

- The original 1840's shoreline of San Francisco was just off of First Street, not the Embarcadero as it is today.
- 120 Olympic size swimming pools, 50 x 25 meters in size and 3 meters deep, could be filled with the excavated material.
- If a garden hose were placed in the excavation, it would take approximately 13 years and 279 days to fill the site with water.
- 50,400 Mini Coopers could be stacked within the excavation.
- Two Transamerica pyramids could almost lie end to end in the excavation, which is over 1500 feet long.
- The TJPA uncovered a mammoth tooth while digging one of the approximately 240 foot deep buttress shafts installed as part of the excavation. The tooth was discovered at a depth of approximately 100 feet. Paleontologists determined that the tooth belonged to a Columbian Mammoth from approximately 13,000 years ago— see it on display at the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park.