



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IX
Arizona, California,
Hawaii, Nevada, Guam,
American Samoa,
Northern Mariana Islands

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August 26, 2026

Mr. Adam Van de Water
Executive Director
Transbay Joint Powers Authority
425 Mission Street, Suite 250
San Francisco, CA 94105

Attention: Mr. Alfonso Rodriguez, Project Director

Re: Environmental Re-evaluation for
Transbay Program Phase 2 Downtown
Rail Extension Project

Dear Mr. Van de Water,

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has completed its review of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) re-evaluation package, dated August 4, 2026, requesting an environmental re-evaluation for the Transbay Program Phase 2 Downtown Rail Extension project, now referred to as The Portal (Project). The Project was previously evaluated under the 2018 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) and re-evaluated in 2023. The Project scope was modified and therefore the Project is subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In its package, TJPA indicated that neither the preparation of a SEIS nor an Environmental Assessment (EA) is necessary, in accordance with 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 771.115, § 771.129, and 771.130(c), for the Project.

The TJPA proposes to modify, reduce, or defer components of the previously approved Project changes including:

- Eliminate the previously deferred intercity bus facility and relocate the street-level entrance/exit pavilion to a new street level enclosed public lobby. The new lobby and additional vertical circulation would be constructed at the eastern end of the Salesforce Transit Center (Transit Center) on the west side of Beale Street.
- Eliminate the train box extension at the Transit Center and move the mechanical and electrical equipment that would have been housed in the train box into a new at-grade utility building to be located within the TJPA's parcel on the east side of Beale Street.
- Defer installation of two elevators and two escalators to high-speed rail platforms at the Transit Center
- Modify the Fourth and Townsend Street Station design by eliminating high-speed train platforms and concourse-level facilities.
- Shorten the tunnel stub box by approximately 750 feet.

- Demolish four storage tracks (Tracks 27–30) on the south side of the Fourth and King railyards and replace them with three electrified storage tracks
- Acquisition of the commercial building at 171 Second Street and temporarily relocate 171 Second Street tenants during construction.

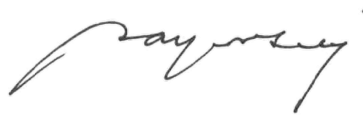
Based on the environmental re-evaluation materials submitted and past experience with similar projects, this review finds that the Project as modified:

- does not induce significant environmental impacts to planned growth or land use for the area;
- does not require the relocation of significant numbers of people;
- does not have a significant impact on natural, cultural, recreational, historical or other resource;
- does not involve significant air, noise, or water quality impacts; do not have significant impacts on travel patterns;
- results in an adverse impact on historic properties as defined in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as implemented under 36 CFR Part 800;
- does not result in any use of public parks, recreation areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites within the meaning of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, 49 USC § 303 as implemented under 23 CFR Part 774; and
- does not otherwise have any significant environmental impact.

The FTA finds that the changes described in the submitted materials would not result in significant environmental impacts that were not previously evaluated in the SEIS/EIR and subsequent environmental re-evaluations. The preparation of a SEIS is not necessary.

For any questions about this review, please contact Mr. Chu Wei, Team Leader, Bay Area Office, at (415) 734-9481 or at chu.wei@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Tellis", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ray Tellis
Regional Administrator