



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Notice of Availability of and Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration

*Date:* December 6, 2017  
*Case No.:* 2017-000188ENV  
*Project Title:* Alcatraz Ferry Embarkation Project  
*Project Sponsors:* National Park Service, Brian Aviles, (415) 624-9685  
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy,  
Catherine Barner, (415) 561-3000  
Port of San Francisco, Diane Oshima (415) 274-0553  
*Lead Agency:* San Francisco Planning Department  
*Staff Contact:* Julie Moore, (415) 575-8733, [julie.moore@sfgov.org](mailto:julie.moore@sfgov.org)

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This notice is to inform you of the availability of the environmental review document concerning the proposed project as described below. The document is a preliminary mitigated negative declaration (PMND), containing information about the possible environmental effects of the proposed project. The PMND documents the determination of the Planning Department that the proposed project could not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Preparation of a mitigated negative declaration does not indicate a decision by the City to carry out or not to carry out the proposed project.

**Project Description:** Alcatraz Island, a national historic landmark, is part of and managed by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, a National Park Service unit that includes numerous park facilities within the San Francisco Bay area, including Fort Mason, Fort Baker, Ocean Beach, and Crissy Field. Under the proposed project, the Park Service seeks to enter into a long-term agreement with the Port of San Francisco for the development and operation of an improved ferry embarkation site at Pier 31½ to support Alcatraz Island visitors. The Port agreement would require the Park Service's selected concessioner to renovate the marginal wharf, the Pier 33 bulkhead buildings, and portions of the Pier 31 shed building. In addition, the Park Service's partner, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, would renovate the Pier 31 bulkhead building and additional portions of the Pier 31 shed building. The project would provide a combination of indoor and outdoor spaces to welcome, orient, and provide improved basic amenities for the public. The proposed project would also include other administrative and operational spaces, such as new boarding ramps and floats to support the berthing of up to three ferry boats at a time. The Park Service also seeks to establish limited (weekend only) ferry service between Pier 31½ and the existing Fort Baker pier in Sausalito. The proposed project would repair and upgrade the Fort Baker pier substructure, install a new gangway landing and float, and construct a new trail from the Bay Area Discovery Museum to the pier. Under the proposed project, the estimated number of ferry trips from the Pier 31 ½ site would increase by two ferry trips per day in the peak season.

The PMND is available to view or download from the Planning Department's Negative Declarations and EIRs web page (<http://www.sf-planning.org/sfceqadocs>). Paper copies are also available at the Planning Information Center (PIC) counter on the ground floor of 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco.

If you have questions concerning environmental review of the proposed project, contact the Planning Department staff contact listed above.

Within 30 calendar days following publication of the PMND (i.e., by 5:00 p.m. on **January 5, 2018**, any person may:

- 1) Review the PMND as an informational item and take no action;
- 2) Make recommendations for amending the text of the document. The text of the PMND may be amended to clarify or correct statements and may be expanded to include additional relevant issues or to cover issues in greater depth. This may be done **without** the appeal described below; **OR**
- 3) Appeal the determination of no significant effect on the environment to the Planning Commission in a letter which specifies the grounds for such appeal, accompanied by a \$597 check payable to the San Francisco Planning Department.<sup>1</sup> An appeal requires the Planning Commission to determine whether or not an Environmental Impact Report must be prepared based upon whether or not the proposed project could cause a substantial adverse change in the environment. Send the appeal letter to the Planning Department, Attention: Lisa M. Gibson, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103 or emailed to [lisa.gibson@sfgov.org](mailto:lisa.gibson@sfgov.org). **The letter must be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$597.00 payable to the San Francisco Planning Department, and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on January 5, 2018.** The appeal letter and check may also be presented in person at the PIC counter on the ground floor of 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco.

In the absence of an appeal, the mitigated negative declaration shall be made final, subject to necessary modifications, after 30 days from the date of publication of the PMND. If the PMND is appealed, the Final Negative Declaration (FND) may be appealed to the Board of Supervisors. The first approval action, as identified in the Initial Study, would establish the start of the 30-day appeal period for the FND pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Section 31.16(h).

Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Commission or the Department. All written or oral communications, including submitted personal contact information, may be made available to the public for inspection and copying upon request and may appear on the Department's website or in other public documents.

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<sup>1</sup> Upon review by the Planning Department, the appeal fee may be reimbursed for neighborhood organizations that have been in existence for a minimum of 24 months.