



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

---

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

*Date:* May 24, 2017  
*Case No.:* 2016-000857ENV  
*Project Title:* Courtyard 3 Connector Project  
San Francisco International Airport (SFO)  
*Project Sponsor:* SFO Bureau of Planning and Environmental Affairs  
Avant Ramsey – (650) 821-7836; Avant.Ramsey@flysfo.com  
*Staff Contact:* Julie Moore – (415) 575-8733; Julie.Moore@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.  
Suite 400  
San Francisco,  
CA 94103-2479

Reception:  
**415.558.6378**

Fax:  
**415.558.6409**

Planning  
Information:  
**415.558.6377**

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 negative declaration (PND), containing information about the possible environmental effects of the proposed project. The PND documents the determination of the Planning Department that the proposed project could not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Preparation of a negative declaration does not indicate a decision by the City to carry out or not to carry out the proposed project.

**Project Description:** The City and County of San Francisco, acting through the San Francisco International Airport Commission, proposes to construct a new building in the space between Terminals 2 and 3, known as Courtyard 3, at the San Francisco International Airport (Airport). The Airport is located in unincorporated San Mateo County, approximately 13 miles south of downtown San Francisco, east of U.S. Highway 101 and adjacent to San Francisco Bay, near the cities of South San Francisco, San Bruno, and Millbrae. The project site currently includes an approximately 18,000-square foot, asphalt-paved parking lot, a restricted-access service road, an elevated pre-security connector between Terminals 2 and 3, and a small portion of Terminal 2. The proposed project would construct a new, approximately 122-foot-tall, 118,700-square-foot building on piers above both Courtyard 3 and a two-story portion of Terminal 2. The building would encompass a new security screening checkpoint and pre-security walkway between Terminals 2 and 3, topped by four levels of office space. A post-security connector walkway bridge would be constructed along the exterior of Terminal 2, providing secure passage from the new building to boarding areas in Terminals 2 and 3. The proposed secure connector would allow passengers post-security access to concessions and restaurants throughout the terminal complex without multiple security screenings. The increased flexibility in circulation would improve access for connecting passengers and reduce demand on security screening processes. The proposed office space would permit administrative and federal agency staff who are currently in various office locations around the terminal complex to relocate and consolidate in a centralized terminal building.

Project construction would require the demolition of an existing pedestrian bridge and the removal of approximately 300 cubic yards of soil during installation of piles for the building foundation. Following construction, security screening would occupy the departures level of the new building and the existing security screening checkpoint in the Terminal 3 east lobby would be decommissioned.

The Airport is located on a hazardous materials site as designated pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code based on a number of open cleanup program sites at various locations. RWQCB Site Cleanup Order 99-045 provides guidelines for investigation, characterization and remediation of contaminants in soil and groundwater at the Airport.

The PND 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 PND (i.e., by 5:00 p.m. on **June 23, 2017**, any person may:

- 1) Review the PND as an informational item and take no action;
- 2) Make recommendations for amending the text of the document. The text of the PND 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 \$578 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 \$578.00 payable to the San Francisco Planning Department, and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on June 23, 2017.** The appeal letter and check may also be presented in person at the PIC counter on the first 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 PND. If the PND 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.

---

<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.