



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Community Plan Exemption Checklist

Case No.: **2014.1315E**
Project Address: **135 Townsend Street**
Zoning: MUO (Mixed Use-Office) District
105-F Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 3794/022
Lot Size: 11,578 square feet
Plan Area: Eastern Neighborhoods (East SoMa)
Project Sponsor: John Kevlin – Reuben, Junius & Rose
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project site is on the south side of Townsend Street between 2nd and 3rd streets in the South of Market neighborhood. The project site is occupied by a 70-foot-tall, five-story industrial building that was constructed in 1911. The current use of the existing building is retail self-storage. The proposed project consists of converting the retail self-storage use to approximately 49,995 gross square feet (gsf) of office use on the first through fifth floors and approximately 1,395 gsf of retail use on the ground floor. The proposed alterations to the existing building include interior tenant improvements, in-kind replacements of the exterior windows, and a new storefront on the ground-floor. There would be no automobile parking spaces, and the existing 30-foot-wide curb cut on Townsend Street would be removed. The proposed project would include 28 Class 1 bicycle spaces in a secure storage room on the ground floor and four Class 2 bicycle spaces would be located on the Townsend Street sidewalk in front of the project site. Usable open space for the tenants of the building would be provided in the form of an approximately 2,495-square-foot (sf) roof deck. Access to the roof deck would be provided by new stairs and two new elevators. The new 11-foot-tall stair penthouse would be set back about 21 feet from the rear façade of the building, while the new 17-foot-tall elevator penthouse would be set back about 23 feet from the front façade of the building. During the approximately six-month project construction, the proposed project would require excavation to a depth of five feet below ground surface and the removal of approximately 79 cubic yards of soil. New grade beams would be added between some of the existing footings to reinforce the existing shallow building foundation, which consists of a mat slab with spread footings.

The proposed project would require the following approvals:

- **Section 321 (Office Development: Annual Limit) Project Authorization** (*Planning Commission*)
- **Certificate of Appropriateness** (*Historic Preservation Commission*)
- **Site/Building Permit** (*Planning Department and Department of Building Inspection*)

Section 321 Project Authorization by the Planning Commission constitutes the Approval Action for the proposed project. The Approval Action date establishes the start of the 30-day appeal period for this CEQA exemption determination pursuant to Section 31.04(h) of the San Francisco Administrative Code.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

This Community Plan Exemption (CPE) Checklist evaluates whether the environmental impacts of the proposed project are addressed in the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans (Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR).¹ The CPE Checklist indicates whether the proposed project would result in significant impacts that: (1) are peculiar to the project or project site; (2) were not identified as significant project-level, cumulative, or off-site effects in the PEIR; or (3) are previously identified significant effects, which as a result of substantial new information that was not known at the time that the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR was certified, are determined to have a more severe adverse impact than discussed in the PEIR. Such impacts, if any, will be evaluated in a project-specific Mitigated Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report. If no such topics are identified, the proposed project is exempt from further environmental review in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21083.3 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.

Mitigation measures identified in the PEIR are discussed under each topic area, and measures that are applicable to the proposed project are provided under the Mitigation Measure section at the end of this checklist.

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified significant impacts related to land use, transportation, cultural resources, shadow, noise, air quality, and hazardous materials. Additionally, the PEIR identified significant cumulative impacts related to land use, transportation, and cultural resources. Mitigation measures were identified for the above impacts and reduced all impacts to less-than-significant levels except for those related to land use (cumulative impacts on PDR use), transportation (program-level and cumulative traffic impacts at nine intersections; program-level and cumulative transit impacts on seven Muni lines), cultural resources (cumulative impacts from demolition of historical resources), and shadow (program-level impacts on parks).

The proposed project consists of converting an existing five-story industrial building from retail self-storage use to approximately 49,995 gsf of office use on the first through fifth floors and approximately 1,395 gsf of ground-floor retail use. As discussed below in this checklist, the proposed project would not result in new, significant environmental effects, or effects of greater severity than were already analyzed and disclosed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

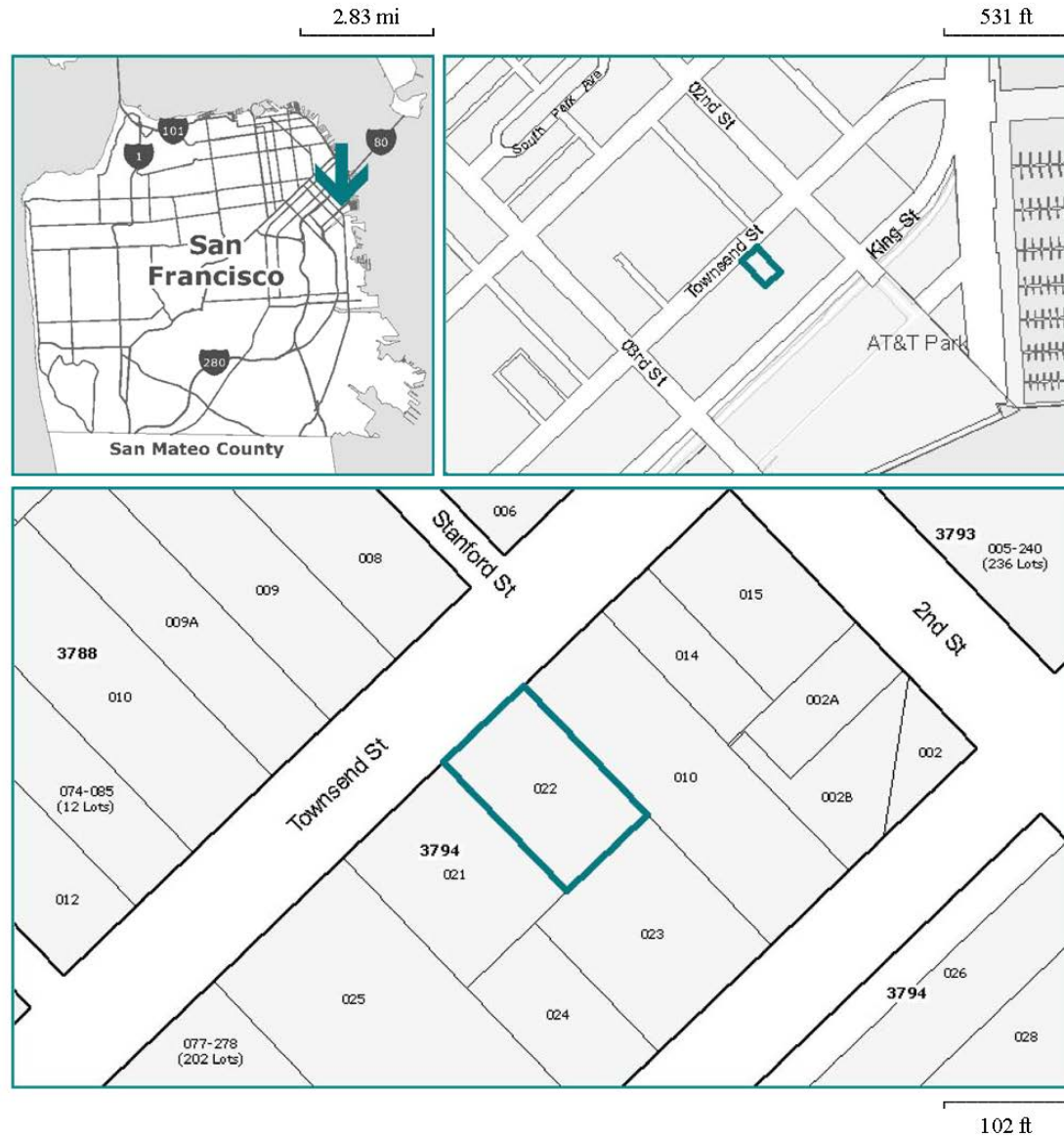
CHANGES IN THE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

Since the certification of the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR in 2008, several new policies, regulations, statutes, and funding measures have been adopted, passed, or are underway that affect the physical environment and/or environmental review methodology for projects in the Eastern Neighborhoods plan areas. As discussed in each topic area referenced below, these policies, regulations, statutes, and funding

¹ San Francisco Planning Department, *Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans Final Environmental Impact Report*, Case No. 2004.0160E, certified August 7, 2008. Available online at: <http://www.sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page=1893>, accessed May 5, 2015.

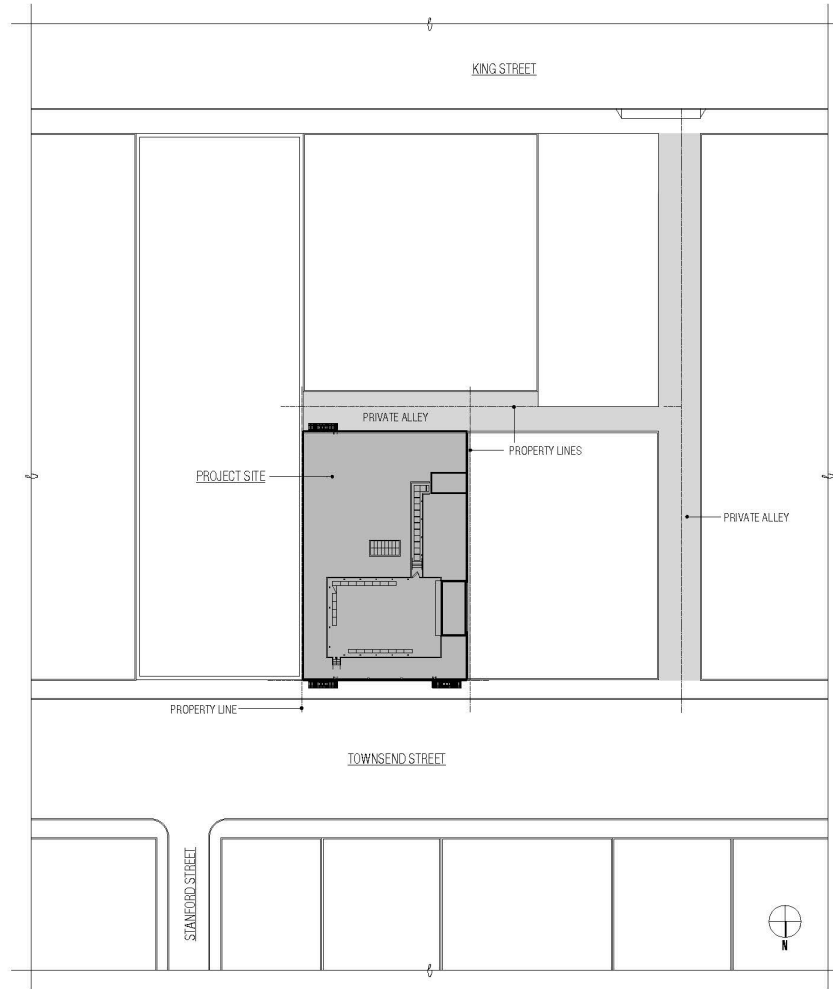
Figure 1. Project Site

135 Townsend Street



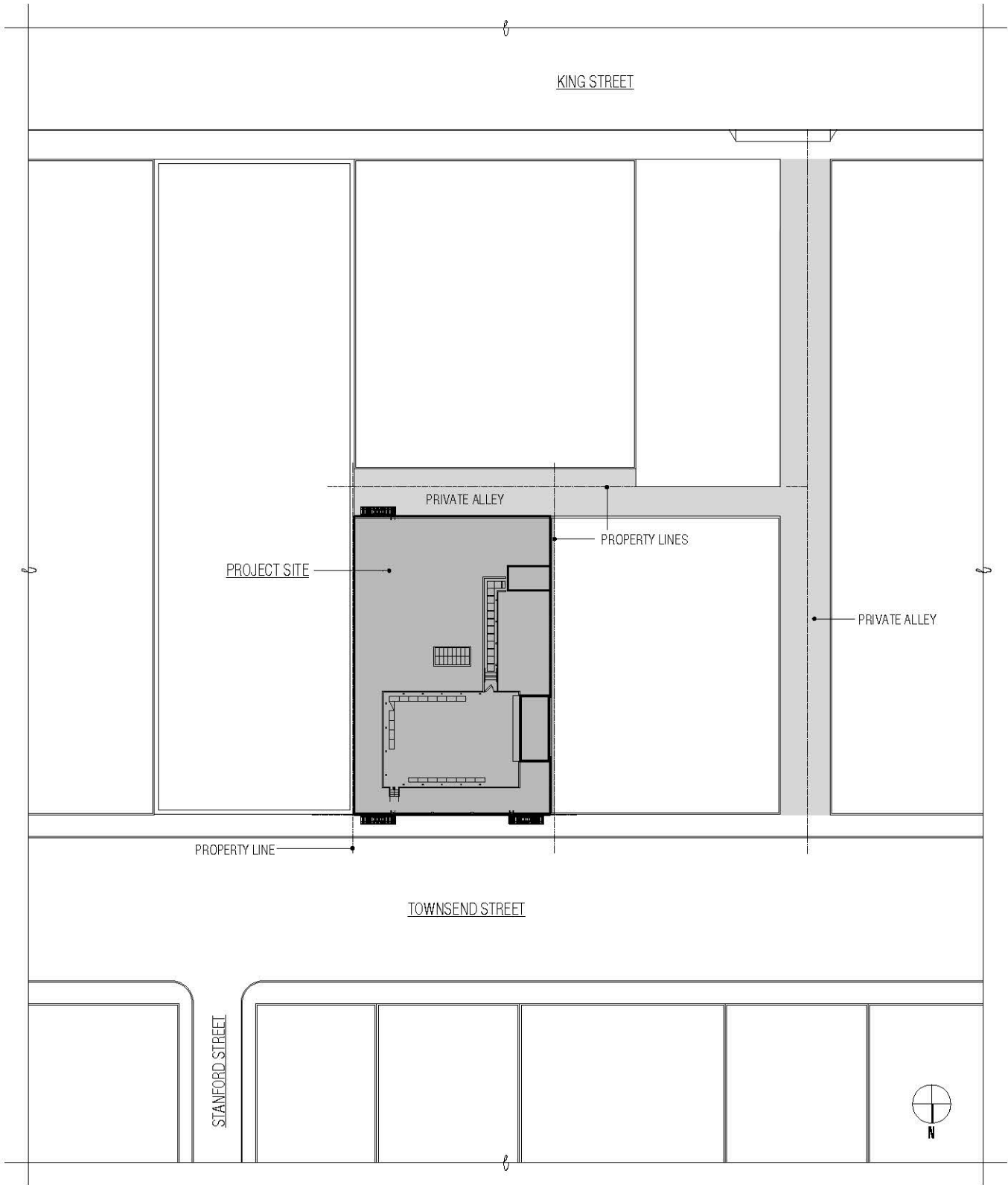
Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Planning Department

Figure 2. Proposed Site Plan



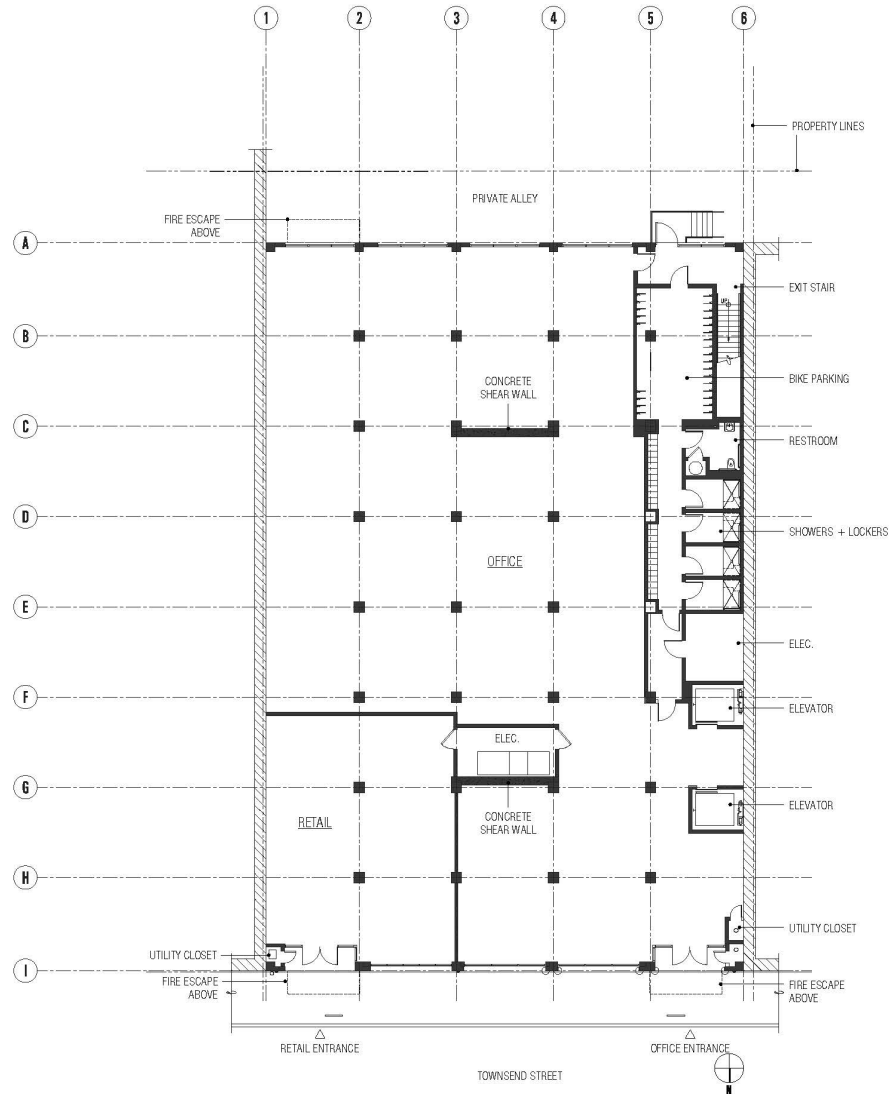
135 TOWNSEND - SITE PLAN

Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Office of Chuck Bloszies, October 8, 2015



135 TOWNSEND - SITE PLAN

Figure 3. Proposed Ground Floor Plan



135 TOWNSEND - FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Office of Chuck Bloszies, October 8, 2015

Figure 4. Proposed Front Elevation



Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Office of Chuck Bloszies, October 8, 2015

Figure 5. Proposed Rear Elevation



Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Office of Charles Blosziers, October 8, 2015.

measures have or will implement mitigation measures or further reduce less-than-significant impacts identified in the PEIR. These include:

- State statute regulating Aesthetics and Parking Impacts for Transit Priority Infill, effective January 2014 (see associated heading below);
- *San Francisco Bicycle Plan* update adoption in June 2009, *Better Streets Plan* adoption in 2010, Transit Effectiveness Project (aka “Muni Forward”) adoption in March 2014, Vision Zero adoption by various City agencies in 2014, Proposition A and B passage in November 2014, and the Transportation Sustainability Program process (see Checklist section “Transportation”);
- San Francisco ordinance establishing Noise Regulations Related to Residential Uses Near Places of Entertainment effective June 2015 (see Checklist section “Noise”);
- San Francisco ordinances establishing Construction Dust Control, effective July 2008, and Enhanced Ventilation Required for Urban Infill Sensitive Use Developments, effective December 2014 (see Checklist section “Air Quality”);
- San Francisco Clean and Safe Parks Bond passage in November 2012 and San Francisco Recreation and Open Space Element of the *General Plan* adoption in April 2014 (see Checklist section “Recreation”);
- *Urban Water Management Plan* adoption in 2011 and Sewer System Improvement Program process (see Checklist section “Utilities and Service Systems”); and
- Article 22A of the Health Code amendments effective August 2013 (see Checklist section “Hazardous Materials”).

CHANGES IN THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Since the certification of the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR in 2008, as evidenced by the volume of development applications submitted to the Planning Department since 2012, the pace of development activity has increased in the Eastern Neighborhoods plan areas. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR projected that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan could result in a substantial amount of growth within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area, resulting in an increase of approximately 7,400 to 9,900 net dwelling units and 3,200,000 to 6,600,000 sf of net nonresidential space (excluding PDR loss) throughout the lifetime of the Plan (year 2025).² The growth projected in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR was based on a soft site analysis (i.e., assumptions regarding the potential for a site to be developed

² Tables 12 through 16 of the Eastern Neighborhoods Draft EIR and Table C&R-2 in the Comments and Responses show projected net growth based on proposed rezoning scenarios. A baseline for existing conditions in the year 2000 was included to provide context for the scenario figures for parcels affected by the rezoning, not projected growth totals from a baseline of the year 2000. Estimates of projected growth were based on parcels that were to be rezoned and did not include parcels that were recently developed (i.e., parcels with projects completed between 2000 and March 2006) or have proposed projects in the pipeline (i.e., projects under construction, projects approved or entitled by the Planning Department, or projects under review by the Planning Department or Department of Building Inspection). Development pipeline figures for each Plan Area were presented separately in Tables 5, 7, 9, and 11 in the Draft EIR. Environmental impact assessments for these pipeline projects were considered separately from the Eastern Neighborhoods rezoning effort.

through the year 2025) and not based on the created capacity of the rezoning options (i.e., the total potential for development that would be created indefinitely).³

As of July 31, 2015, projects containing 8,559 dwelling units and 2,231,595 sf of nonresidential space (excluding PDR loss) have completed or are proposed to complete environmental review⁴ within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area. These estimates include projects that have completed environmental review (4,885 dwelling units and 1,472,688 sf of nonresidential space) and foreseeable projects, including the proposed project (3,674 dwelling units and 758,907 sf of nonresidential space). Foreseeable projects are those projects for which environmental evaluation applications have been submitted to the San Francisco Planning Department. Of the 4,885 dwelling units that have completed environmental review, building permits have been issued for 3,710 dwelling units, or approximately 76 percent of those units (information is not available regarding building permit nonresidential square footage). An issued building permit means the buildings containing those dwelling units are currently under construction or open for occupancy.

Within the East SoMa subarea, the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR projected that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan could result in an increase of 2,300 to 3,100 net dwelling units and 962,000 to 1,580,000 net sf nonresidential space (excluding PDR loss) through the year 2025. As of July 31, 2015, projects containing 2,114 dwelling units and 1,041,289 sf of nonresidential space (excluding PDR loss) have completed or are proposed to complete environmental review within the East SoMa subarea. These estimates include projects that have completed environmental review (808 dwelling units and 713,271 sf of non-residential space) and foreseeable projects, including the proposed project (1,306 dwelling units and 328,018 sf of nonresidential space). Of the 808 dwelling units that have completed environmental review, building permits have been issued for 745 dwelling units, or approximately 92 percent of those units.

Growth that has occurred within the Plan area since adoption of the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR has been planned for, and the effects of that growth were anticipated and considered in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR. Although the reasonably foreseeable growth in the residential land use category is approaching the projections within the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR, the nonresidential reasonably foreseeable growth is between approximately 34 and 69 percent of the nonresidential projections in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR utilized the growth projections to analyze the physical environmental impacts associated with that growth for the following environmental impact topics: Land Use; Population, Housing, Business Activity, and Employment; Transportation; Noise; Air Quality; Parks, Recreation, and Open Space; Utilities/Public Services; and Water. The analysis took into account the overall growth in the Eastern Neighborhoods and did not necessarily analyze in isolation the impacts of growth in one land use category, although each land use category may have differing severities of effects. Therefore, given that the growth from the reasonably foreseeable projects has not exceeded the overall growth that was projected in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR, information

³ San Francisco Planning Department, *Community Planning in the Eastern Neighborhoods, Rezoning Options Workbook, Draft*, February 2003. This document is available at: <http://www.sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page=1678#background>.

⁴ For this and the Land Use and Land Use Planning section, environmental review is defined as projects that have or are relying on the growth projections and analysis in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR for environmental review (i.e., Community Plan Exemptions or Focused Mitigated Negative Declarations and Focused Environmental Impact Reports with an attached Community Plan Exemption Checklist).

that was not known at the time of the PEIR has not resulted in new significant environmental impacts or substantially more severe adverse impacts than discussed in the PEIR.

AESTHETICS AND PARKING IMPACTS FOR TRANSIT PRIORITY INFILL DEVELOPMENT

Public Resources Code Section 21099(d), effective January 1, 2014, provides that, “aesthetics and parking impacts of a residential, mixed-use residential, or employment center project on an infill site located within a transit priority area shall not be considered significant impacts on the environment.” Accordingly, aesthetics and parking are no longer to be considered in determining if a project has the potential to result in significant environmental effects for projects that meet all of the following three criteria:

- a) The project is in a transit priority area;
- b) The project is on an infill site; and
- c) The project is residential, mixed-use residential, or an employment center.

The proposed project meets each of the above three criteria and thus, this checklist does not consider aesthetics or parking in determining the significance of project impacts under CEQA.⁵

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
1. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING— Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial impact upon the existing character of the vicinity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that adoption of the Area Plans would result in an unavoidable significant impact on land use due to the cumulative loss of PDR. The proposed project would not remove any existing PDR uses and would therefore not contribute to any impact related to loss of PDR uses that was identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR. The project site was zoned M-2 (Heavy Industrial) prior to the rezoning of Eastern Neighborhoods, which is a zoning district that encourages PDR uses. However, the use of the existing building has been retail self-storage since 1985 so the proposed project would not remove any existing PDR uses.

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that implementation of the Area Plans would not create any new physical barriers in the Easter Neighborhoods because the rezoning and Area Plans do not

⁵ San Francisco Planning Department, Transit-Oriented Infill Project Eligibility Checklist for 135 Townsend Street, June 3, 2015. This document, and other cited documents, is available for review at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, as part of Case File No. 2014.1315E.

provide for any new major roadways, such as freeways that would disrupt or divide the project area or individual neighborhoods or subareas.

The Citywide Planning and Current Planning Divisions of the Planning Department have determined that the proposed project is permitted in the MUO District and is consistent with the height, density, and land use plans, policies and regulations.^{6,7} The proposed project falls within the South Park generalized zoning district, intended to protect the historic character of the district by encouraging smaller scale residential and commercial development. The proposed project, which converts the self-storage facility into small office and retail uses, is consistent with this designation.

Because the proposed project is consistent with the development density established in the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and area Plans, implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR related to land use and land use planning, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Topics:	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
2. POPULATION AND HOUSING—				
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units or create demand for additional housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

One of the objectives of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans is to identify appropriate locations for housing in the City’s industrially zoned land to meet the citywide demand for additional housing. The PEIR concluded that an increase in population in the Plan Areas is expected to occur as a secondary effect of the proposed rezoning and that any population increase would not, in and of itself, result in adverse physical effects, but would serve to advance key City policy objectives, such as providing housing in appropriate locations next to downtown and other employment generators and furthering the City’s Transit First policies. It was anticipated that the rezoning would result in an increase in both housing development and population in all of the Area Plan neighborhoods. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that the anticipated increase in population and density would not result

⁶ Susan Exline, San Francisco Planning Department, Community Plan Exemption Eligibility Determination, Citywide Planning and Policy Analysis, 135 Townsend Street, October 14, 2015.

⁷ Jeff Joslin, San Francisco Planning Department, Community Plan Exemption Eligibility Determination, Current Planning Analysis, 135 Townsend Street, October 22, 2015.

in significant adverse physical effects on the environment. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

The proposed project consists of converting an existing five-story building from retail self-storage use to approximately 49,995 gsf of office use and approximately 1,395 gsf of retail use, which would result in a total of about 184 employees on the project site.⁸ As stated in the “Changes in the Physical Environment” section above, these direct effects of the proposed project on population and housing are within the scope of the population growth anticipated under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans and evaluated in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts on population and housing beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
3. CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES—Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5, including those resources listed in Article 10 or Article 11 of the San Francisco Planning Code?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Historic Architectural Resources

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064.5(a)(1) and 15064.5(a)(2), historical resources are buildings or structures that are listed, or are eligible for listing, in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or are identified in a local register of historical resources, such as Articles 10 and 11 of the San Francisco Planning Code. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that future development facilitated through the changes in use districts and height limits under the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans could have substantial adverse changes on the significance of both individual historical resources and on historical districts within the Plan Areas. The PEIR determined that approximately 32 percent of the known or potential historical resources in the Plan Areas could potentially be affected under the preferred alternative. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR found this impact to be significant and unavoidable. This impact was addressed in a Statement of Overriding Considerations with findings and

⁸ San Francisco Planning Department, *2002 Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines for Environmental Review*, October 2002, Table C-1, p. C-3. The estimated number of employees is based on the following factors: one employee for every 350 sf of retail space and one employee for every 276 sf of general office space.

adopted as part of the approval of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans on January 19, 2009.

The existing building at 135 Townsend Street is a contributor to the South End Historic District and is considered a historical resource under CEQA. Proposed alterations to the existing building include interior tenant improvements, in-kind replacements of the exterior windows, and a new storefront on the ground-floor. The Planning Department has reviewed the proposed alterations and determined that they would be consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (Rehabilitation).⁹ Therefore, the proposed project would not contribute to the significant historic resource impact identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR, and no historic resource mitigation measures would apply to the proposed project.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts on historic architectural resources that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

Archeological Resources

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that implementation of the Area Plans could result in significant impacts on archeological resources and identified three mitigation measures that would reduce these potential impacts to less-than-significant levels. PEIR Mitigation Measure J-1 applies to properties for which a final archeological research design and treatment plan (ARDTP) is on file at the Northwest Information Center and the Planning Department. PEIR Mitigation Measure J-2 applies to properties for which no archeological assessment report has been prepared or for which the archeological documentation is incomplete or inadequate to serve as an evaluation of potential effects on archeological resources under CEQA. PEIR Mitigation Measure J-3, which applies to properties in the Mission Dolores Archeological District, requires that a specific archeological testing program be conducted by a qualified archeological consultant with expertise in California prehistoric and urban historical archeology.

The project site is not in an area for which a previous archeological study has been conducted and an ARDTP is on file; therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measure J-1 is not applicable to the proposed project. No previous archeological studies have been conducted for the project site; therefore PEIR Mitigation Measure J-2 is applicable to the proposed project. PEIR Mitigation Measure J-2 requires the preparation of a Preliminary Archeological Sensitivity Study to determine the potential for archeological resources to be present at the project site. The Planning Department conducted a Preliminary Archeological Review and determined that the proposed project would have no impact on archeological resources as project excavation is minimal and would only disturb fill.¹⁰ The project site is not in the Mission Dolores Archeological District; therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measure J-3 is not applicable to the proposed project.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts on archeological resources beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

⁹ San Francisco Planning Department, *Preservation Team Review Form, 135 Townsend Street*, September 28, 2015.

¹⁰ Randall Dean, San Francisco Planning Department, email to Michael Li, San Francisco Planning Department, February 12, 2015.

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
4. TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION— Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels, obstructions to flight, or a change in location, that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR anticipated that growth resulting from the zoning changes would not result in significant impacts related to pedestrians, bicyclists, loading, emergency access, or construction. As the proposed project is within the scope of development projected under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on pedestrians, bicyclists, loading, emergency access, or construction beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

However, the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR anticipated that growth resulting from the zoning changes could result in significant impacts on traffic and transit ridership, and identified 11 transportation mitigation measures, which are discussed below in the Traffic and Transit subsections. Even with mitigation, however, it was anticipated that the significant adverse cumulative traffic impacts and the cumulative impacts on transit lines could not be fully mitigated. Thus, these impacts were found to be significant and unavoidable.

The project site is not located within an airport land use plan area, or in the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, CPE Checklist Topic 4c is not applicable.

Trip Generation

The proposed project consists of converting an existing five-story building from retail self-storage use to approximately 49,995 gsf of office use with approximately 1,395 gsf of ground-floor retail use. There would be no off-street parking spaces, but a total of 32 bicycle parking spaces would be provided.

Vehicle trip generation rates for the existing retail self-storage facility were estimated to be approximately 102 weekday vehicle trips.¹¹ During the p.m. peak hour, the existing storage facility generates an estimated 9 p.m. peak hour vehicle trips.

Trip generation rates for the proposed land uses were calculated using information in the *2002 Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines for Environmental Review (Transportation Guidelines)* developed by the San Francisco Planning Department.¹²

The proposed office and retail uses would generate an estimated 1,115 person trips (inbound and outbound) on a weekday daily basis, consisting of 696 person trips by auto, 199 transit trips, 159 walk trips, and 61 trips by other modes. During the p.m. peak hour, the proposed project would generate an estimated 65 person trips by auto. Accounting for vehicle occupancy data for the project site's census tract, the proposed project would generate 407 daily vehicle trips, 47 of which would occur during the p.m. peak hour.

Implementation of the proposed project would generate an estimated 305 net new daily vehicle trips, 38 of which would occur during the p.m. peak hour.

Traffic

Mitigation Measures E-1 through E-4 of the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR were adopted as part of the Plan with uncertain feasibility to address significant traffic impacts. These measures are not applicable to the proposed project, as they are plan-level mitigation measures to be implemented by City and County agencies. Since certification of the PEIR, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) has been engaged in public outreach regarding some of the parking-related measures identified in Mitigation Measures E-2 and E-4: Intelligent Traffic Management, although they have not been implemented. Measures that have been implemented include traffic signal installation at Rhode Island/16th streets as identified in Mitigation Measure E-1 and enhanced funding as identified in Mitigation Measure E-3 through San Francisco Propositions A and B passed in November 2014. Proposition A authorized the City to borrow \$500 million through issuing general obligation bonds in order to meet some of the transportation infrastructure needs of the City. These funds are allocated for constructing transit-only lanes and separated bikeways, installing new boarding islands and escalators at Muni/BART stops, installing sidewalk curb bulb-outs, raised crosswalks, median islands, and bicycle parking, and upgrading Muni maintenance facilities, among various other improvements. Proposition B, which also passed in November 2014, amends the City Charter to increase the amount the City provided to the SFMTA based on the City's population, with such funds to be used to improve Muni service and street safety. Some of this funding may be applied to transportation projects within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area.

Vehicle trips associated with the proposed project would travel through the intersections surrounding the project block. Intersection operating conditions are characterized by the concept of Level of Service

¹¹ These rates are based on the Brief Guide of Vehicular Traffic Generation Rates for the San Diego Region by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), April 2002. Trip generation was based on SANDAG's weekday vehicle trip generation rate of 0.2 vehicle trips per retail storage vault, and the p.m. peak hour is 9 percent.

¹² San Francisco Planning Department, *135 Townsend Street Transportation Calculations for Proposed Project*, September 29, 2015.

(LOS), which ranges from A to F and provides a description of an intersection's performance based on traffic volumes, intersection capacity, and vehicle delays. LOS A represents free-flow conditions with little or no delay, while LOS F represents congested conditions with extremely long delays; LOS D (moderately high delays) is considered the lowest acceptable LOS in San Francisco.

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR analyzed traffic impacts at 40 intersections throughout the Plan Area. The intersections near the project site (within approximately 800 feet) include Second/Brannan and Third/King. Table 1: Intersection Levels of Service, provides existing and cumulative LOS data gathered for these intersections, per the transportation study for the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.¹³

Table 1: Intersection Levels of Service

<u>Intersection</u>	<u>Existing LOS (2007)</u>	<u>Cumulative LOS (2025)</u>
Second/Brannan	B	B
Third/King	D	F

Source: Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR, Table 41, 2008.

Notes:

(1) **Bold** indicates intersection operates at unacceptable LOS conditions (LOS E or F).

The proposed project would generate an estimated 38 net new p.m. peak-hour vehicle trips that could travel through surrounding intersections. These vehicle trips would not substantially increase traffic volumes at nearby intersections, would not substantially increase the average delay to the degree that the LOS of nearby intersections would deteriorate from acceptable to unacceptable, and would not substantially increase the average delay at intersections that currently operate at an unacceptable LOS.

The proposed project would not contribute considerably to LOS delay conditions as its contribution of an estimated 38 net new p.m. peak-hour vehicle trips would not be a substantial proportion of the overall traffic volume or the new vehicle trips generated by Eastern Neighborhoods projects. The proposed project would also not contribute considerably to 2025 cumulative conditions and thus, the proposed project would not have any significant cumulative traffic impacts.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant traffic impacts beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

Transit

Mitigation Measures E-5 through E-11 of the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR were adopted as part of the Plan with uncertain feasibility to address significant transit impacts. These measures are not applicable to the proposed project, as they are plan-level mitigations to be implemented by City and County agencies. In compliance with a portion of Mitigation Measure E-5: Enhanced Transit Funding, the City adopted impact fees for development in Eastern Neighborhoods that goes toward funding transit and complete streets. In addition, the City is currently conducting outreach regarding Mitigation Measure E-5: Enhanced Transit Funding, and Mitigation Measure E-11: Transportation Demand Management, as part of the Transportation Sustainability Program.¹⁴ In compliance with all or portions of Mitigation Measure E-6: Transit Corridor Improvements, Mitigation Measure E-7: Transit Accessibility,

¹³ CHS Consulting Group, LCW Consulting, and Wilbur Smith Associates, *Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans Transportation Study*, June 30, 2007.

¹⁴ <http://tsp.sfplanning.org>

Mitigation Measure E-9: Rider Improvements, and Mitigation Measure E-10: Transit Enhancement, the SFMTA is implementing the Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP), which was approved by the SFMTA Board of Directors in March 2014. The TEP (now called Muni Forward) includes system-wide review, evaluation, and recommendations to improve service and increase transportation efficiency. Examples of transit priority and pedestrian safety improvements within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area as part of Muni Forward include the 14 Mission Rapid Transit Project, the 22 Fillmore Extension along 16th Street to Mission Bay (expected construction between 2017 and 2020), and the Travel Time Reduction Project on Route 9 San Bruno (initiation in 2015). In addition, Muni Forward includes service improvements to various routes within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area such as the implemented new Route 55 on 16th Street.

Mitigation Measure E-7 also identifies implementing recommendations of the *San Francisco Bicycle Plan* and the *San Francisco Better Streets Plan*. As part of the *Bicycle Plan*, adopted in 2009, a series of minor, near-term and long-term bicycle facility improvements are planned within the Eastern Neighborhoods, including along 2nd Street, 5th Street, 17th Street, Townsend Street, Illinois Street, and Cesar Chavez Boulevard. The *Better Streets Plan*, adopted in 2010, describes a vision for the future of San Francisco's pedestrian realm and calls for streets that work for all users. The *Better Streets Plan* requirements were codified in Planning Code Section 138.1, and new projects constructed in the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area are subject to varying requirements, depending on project size. Another effort which addresses transit accessibility, Vision Zero, was adopted by various City agencies in 2014. Vision Zero focuses on building better and safer streets through education, evaluation, enforcement, and engineering. The goal is to eliminate all traffic fatalities by 2024. Vision Zero projects within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area include pedestrian intersection treatments along Mission Street from 18th to 23rd streets, the Potrero Avenue Streetscape Project from Division to Cesar Chavez streets, and the Howard Street Pilot Project, which includes pedestrian intersection treatments from 4th to 6th streets.

The project site is well served by public transportation. Within one-quarter mile of the project site, the San Francisco Municipal Railway (Muni) operates the following bus lines: the 8 Bayshore, 8AX Bayshore A Express, 8BX Bayshore B Express, 10 Townsend, 12 Folsom/Pacific, 30 Stockton, 45 Union/Stockton, 81X Caltrain Express, and the 82X Levi Plaza Express. Muni also operates the N Judah and KT Ingleside/Third Street light rail lines along King Street. The intersection of Second and Townsend streets, which is closest to the project site, has two bus stops: one on the northwest corner and one on the northeast corner. These bus stops serve the 10 Townsend bus line.

The proposed project would be expected to generate 199 new daily transit trips, including 18 new transit trips during the p.m. peak hour. Given the wide availability of nearby transit, the addition of 18 net new transit trips during the p.m. peak-hour would be accommodated by existing capacity. As such, the proposed project would not result in unacceptable levels of transit service or cause a substantial increase in delays or operating costs such that significant adverse impacts in transit service could result.

Each of the rezoning options in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified significant and unavoidable cumulative impacts related to increases in transit ridership on Muni lines, with the Preferred Project having significant impacts on seven lines. The project site is not within one-quarter mile of these seven affected lines. The proposed project would not contribute considerably to these conditions as its minor contribution of 18 net new transit trips during the p.m. peak hour would not be a substantial proportion of the overall additional transit volume generated by Eastern Neighborhood projects. The proposed

project would also not contribute considerably to 2025 cumulative transit conditions and thus would not result in any significant cumulative transit impacts.

For the above reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR related to transit and would not contribute considerably to cumulative transit impacts that were identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

Pedestrians

The PEIR stated that given the low to moderate levels of baseline pedestrian activity within most of the Eastern Neighborhoods, the anticipated increase in pedestrian traffic could be accommodated by existing sidewalks. The PEIR acknowledged that the East SoMa would experience the greatest overall increase in pedestrian trips, from baseline conditions, among the four Eastern Neighborhoods. Trips to and from transit stops, and to and from parking facilities would result in an increase in pedestrian volumes on the study area sidewalks. Increases in pedestrian volumes would be most noticeable in the immediate vicinity of subsequent individual development projects. The PEIR stated that since baseline pedestrian volumes within East SoMa were relatively low, the character of interactions between pedestrians and vehicles may change substantially. With increased residential development, increases in the number of pedestrians would likely outpace the substantial increases in the number of vehicles in the area. For future conditions, the amount of conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles would likely increase, but the presence of increased number of pedestrians may also affect driver behavior. New residential settings coupled with substantial increases in foot traffic may partially offset risks associated with increased pedestrian-vehicle conflicts, as “safety in numbers” causes drivers to expect and adapt to increased interactions with pedestrians. The addition of pedestrian trips associated with the rezoning would likely change the character of the area’s pedestrian environment, but would not be expected to significantly affect baseline pedestrian conditions. The East SoMa Plan contains objectives and policies that would serve to encourage travel by public transit and other non-auto modes, and enhance pedestrian travel and safety within East SoMa.

The proposed project would generate approximately 28 pedestrian trips (10 walking trip and 18 trips to/from nearby transit stops) during the typical p.m. peak hour. The new pedestrian trips could be accommodated on existing sidewalks and crosswalks adjacent to the project site and would not substantially overcrowd the sidewalk on Townsend Street, which is approximately ten feet wide. Implementation of the proposed project would improve pedestrian circulation by removing the existing 30-foot-wide curb cut on Townsend Street and by not providing off-street parking at the project site. Although the proposed project would result in an increase in the number of vehicles and pedestrians, this increase would not be substantial enough to create potentially hazardous conditions for pedestrian or otherwise substantially interfere with pedestrian accessibility to the site and adjacent areas. In addition, the project site was not identified as being in a high-injury corridor as defined by Vision Zero, which is the City’s adopted road safety policy that aims for zero traffic deaths in San Francisco by 2024.¹⁵ Therefore, impacts on pedestrians would be less than significant.

For the above reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant project-level or cumulative pedestrian impacts that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

¹⁵ Vision Zero High Injury Network map, accessed on August 17, 2015, is available online at:

<http://sfgov.maps.arcgis.com/apps/OnePane/basicviewer/index.html?appid=335c508503374f5d94c95cb2a1f3f4f4>.

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
5. NOISE—Would the project:				
a) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Be substantially affected by existing noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would result in less-than-significant impacts related to incremental increases in traffic noise. However, the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that there would be significant noise impacts related to construction activities and conflicts between noise-sensitive uses and noise-generating land uses such as PDR, retail, nighttime entertainment, cultural/institutional/educational, and office uses. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified six noise mitigation measures that would reduce noise impacts from construction and noise-generating land uses to less-than-significant levels.

Construction Impacts

Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measures F-1 and F-2 relate to construction noise. Mitigation Measure F-1 addresses individual projects that include pile-driving, and Mitigation Measure F-2 addresses individual projects that include particularly noisy construction procedures (including pile-driving). The proposed project does not necessitate the use of pile-driving or other construction practices generating excessive noise. Therefore, Mitigation F-1 and F-2 would not be applicable to the project.

In addition, all construction activities for the proposed project (approximately six months) would be subject to and would comply with the San Francisco Noise Ordinance (Noise Ordinance), which is codified as Article 29 of the San Francisco Police Code. The Noise Ordinance regulates construction noise and requires that construction work be conducted in the following manner: (1) noise levels of construction equipment, other than impact tools, must not exceed 80 dBA at a distance of 100 feet from

the source (the equipment generating the noise); (2) impact tools must have intake and exhaust mufflers that are approved by the Director of the Department of Public Works (DPW) or the Director of the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) to best accomplish maximum noise reduction; and (3) if the noise from the construction work would exceed the ambient noise levels at the site property line by 5 dBA, the work must not be conducted between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. unless the Director of the DPW authorizes a special permit for conducting the work during that period.

The DBI is responsible for enforcing the Noise Ordinance for private construction projects during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The Police Department is responsible for enforcing the Noise Ordinance during all other hours. Nonetheless, during the six-month construction period for the proposed project, occupants of the nearby properties could be disturbed by construction noise. Times may occur when noise could interfere with indoor activities in nearby residences and other businesses near the project site and may be considered an annoyance by occupants of nearby properties. The increase in noise in the project area during project construction would not be considered a significant impact of the proposed project, because the construction noise would be temporary, intermittent, and restricted in occurrence and level. In addition, the construction contractor would be required to comply with the Noise Ordinance and PEIR Mitigation Measure F-2, which would reduce construction noise impacts to less-than-significant levels.

Operational Impacts

PEIR Mitigation Measures F-3: Interior Noise Levels and PEIR Mitigation Measure F-4: Siting Noise-Sensitive Uses, require that a detailed analysis of noise reduction requirements be conducted for new development that includes noise-sensitive uses located along streets with noise levels above 60 dBA (Ldn). The proposed project does not include any noise-sensitive uses. Therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measures F-3 and F-4 are not applicable to the proposed project.

PEIR Mitigation Measure F-5 addresses impacts related to individual development projects that include new noise-generating uses that would be expected to generate noise levels in excess of ambient noise levels. The proposed project would introduce office and retail uses to the project site, but these uses are not expected to generate noise levels in excess of existing ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. The proposed project includes the installation of mechanical equipment, such as heating and ventilation systems, that could produce operational noise, but this equipment would be required to comply with the standards set forth in Section 2909 of the Noise Ordinance. The proposed project does not include the installation of a backup diesel generator. Therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measure F-5 is not applicable to the proposed project.

PEIR Mitigation Measure F-6 addresses impacts from existing ambient noise levels on open space required under the Planning Code for new development that includes noise-sensitive uses. Although the proposed project includes open space in the form of a roof deck, the open space is not for a noise-sensitive use; the proposed project does not include any noise-sensitive uses. Therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measure F-6 is not applicable to the proposed project.

The project site is not located within an airport land use plan area, within two miles of a public airport, or in the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, CPE Checklist Topics 5e and 5f are not applicable.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant noise impacts beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
6. AIR QUALITY—Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal, state, or regional ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified potentially significant air quality impacts resulting from construction activities and impacts on sensitive land uses¹⁶ as a result of exposure to elevated levels of diesel particulate matter (DPM) and other toxic air contaminants (TACs). The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified four mitigation measures that would reduce these air quality impacts to less-than-significant levels and stated that with implementation of identified mitigation measures, the Area Plan would be consistent with the *Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy*, which was the applicable air quality plan at that time. All other air quality impacts were found to be less than significant.

Construction Dust Control

PEIR Mitigation Measure G-1: Construction Air Quality, requires individual projects involving construction activities to include dust control measures and to maintain and operate construction equipment so as to minimize exhaust emissions of particulates and other pollutants. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a series of amendments to the San Francisco Building and Health Codes, generally referred to as the Construction Dust Control Ordinance (Ordinance No.176-08, effective August 29, 2008). The intent of this ordinance is to reduce the quantity of fugitive dust generated during site preparation, demolition, and construction work in order to protect the health of the general public and of on-site workers, to minimize public nuisance complaints, and to avoid orders to stop work by the Department of Building Inspection. Project-related construction activities would result in construction dust, primarily from ground-disturbing activities. In compliance with the Construction Dust Control Ordinance, the project sponsor and contractor responsible for construction activities at the project site would be required to control construction dust on the site through a combination of watering disturbed areas, covering stockpiled materials, sweeping streets and sidewalks, and other measures.

¹⁶ The Bay Area Air Quality Management District considers sensitive receptors as: children, adults or seniors occupying or residing in: 1) residential dwellings, including apartments, houses, condominiums, 2) schools, colleges, and universities, 3) daycares, 4) hospitals, and 5) senior care facilities. BAAQMD, Recommended Methods for Screening and Modeling Local Risks and Hazards, May 2011, p. 12.

The regulations and procedures set forth in the Construction Dust Control Ordinance would ensure that construction dust impacts would not be significant. These requirements supersede the dust control provisions of PEIR Mitigation Measure G-1. Therefore, the portion of PEIR Mitigation Measure G-1 that addresses dust control is no longer applicable to the proposed project.

Criteria Air Pollutants

While the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that at a program-level the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would not result in significant regional air quality impacts, the PEIR states that “Individual development projects undertaken in the future pursuant to the new zoning and area plans would be subject to a significance determination based on the BAAQMD’s quantitative thresholds for individual projects.”¹⁷ The BAAQMD’s *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines (Air Quality Guidelines)* provide screening criteria¹⁸ for determining whether a project’s criteria air pollutant emissions would violate an air quality standard, contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation, or result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria air pollutants. Pursuant to the *Air Quality Guidelines*, projects that meet the screening criteria do not have a significant impact related to criteria air pollutants. Criteria air pollutant emissions during construction and operation of the proposed project would meet the Air Quality Guidelines screening criteria. The proposed project, with 49,995 gsf of office space and 1,395 gsf of retail space, is well below both the construction screening criterion and the operational screening criterion for the “general office building” and “strip mall” land use types. Therefore, the proposed project would not have a significant impact related to criteria air pollutants, and a detailed air quality assessment is not required.

Health Risk

Since the certification of the PEIR, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a series of amendments to the San Francisco Building and Health Codes (Ordinance No. 224-14, effective December 7, 2014), generally referred to as Health Code Article 38: Enhanced Ventilation Required for Urban Infill Sensitive Use Developments (Article 38). The purpose of Article 38 is to protect the public health and welfare by establishing an Air Pollutant Exposure Zone (APEZ) and imposing an enhanced ventilation requirement for all urban infill sensitive use development within the APEZ. The project site is not within an APEZ. The APEZ, as defined in Article 38, consists of areas that, based on modeling of all known air pollutant sources, exceed health protective standards for cumulative PM_{2.5} concentration and cumulative excess cancer risk. The APEZ incorporates health vulnerability factors and proximity to freeways.

Construction

As discussed above, the project site is not located within an identified APEZ. Therefore, the remainder of Mitigation Measure G-1 that requires the minimization of construction exhaust emissions is not applicable to the proposed project.

Siting Sensitive Land Uses

¹⁷ San Francisco Planning Department, *Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans Final Environmental Impact Report*, Case No. 2004.0160E, certified August 7, 2008, p. 346. Available online at: <http://www.sf-planning.org/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=4003>, accessed May 5, 2015.

¹⁸ Bay Area Air Quality Management District, *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, updated May 2011, pp. 3-2 to 3-3.

The proposed project consists of converting a retail self-storage use to office and retail uses, which are land uses that are not considered sensitive land uses for purposes of air quality evaluation. As discussed above, the project site is not within an APEZ, and Article 38 is not applicable to the proposed project. Therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measure G-2: Air Quality for Sensitive Land Uses, is not applicable to the proposed project, and the proposed project’s impacts related to siting new sensitive land uses would be less than significant.

Siting New Sources

The proposed project would not generate more than 10,000 vehicle trips per day, more than 100 truck trips per day, or more than 40 refrigerated truck trips per day. In addition, the proposed project would not include a backup diesel generator or other sources that would emit DPM or other TACs. Therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measure G-3: Siting of Uses that Emit DPM, and PEIR Mitigation Measure G-4: Siting of Uses that Emit Other TACs, are not applicable to the proposed project.

Conclusion

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant air quality impacts that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR. None of the air quality mitigation measures identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR is applicable to the proposed project

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
7. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS—Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR assessed the GHG emissions that could result from the three rezoning options under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans. The Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning Options A, B, and C are anticipated to result in GHG emissions on the order of 4.2, 4.3 and 4.5 metric tons of CO₂E¹⁹ per service population,²⁰ respectively. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR concluded that the resulting GHG emissions from the three options analyzed would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

¹⁹ CO₂E, defined as equivalent carbon dioxide, is a quantity that describes other greenhouse gases in terms of the amount of carbon dioxide that would have an equal global warming potential.

²⁰ Memorandum from Jessica Range to Environmental Planning Division staff, Greenhouse Gas Analyses for Community Plan Exemptions in Eastern Neighborhoods, April 20, 2010. This memorandum provides an overview of the GHG analysis conducted for the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR and provides an analysis of the emissions using a service population (equivalent of total number of residents and employees) metric.

The proposed project was determined to be consistent with San Francisco’s GHG Reduction Strategy,²¹ which is comprised of regulations that have proven effective in reducing San Francisco’s overall GHG emissions; GHG emissions have been measurably reduced when compared to 1990 emissions levels, demonstrating that the City has met and exceeded Executive Order S-3-05, Assembly Bill 32, and the *Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan’s* GHG reduction goals for the year 2020.²² Other existing regulations, such as those implemented through Assembly Bill 32, will continue to reduce a proposed project’s contribution to climate change. Therefore, the proposed project’s GHG emissions would not conflict with state, regional, and local GHG reduction plans and regulations, and the proposed project’s contribution to GHG emissions would not be cumulatively considerable or generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that would have a significant impact on the environment.

As the proposed project is within the scope of development projected under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on GHG emissions beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
8. WIND AND SHADOW—Would the project:				
a) Alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create new shadow in a manner that substantially affects outdoor recreation facilities or other public areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Wind

Based upon experience of the Planning Department in reviewing wind analyses and expert opinion on other projects, it is generally the case that projects less than 80 feet in height would not have the potential to result in significant wind impacts. The new height limits proposed under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would generally not exceed 80 feet. A few locations throughout the Plan Area already have existing height limits of 130 feet, but no new locations with height limits of 130 feet were proposed. For these reasons, the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that, at a programmatic level, the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would not result in significant wind impacts. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR. Individual development projects proposed under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans must still be assessed to ensure that they would not result in significant project-level wind impacts.

The existing building on the project site is 70 feet tall. As part of the proposed project, a new 11-foot-tall stair penthouse and a new 17-foot-tall elevator penthouse would be constructed on the roof of the building to provide access to the proposed roof deck. The new stair penthouse would be set back about 21 feet from the rear façade of the building, while the new elevator penthouse would be set back about

²¹ San Francisco Planning Department, Greenhouse Gas Compliance Checklist, 135 Townsend Street, May 5, 2015.

²² Executive Order S-3-05, Assembly Bill 32, and the *Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan* set a target of reducing GHG emissions to below 1990 levels by the year 2020.

23 feet from the front façade of the building. Given the small footprints of these two penthouse structures and their locations away from the front and rear façades of the building, any overhead winds that they intercept would be redirected onto the roof of the building. Overhead winds that are intercepted and redirected by these two penthouse structures would not reach the sidewalk. For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in any significant wind impacts beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

Shadow

Planning Code Section 295 generally prohibits new structures above 40 feet in height that would cast additional shadows on open space that is under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission between one hour after sunrise and one hour before sunset, at any time of the year, unless that shadow would not result in a significant adverse effect on the use of the open space. Under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, some sites surrounding parks could be redeveloped with taller buildings, because some parks are not subject to the provisions of Section 295 (i.e., some parks are under the jurisdiction of agencies other than the Recreation and Park Commission or are privately owned). The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR could not conclude if the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would result in less-than-significant shadow impacts, because the feasibility of complete mitigation for the potential new shadow impacts of unknown development proposals could not be determined at that time. Therefore, the PEIR determined that the shadow impacts would be significant and unavoidable. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

The proposed project would convert an existing five-story, 70-foot-tall building from retail self-storage use to office and retail uses. A new 11-foot-tall stair penthouse and a new 17-foot-tall elevator penthouse would be constructed on the roof of the building. The Planning Department prepared a preliminary shadow fan analysis and determined that the proposed project would not cast shadow on any properties under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission at any time during the year.^{23,24}

The proposed project would shade portions of nearby streets, sidewalks, and private properties in the project vicinity at different times of day throughout the year. Shadows on streets and sidewalks would be transitory in nature, would not exceed levels commonly expected in urban areas, and would be considered a less-than-significant impact under CEQA. Although occupants of nearby properties may regard the increase in shadow as undesirable, the limited increase in shading of private properties as a result of the proposed project would be considered a less-than-significant impact under CEQA.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant shadow impacts beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

²³ A shadow fan is a diagram that shows the maximum potential reach of project shadow, without accounting for intervening buildings that could block the shadow, over the course of an entire year (from one hour after sunrise until one hour before sunset on each day of the year) in relation to the locations of nearby open spaces, recreation facilities, and parks.

²⁴ San Francisco Planning Department, *Shadow Fan Analysis, 135 Townsend Street*, October 14, 2015.

<u>Topics:</u>	<u>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</u>	<u>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</u>	<u>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</u>	<u>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</u>
9. RECREATION—Would the project:				
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Physically degrade existing recreational resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR concluded that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would not result in substantial or accelerated deterioration of existing recreational resources or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that may have an adverse effect on the environment. No mitigation measures related to recreational resources were identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

As part of the adoption of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, the City adopted impact fees for development in the Eastern Neighborhoods that goes toward funding recreation and open space. Since certification of the PEIR, the voters of San Francisco passed the 2012 San Francisco Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond, providing the Recreation and Park Department with an additional \$195 million to continue capital projects for the renovation and repair of parks, recreation, and open space assets. This funding is being utilized for improvements and expansion to Garfield Square, South Park, Potrero Hill Recreation Center, Warm Water Cove Park, and Pier 70 Parks Shoreline within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area. The impact fees and the 2012 San Francisco Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond are funding measures similar to that described in PEIR Improvement Measure H-1: Support for Upgrades to Existing Recreation Facilities.

An update of the Recreation and Open Space Element (ROSE) of the *General Plan* was adopted in April 2014. The amended ROSE provides a 20-year vision for open spaces in the City. It includes information and policies about accessing, acquiring, funding, and managing open spaces in San Francisco. The amended ROSE identifies areas within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area for acquisition and the locations where proposed new open spaces and open space connections should be built, consistent with PEIR Improvement Measure H-2: Support for New Open Space. Two of these open spaces, Daggett Park and at 17th and Folsom streets, are set to open in 2015 and 2016, respectively. In addition, the amended ROSE identifies the role of both the *San Francisco Better Streets Plan* (see Section E.4, Transportation and Circulation, for a description) and the Green Connections Network in open space and recreation. Green connections are special streets and paths that connect people to parks, open spaces, and the waterfront while enhancing the ecology of the street environment. Six routes identified within the Green Connections Network cross the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area: Mission to Peaks (Route 6); Noe Valley to Central Waterfront (Route 8), a portion of which has been conceptually designed; Tenderloin to Potrero (Route 18); Downtown to Mission Bay (Route 19); Folsom, Mission Creek to McLaren (Route 20); and Shoreline (Route 24).

As the proposed project does not degrade recreational facilities and is within the scope of development projected under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on recreation beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

Topics:	Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site	Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR	Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information	No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR
10. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS—Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supply available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that the anticipated increase in population would not result in a significant impact to the provision of water, wastewater collection and treatment, and solid waste collection and disposal. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

Since the certification of the PEIR, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) adopted the *2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)* in June 2011. The UWMP update includes citywide demand projections to the year 2035, compares available water supplies to meet demand, and presents water demand management measures to reduce long-term water demand. Additionally, the UWMP update includes a discussion of the conservation requirement set forth in Senate Bill 7, passed in November 2009, mandating a statewide 20 percent reduction in per capita water use by 2020. The UWMP includes a quantification of the SFPUC's water use reduction targets and plan for meeting these objectives. The UWMP projects sufficient water supply in normal years and a supply shortfall during prolonged droughts. Plans are in place to institute varying degrees of water conservation and rationing as needed in response to severe droughts.

In addition, the SFPUC is in the process of implementing the Sewer System Improvement Program, which is a 20-year, multi-billion dollar citywide upgrade to the City’s sewer and stormwater infrastructure to ensure a reliable and seismically safe system. The program includes planned improvements that will serve development in the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area, including at the Southeast Treatment Plant, the Central Bayside System, and green infrastructure projects, such as the Mission and Valencia Green Gateway.

As the proposed project is within the scope of development projected under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on utilities and service systems beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
11. PUBLIC SERVICES—Would the project:				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any public services such as fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or other services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that the anticipated increase in population would not result in a significant impact to public services, including fire protection, police protection, and public schools. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

As the proposed project is within the scope of development projected under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on public services beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES—Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

As discussed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR, the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area is in a developed urban environment that does not provide native natural habitat for any rare or endangered plant or animal species. There are no riparian corridors, estuaries, marshes, or wetlands in the Plan Area that could be affected by the development anticipated under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans. In addition, development envisioned under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would not substantially interfere with the movement of any resident or migratory wildlife species. For these reasons, the PEIR concluded that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would not result in significant impacts on biological resources, and no mitigation measures were identified.

The project site is located within the East SoMa Plan area of the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plan and therefore, does not support habitat for any candidate, sensitive or special status species. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts on biological resources beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
13. GEOLOGY AND SOILS—Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Change substantially the topography or any unique geologic or physical features of the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR concluded that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would indirectly increase the population that would be subject to geologic hazards, including earthquakes, seismically induced ground shaking, liquefaction, and landslides. The PEIR also noted that new development is generally safer than comparable older development due to improvements in building codes and construction techniques. Compliance with applicable codes and recommendations made in project-specific geotechnical analyses would not eliminate earthquake risk, but would reduce them to an acceptable level given the seismically active characteristics of the San Francisco Bay Area. Therefore, the PEIR concluded that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would not result in significant impacts related to geologic hazards. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

A geotechnical investigation was conducted to assess the geologic conditions underlying the project site and provide recommendations related to the proposed project's design and construction. The findings and recommendations, presented in a geotechnical report, are summarized below.²⁵

The geotechnical investigation did not include the drilling of test borings on the project site; it relied on information obtained during other geotechnical investigations conducted at adjacent and nearby sites (123, 177, and 178 Townsend Street). The project site is underlain by approximately five feet of fill

²⁵ Rollo & Ridley, Preliminary Geotechnical Report, 135 Townsend Street, San Francisco, California, May 14, 2014.

consisting of sand, and this layer of sand is underlain by Franciscan Complex bedrock. Groundwater is approximately 10 feet below ground surface (bgs). There are no known active earthquake faults that run underneath the project site or in the project vicinity; the closest active fault to the project site is the San Andreas Fault, which is about eight miles to the southwest. The project site is in a liquefaction zone, but it is not in a landslide zone.²⁶

The existing building rests on a mat slab foundation with footings. As part of the proposed project, new grade beams would be added between some of the existing footings to reinforce the existing foundation. No pile driving would be required. Construction of the proposed project would require excavation to a depth of five feet bgs and the removal of about 79 cubic yards of soil from the project site. The geotechnical report includes recommendations related to foundation support, slab-on-grade construction, and seismic design. In addition, the geotechnical report recommends that a site-specific investigation be conducted to better define the depth to the bedrock and the ability of the existing foundation to support additional load. The project sponsor has agreed to implement the recommendations in the geotechnical report.

The proposed project is required to comply with the San Francisco Building Code (Building Code), which ensures the safety of all new construction in San Francisco. The Department of Building Inspection (DBI) will review the project-specific geotechnical report during its review of the building permit application for the proposed project. In addition, the DBI may require additional site-specific soils report(s) as needed. Implementation of the recommendations in the geotechnical report, in combination with the requirement for a geotechnical report and the review of the building permit application pursuant to the DBI’s implementation of the Building Code would minimize the risk of loss, injury, or death due to seismic or other geologic hazards.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts related to geology and soils beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
14. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY—Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

²⁶ San Francisco Planning Department, GIS database geology layer, accessed May 5, 2015.

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other authoritative flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that the anticipated increase in population would not result in a significant impact on hydrology and water quality, including the combined sewer system and the potential for combined sewer outflows. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

Since the project site is completely covered by the existing building, implementation of the proposed project would not increase the area of impervious surfaces. As a result, the proposed project would not increase stormwater runoff.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in any significant impacts related to hydrology and water quality beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<u>Topics:</u>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
15. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS— Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR noted that implementation of any of the Eastern Neighborhoods rezoning options would encourage construction of new development within the Plan Area. The PEIR found that there is a high potential to encounter hazardous materials during construction activities in many parts of the Plan Area because of the presence of 1906 earthquake fill, previous and current land uses associated with the use of hazardous materials, and known or suspected hazardous materials cleanup cases. However, the PEIR found that existing regulations for facility closure, underground storage tank closure, and investigation and cleanup of soil and groundwater would ensure that workers and the community would be protected from exposure to hazardous materials during construction. In addition, businesses that use or generate hazardous substances (cleaners, solvents, etc.), would be subject to existing regulations that would protect workers and the community from exposure to hazardous materials during operations. Furthermore, compliance with existing building and fire codes would reduce impacts related to potential fire hazards, emergency response, and evacuation hazards to less-than-significant levels.

Hazardous Building Materials

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that future development in the Plan Area may involve demolition or renovation of existing structures containing hazardous building materials. Some materials commonly used in older buildings could present a public health risk if disturbed during an accident or during demolition or renovation of an existing building. Hazardous building materials addressed in the PEIR include asbestos, electrical equipment such as transformers and fluorescent light ballasts that contain PCBs or di (2 ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), fluorescent lights containing mercury vapors, and lead-based paints. Asbestos and lead-based paint may also present a health risk to existing building occupants if they are in a deteriorated condition. If removed during demolition of a building, these materials would also require special disposal procedures. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified a significant impact associated with hazardous building materials, including PCBs, DEHP, and mercury, and determined that PEIR Mitigation Measure L-1: Hazardous Building Materials, would reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level. PEIR Mitigation Measure L-1 requires any equipment containing PCBs or DEHP to be removed and properly disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations prior to the start of renovation. In addition, mercury or other hazardous materials that are identified before or during construction shall be removed and/or abated in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Because the proposed project includes the renovation of an existing building, PEIR Mitigation Measure L-1 is applicable to the proposed project. PEIR Mitigation Measure L-1 is identified as Project Mitigation Measure 1 (full text provided in the “Mitigation Measure” section below).

Soil and Groundwater Contamination

Since certification of the PEIR, Article 22A of the Health Code, also known as the Maher Ordinance, was expanded to include properties throughout the City where there is potential to encounter hazardous materials, primarily industrial zoning districts, sites with industrial uses or underground storage tanks (USTs), sites with historic bay fill, and sites in close proximity to freeways or USTs. The overarching goal of the Maher Ordinance is to protect public health and safety by requiring appropriate handling, treatment, disposal, and, when necessary, mitigation of contaminated soils that are encountered during the building construction process. Projects that disturb 50 or more cubic yards of soil that are on sites with potentially hazardous soil or groundwater within the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area are subject to this ordinance.

The project site is located in a Maher Area, meaning that it is known or suspected to contain contaminated soil and/or groundwater.²⁷ In addition, the proposed project would require excavation to a depth of five feet below ground surface and the disturbance of more than 50 cubic yards of soil. For these reasons, the proposed project is subject to Health Code Article 22A (also known as the Maher Ordinance), which is administered and overseen by the Department of Public Health (DPH). The project sponsor is required to retain the services of a qualified professional to prepare a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) that meets the requirements of Health Code Section 22.A.6.

The Phase I ESA would determine the potential for site contamination and level of exposure risk associated with the proposed project. Based on that information, the project sponsor may be required to conduct soil and/or groundwater sampling and analysis. Where such analysis reveals the presence of

²⁷ San Francisco Planning Department, Expanded Maher Area Map, March 2015. Available online at http://www.sf-planning.org/ftp/files/publications_reports/library_of_cartography/Maher%20Map.pdf, accessed May 5, 2015.

hazardous substances in excess of state or federal standards, the project sponsor is required to submit a site mitigation plan (SMP) to the DPH or other appropriate state or federal agencies and to remediate any site contamination in accordance with an approved SMP prior to the issuance of any building permit.

The project site was previously occupied by businesses that handled and used hazardous materials. Given this history, the project sponsor has elected to forego the preparation of a Phase I ESA, proceed directly to the preparation of an SMP, and remediate any site contamination in accordance with the DPH-approved SMP.²⁸

In compliance with the Maher Ordinance, the project sponsor has submitted a Maher Application to the DPH.²⁹ Pursuant to compliance with the Maher Ordinance and implementation of the DPH-approved SMP, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts related to contaminated soil and/or groundwater beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

As discussed above, implementation of Project Mitigation Measure 1 and compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations would ensure that the proposed project would not result in significant impacts related to hazards or hazardous materials beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
16. MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES—				
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would facilitate the construction of both new residential units and commercial buildings. Development of these uses would not result in use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy in a wasteful manner or in the context of energy use throughout the City and region. The energy demand for individual buildings would be typical for such projects and would meet, or exceed, current state and local codes and standards concerning energy consumption, including Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations enforced by the Department of Building Inspection. The Plan Area does not include any natural resources routinely extracted and the rezoning does not result in any natural resource extraction programs. Therefore, the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR concluded that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans would not result in a significant impact on mineral and energy resources. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

²⁸ Site Mitigation Plan, 135 Townsend Street, October 20, 2015.

²⁹ Maher Ordinance Application, 135 Townsend Street, submitted June 2, 2015.

As the proposed project is within the scope of development projected under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on mineral and energy resources beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</i>	<i>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</i>	<i>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</i>	<i>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</i>
17. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES:—Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)) or timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that no agricultural resources exist in the Plan Area; therefore the rezoning and community plans would have no effect on agricultural resources. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR did not analyze the effects on forest resources.

As the proposed project is within the scope of development projected under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on agriculture and forest resources beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

MITIGATION MEASURE

Project Mitigation Measure 1: Hazardous Building Materials (Implementing PEIR Mitigation Measure L-1)

The City shall condition future development approvals to require that the subsequent project sponsors ensure that any equipment containing PCBs or DEPH, such as fluorescent light ballasts, are removed and properly disposed of according to applicable federal, state, and local laws prior to the start of renovation, and that any fluorescent light tubes, which could contain mercury, are similarly removed and properly disposed of. Any other hazardous materials identified, either before or during work, shall be abated according to applicable federal, state, and local laws.