



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE Availability of Addendum to Subsequent Environmental Impact Report

Date: June 27, 2017
Case No.: 2015-015229ENV
Project Title: **Asian Art Museum Expansion and Improvements**
EIR: Asian Art Museum, Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report
Case No. 97.750E, certified December 10, 1998
Project Sponsor: Carolyn Kiernat, Page & Turnbull for Asian Art Museum
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An addendum to an environmental impact report (EIR) has been prepared by the San Francisco Planning Department in connection with this project. The report is available for public review on the Planning Department's Negative Declarations and EIRs web page (<http://www.sf-planning.org/sfceqadocs>). Paper copies are available upon request to the staff contact above. Referenced materials are available for review by appointment at the Planning Department's office on the fourth floor of 1650 Mission Street. (Call (415) 575-8733)

In 1998, the San Francisco Planning Commission certified the Asian Art Museum Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The project analyzed in the EIR was the adaptive reuse of the old main library building in three phases. Phase 1 of the project provided 180,000 square feet of gallery, office, conservation, research, education, retail and storage space for the Asian Art Museum (previously located in Golden Gate Park), and included seismic upgrades, alterations to the exterior and interior of the building, and an underground extension that would be about 12 feet above grade at 45 Hyde Street. Phase 1 of the project included the following: installation of a base isolation foundation system and concrete shear walls; expansion of the existing basement and lower level onto part of the 45 Hyde Street portion of the site; construction of an outdoor dining terrace along the Fulton Street wing; loading dock; exterior changes to windows and doorways; interior changes such as creation of a central court, exhibition galleries, café, offices, storerooms, etc.; and a new glass-enclosed stairway or escalator to the second and third floors. Phase 1 was approved and construction was completed in 2003.

Phases 2 and 3 of the project evaluated in the SEIR included future additions to the old main library building at 45 Hyde Street, subject to available funding. Phase 2 would include a three-story addition atop the lower level expansion (part of the base project) to contain a 400-seat auditorium/theater and two levels containing approximately 16,500 square feet of museum gallery and office space and 4,000 square feet of service space for the auditorium. The addition would be approximately 80 feet tall, corresponding to the height of the old main library building. A second loading ramp would access the basement of the addition to serve the auditorium/theater. Phase 3 would extend the existing building's north wing from the old main library's McAllister Street façade east to near Hyde Street, also at 80 feet in height. It would include 15,000 square feet of galleries and museum office space, and about 5,000 square feet of work

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rooms, storage, and other service space. No project design details of the future phases 2 and 3 were available at the time the Asian Art Museum SEIR was certified.

The project proposes the addition of a single-story, 13,000-square-foot special exhibitions pavilion with a rooftop terrace at the rear of the building facing Hyde Street. The proposed addition would be constructed on top of the existing, non-historic, ground floor level conservation laboratory spaces, preparation shops, and mechanical rooms that were constructed during the building's 2003 renovation and identified as areas for future expansion in the Asian Art Museum SEIR. The new construction would use the existing seismic base isolation system. The proposed special exhibitions art pavilion would include an 8,500-sf special exhibition gallery, a 1,000-square-foot gallery lounge, and a 2,800-square-foot gallery lobby, along with new restrooms and necessary support spaces. The new gallery would provide contiguous, column-free exhibition space with 16.5-foot clear ceiling height to feature travelling exhibitions that the museum cannot accommodate within its existing facilities. A new 7,500-square-foot art terrace with glass railing would be constructed on the roof of the special exhibition pavilion. At the north side of the art terrace would be a mechanical enclosure/storage room to conceal the building ductwork and relocated laboratory exhaust. The proposed addition would be approximately 22 feet tall, which would raise the building height to approximately 30 feet. The proposed mechanical room on the northern edge would extend above the roof to a height of approximately 41 feet.

The San Francisco Planning Department has concluded that the analyses conducted and the conclusions reached in the EIR certified on December 10, 1998 remain valid. The proposed revisions to the project would not cause new significant impacts not identified in the EIR, and no new mitigation measures would be necessary to reduce significant impacts.