



Transbay Transit Center

Fall 2015 Newsletter

Sale of Block 8 Brings \$71 Million to Transbay Transit Center



A rendering of the Block 8 development.
Rendering by Steelblue courtesy of Fougerson Architecture.

In December, TJPA was pleased to announce the sale of Block 8, a land parcel in the Transbay neighborhood, had successfully closed. The approximately 42,000 square foot piece of land was sold to developer Related California for \$71 million. To date, land sale proceeds have generated more than \$500 million in funding for construction of the Transit Center.

Rem Koolhaas's Office of Metropolitan Architecture and Fougerson Architecture are designing the project, which will consist of a 56-story tower along with two mid-rise podiums. The tower will be another new addition to San Francisco's evolving skyline, and the development will boast more than 600 residential units, including affordable housing units. Plans also include space for retail storefronts on the street level. The schematic design and development for the land parcel was approved by the Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure in April.

TJPA Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan said “We are pleased to successfully close this sale and welcome another new addition to the Transbay neighborhood. We look forward to creating a new station in the heart of the city in close proximity to these residences and the neighborhood’s many amenities.”

Related California was selected from three developers to build on the site. Construction on Block 8 is scheduled to begin in 2016.

Steel Assembly Crosses Fremont Street, Continues Toward Completion



Crews work to complete the Fremont Street steel crossing.

It’s easy to see why 2015 can be considered the “year of steel” at the Transbay Transit Center. Since the first piece of visible steel was put into place in November 2014, several important steel assembly milestones have been achieved over the last few months. The most recent of these accomplishments was achieved with the crossing of steel over Fremont Street, which completed in October. This crossing is a visible sign of the continued progress on the Transit Center and a symbol of how the Transbay neighborhood will transform in the near future.

Steel assembly work must be done overnight while there is no pedestrian or vehicle

traffic. Drawing on their experience from the previous steel crossing at First Street earlier this year, Transit Center steel workers were able to incorporate several lessons learned and new approaches to drastically reduce the amount of overnight work for this crossing. To assemble the structural steel, crews use a crane to move the large pieces of steel into place then bolt the pieces together. The steel is then welded into place, ensuring that it is structurally stable and safe.

“We are proud of the hard work of our team to reach this important structural landmark,” said Transbay Joint Powers Authority Senior Construction Manager Dennis Turchon. “As steel assembly nears completion in the coming weeks, the Transit Center will start to truly come to life, and we are excited for the continued progress that lies ahead.”

Now that steel has crossed Fremont Street, assembly will continue toward Beale Street, which will mark the eastern edge of the Transit Center’s four block span. Steel assembly is scheduled to complete mid-January. Once complete, the Transbay Center will boast more than 24,000 tons of structural steel from 7 American fabricators.

Transbay Transit Center Honored for Earthquake Engineering Efforts

On December 11, 2015, the Transbay Joint Powers Authority was pleased to receive the Applied Technology Council (ATC) and Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) of the American Society of Civil Engineers’ Champion of Earthquake Resilience Award. TJPA was recognized in the category of Extraordinary Innovation in Seismic Protection of Building and Lifelines.

These awards recognize innovative earthquake engineering programs and projects that have or will have substantial impact on public safety and property loss reduction. Some innovative aspects that TJPA and its design team incorporated into the project include consideration of multiple ground motion performance levels, state of the art geotechnical analyses, and confirmation of key performance metrics.



Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan and Principal Engineer Brian Dykes with TJPA’s ATC-SEI Champion of Earthquake Resilience Award.

“We are thrilled to receive this recognition from ATC and SEI,” said TJPA Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan. “Ensuring that the Transbay Transit Center is safe and resilient for the public has been our highest priority from the beginning. We hope that our design will serve as a model for future building design and construction across the country.”

Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan Honored with Influential Woman in Business Award



Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan and Caryn Boisen, president of the board of directors of Women Construction Owners and Executives, at the 2015 Mid-Year Conference.

On Friday, October 3, TJPA Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan was honored with the Women Construction Owners and Executives’ (WCOE) Influential Woman in Business award for her leadership of the Transbay Transit Center Project. The award is given to women who show outstanding leadership in the construction field across the United States.

“I am honored to be recognized as an influential executive woman in the construction industry,” said TJPA’s Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan. “It is truly an privilege to receive this acknowledgment from other outstanding women in the construction field, and I thank them for highlighting the great impact the Transbay Project has on so many people.”

Before accepting the award, Ayerdi-Kaplan had the opportunity to give an overview of the new Transbay Transit Center and show how this innovative model of transit-oriented development will provide the Bay Area and state with a safe, convenient, sustainable transportation network. Her presentation featured details on current construction status and what the Transit Center will offer the Bay Area and beyond.

Founded in 1983, WCOE is dedicated to creating a level playing field for women-owned firms in the construction industry. WCOE represents large and small woman-owned firms as well as female executives in policy making positions with some of the largest corporations in the country. Additionally, WCOE aims to create opportunities for and support women-owned construction companies.

Faces of Transbay Recognizes Two Veterans on the Transbay Transit Center Project



Veteran Matt Finch meets with a Skanska crew member to discuss daily site duties.

In 2012, the Transbay Joint Powers Authority issued a directive focused on hiring veterans to work on the Project, and as a result the TJPA has been fortunate enough to hire several veterans on site. This Veterans' Day TJPA featured two of these veterans on the Faces of Transbay section of the TJPA website. The new video can be found at www.transbaycenter.org/tjpa/faces-of-transbay.

Matt Finch and Rick Hodgkins are two Navy veterans working on the Project that TJPA had the opportunity to interview. Matt works as a superintendent and oversees quality assurance and quality control for the concrete work on the project. Rick, an inspection services employee, examines the structure of the project to ensure the building will be safe and secure.

Both men use skills they learned from their time in the Navy every day while working on the project. The structured schedule and significant responsibilities that come with naval service have served Rick well during his transition to the construction field. Matt spent most of his time in the Navy performing civil construction work, developing technical skills that also easily transferred over to his work in construction.

"I respect the military and the sacrifices attached to it," said Matt Finch. "Anyone that is willing to give up that time and that sacrifice for others that they don't even know should definitely be supported."

Matt and Rick are grateful for the services that the Transbay project offers for veterans looking for jobs in the construction field. These efforts have included developing a

speaker series to reach out to veterans at San Francisco State University and City College of San Francisco, working with unions to identify unemployed veterans, gathering representatives from each union to specifically address veteran hiring issues and participating in initiatives such as One Vet, One Voice and United for Veterans to bring attention to this issue.

Webcor/Obayashi Joint Venture has already hired more than a dozen veterans and several veteran apprentices to staff positions. We thank each of these veterans, including Matt and Rick, for their service to our nation and the Transbay Project!

Follow Transbay on Social Media

As we continue to make progress on the Transbay Transit Center, we are also working to keep the public informed about the latest project developments. We are constantly enlarging our social media presence to share facts, photos, and other information about the impressive work being done every day at the Transbay site.

Please consider following our progress across our social media platforms by taking a moment to “like” and “follow” Transbay on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. You can find us:

- On Twitter at @TransbayCenter
- On Facebook at Transbay Transit Center Project
- On Instagram at @thetransbayproject

Or simply click on the icons below:



We urge you to explore opportunities to participate in the shaping of this project through our Transbay Joint Powers Authority Board meetings, Citizens Advisory Committee meetings, monthly public progress briefings or one of many presentations we make throughout the community. For regular updates, including a weekly 10-day construction outlook, please visit our website at <http://www.transbaycenter.org>.

Thank you for your support of this innovative model for transit-oriented development.

Sincerely,

Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan
Executive Director