Initial Study - Community Plan Evaluation

Case No.: 2015-005968ENV  
Project Address: 1228 25th Street  
Zoning: PDR-I-G (Production, Distribution, and Repair – General) District 58-X Height and Bulk District  
Block/Lot: 4227/044 (formerly 4227/012 and 4227/013a)  
Lot Size: 7,258 square feet  
Plan Area: Eastern Neighborhoods (Central Waterfront)  
Project Sponsor: Michael Leavitt, Leavitt Architecture, (415) 674-9100  
Staff Contact: Don Lewis - (415) 575-9168  
don.lewis@sfgov.org

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project site is located on an irregular-shaped lot on the north side of 25th Street between Indiana and Iowa streets in the Central Waterfront neighborhood. Immediately adjacent to the west and east of the project site is the elevated Interstate 280 viaduct and an Interstate 280 on-ramp, respectively. The project site is currently used as a scrap yard with temporary storage containers. The project sponsor proposes the removal of the approximately 3,800-square-foot storage yard with containers and construction of a 58-foot-tall (68 feet including the mechanical penthouse), five-story, 14,800-square-foot building that would include 8,140 gross square feet of unfinished, flexible layout Small Enterprise Workspaces (Production, Distribution and Repair use) on the second through fifth floors and 3,030 gross square feet of ground-floor retail space. One off-street vehicle parking space would be located outside of the proposed building accessed from Iowa Street via a 20.5-foot-wide curb cut. The proposed project would remove the existing 20.5-foot curb cut on Iowa Street and provide a 10-foot curb cut on Iowa Street just south of the existing curb cut location. Ten Class I bicycle spaces would be provided at the northwest corner of the project site and two Class II bicycle parking spaces would be located along the sidewalk on 25th Street in front of the project site.

The pedestrian entry to the ground-floor retail space would be on 25th Street at the southeast corner, and access to the workspace area would be provided through a lobby with an entry on 25th Street at the southwest corner of the project site. The proposed project would install new ADA curb ramps at the northwest corner of Indiana and 25th streets and would upgrade the receiving curb ramps at the northeast and the southwest corners. The project would provide marked crosswalks at 25th and Indiana streets, and would widen the existing sidewalk along 25th Street from approximately six feet to ten feet. The project would install a gated fence on the west side of the Indiana Street sidewalk to prevent pedestrians from walking north on Indiana Street across the freeway on-ramp. The project would plant eight street trees along the project site. The project would also remove an existing 10-foot-wide curb cut on the north side of 25th Street and standard sidewalk and curb dimensions restored.

During the 12-month construction period, the proposed project would require excavation of approximately four feet below ground surface and 310 cubic yards of soil would be removed from the
project site. Construction of the proposed building would be supported by drilled, cast-in-place friction piers that extend into the underlying bedrock. Impact piling driving is not proposed.

PROJECT APPROVAL

The proposed project at 1228 25th Street would require a building permit from the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) for the proposed new construction on the project site. The issuance of the building permit by DBI is the Approval Action. 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 Evaluation (CPE) Initial Study 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). The initial study 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 impacts 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 Measures Section at the end of this initial study.

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 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 would include construction of a five-story, 14,800-square-foot building including flexible-layout Small Enterprise Workspaces (PDR use) with ground-floor retail. As discussed below in this initial study, 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.

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Figure 1: Project Location
Figure 3. Groundfloor Plan

Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Leavitt Architecture, October 20, 2016
Figure 4. Upper Floor Plan

Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Leavitt Architecture, October 20, 2016

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1228 25th Street
Mixed-Use Project
Figure 5. 25th Street Elevation

Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Leavitt Architecture, October 20, 2016
Figure 7. Iowa Street Elevation

Comments: Not to Scale
Source: Leavitt Architecture, October 20, 2016
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 measures have implemented or will implement mitigation measures or further reduce less-than-significant impacts identified in the PEIR. These include:

- State legislation amending CEQA to eliminate consideration of aesthetics and parking impacts for infill projects in transit priority areas, effective January 2014.

- State legislation amending CEQA and San Francisco Planning Commission resolution replacing level of service (LOS) analysis of automobile delay with vehicle miles traveled (VMT) analysis, effective March 2016 (see “Automobile Delay and Vehicle Miles Traveled” 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 (see initial study Transportation section).

- San Francisco ordinance establishing Noise Regulations Related to Residential Uses near Places of Entertainment effective June 2015 (see initial study Noise section).

- San Francisco ordinances establishing Construction Dust Control, effective July 2008, and Enhanced Ventilation Required for Urban Infill Sensitive Use Developments, amended December 2014 (see initial study Air Quality section).

- 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 initial study Recreation section).

- Urban Water Management Plan adoption in 2011 and Sewer System Improvement Program process (see initial study Utilities and Service Systems section).

- Article 22A of the Health Code amendments effective August 2013 (see initial study Hazardous Materials section).

Aesthetics and Parking

In accordance with CEQA Section 21099 – Modernization of Transportation Analysis for Transit Oriented Projects – aesthetics and parking shall not be considered in determining if a project has the potential to result in significant environmental effects, provided the project meets 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 initial study does not consider aesthetics or parking in determining the significance of project impacts under CEQA. Project elevations are included in the project description.

Automobile Delay and Vehicle Miles Traveled
In addition, CEQA Section 21099(b)(1) requires that the State Office of Planning and Research (OPR) develop revisions to the CEQA Guidelines establishing criteria for determining the significance of transportation impacts of projects that “promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses.” CEQA Section 21099(b)(2) states that upon certification of the revised guidelines for determining transportation impacts pursuant to Section 21099(b)(1), automobile delay, as described solely by level of service or similar measures of vehicular capacity or traffic congestion shall not be considered a significant impact on the environment under CEQA.

In January 2016, OPR published for public review and comment a Revised Proposal on Updates to the CEQA Guidelines on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA recommending that transportation impacts for projects be measured using a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) metric. On March 3, 2016, in anticipation of the future certification of the revised CEQA Guidelines, the San Francisco Planning Commission adopted OPR’s recommendation to use the VMT metric instead of automobile delay to evaluate the transportation impacts of projects (Resolution 19579). (Note: the VMT metric does not apply to the analysis of project impacts on non-automobile modes of travel such as riding transit, walking, and bicycling.) Therefore, impacts and mitigation measures from the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR associated with automobile delay are not discussed in this initial study, including PEIR Mitigation Measures E-1: Traffic Signal Installation, E-2: Intelligent Traffic Management, E-3: Enhanced Funding, and E-4: Intelligent Traffic Management. Instead, a VMT analysis is provided in the Transportation section.

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2 San Francisco Planning Department. Eligibility Checklist: CEQA Section 21099 – Modernization of Transportation Analysis for 1228 25th Street, January 4, 2017. This document (and all other documents cited in this report, unless otherwise noted), is available for review at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 as part of Case File No. 2015-005968ENV.

3 This document is available online at: https://www.opr.ca.gov/s_sb743.php.
### Topics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</th>
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#### 1. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING—Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

c) Have a substantial impact upon the existing character of the vicinity? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

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 remove an approximately 3,800-square-foot storage yard with temporary containers and construct a new five-story, 14,800-square-foot building including Small Enterprise Workspaces (PDR use) and ground-floor retail space. Since the proposed project includes 8,140 square feet of PDR use, proposed project would not contribute to any impact related to loss of PDR uses that was identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

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 provide for any new major roadways, such as freeways that would disrupt or divide the plan 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 PDR-1-G district and is consistent with applicable bulk, density, and land uses as envisioned in the Central Waterfront Area Plan.4,5

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.

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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)?

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units or create demand for additional housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing?

c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

One of the objectives of the Eastern Neighborhoods 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 assessed how the rezoning actions would affect housing supply and location options for businesses in the Eastern Neighborhoods and compared these outcomes to what would otherwise be expected without the rezoning, assuming a continuation of development trends and ad hoc land use changes (such as allowing housing within industrial zones through conditional use authorization on a case-by-case basis, site-specific rezoning to permit housing, and other similar case-by-case approaches). The PEIR concluded that adoption of the rezoning and area plans: “would induce substantial growth and concentration of population in San Francisco.” The PEIR states that the increase in population expected to occur as a result of the proposed rezoning and adoption of the area plans would not, in itself, result in adverse physical effects, and 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 directly result in significant adverse physical effects on the environment. However, the PEIR identified significant cumulative impacts on the physical environment that would result indirectly from growth afforded under the rezoning and area plans, including impacts on land use, transportation, air quality, and noise. The PEIR contains detailed analyses of these secondary effects under each of the relevant resource topics, and identifies mitigation measures to address significant impacts where feasible.

The PEIR determined that implementation of the rezoning and area plans would not have a significant impact from the direct displacement of existing residents, and that each of the rezoning options considered in the PEIR would result in less displacement as a result of unmet housing demand than would be expected under the No-Project scenario because the addition of new housing would provide some relief to housing market pressure without directly displacing existing residents. However, the PEIR also noted that residential displacement is not solely a function of housing supply, and that adoption of the rezoning and area plans could result in indirect, secondary effects on neighborhood character through gentrification that could displace some residents. The PEIR discloses that the rezoned districts could transition to higher-value housing, which could result in gentrification and displacement of lower-income households, and states moreover that lower-income residents of the Eastern Neighborhoods, who also
disproportionally live in crowded conditions and in rental units, are among the most vulnerable to displacement resulting from neighborhood change.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15131 and 15064(e), economic and social effects such as gentrification and displacement are only considered under CEQA where these effects would cause substantial adverse physical impacts on the environment. Only where economic or social effects have resulted in adverse physical changes in the environment, such as “blight” or “urban decay” have courts upheld environmental analysis that consider such effects. But without such a connection to an adverse physical change, consideration of social or economic impacts “shall not be considered a significant effect” per CEQA Guidelines 15382. While the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR disclosed that adoption of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans could contribute to gentrification and displacement, it did not determine that these potential socio-economic effects would result in significant adverse physical impacts on the environment.

The proposed project would remove temporary storage containers for the construction of a new building that would include 8,140 square feet of Small Enterprise Workspace (PDR use) and 3,030 square feet of retail space. This amount of PDR and retail use is not anticipated to attract a substantial amount of new employees to San Francisco and it can be anticipated that most of the employees would live in San Francisco (or nearby communities). These direct effects of the proposed project on population and housing would not result in new or substantially more severe significant impacts on the physical environment beyond those identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR. The project’s contribution to indirect effects on the physical environment attributable to population growth are evaluated in this initial study under land use, transportation and circulation, noise, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, recreation, utilities and service systems, and public services.

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<tr>
<td>3. CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES—Would the project:</td>
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<tr>
<td>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?</td>
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<td>b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?</td>
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<td>c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?</td>
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<td>d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?</td>
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6 Based on the Planning Department’s Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines for Environmental Review, nine employees are assumed for 3,030 square feet of retail space and 29 employees are assumed for 8,140 square feet of PDR space.
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 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 adopted as part of the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans approval on January 19, 2009.

The proposed project involves the removal of an approximately 3,800-square-foot, open-air storage yard, and there are no buildings on the project site. As such, the project site would not be considered a historic resource pursuant CEQA and the proposed removal of the scrap yard would not result in a significant impact. In addition, the project site is neither located within a known or eligible historic district nor adjacent to any historic building. 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 Plan could result in significant impacts on archeological resources and identified three mitigation measures that would reduce these potential impacts to a less than significant level. Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure J-1 applies to properties for which a final archeological research design and treatment plan is on file at the Northwest Information Center and the Planning Department. 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. 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 archaeology.

The proposed project at 1228 25th Street would involve excavation to a depth of approximately four feet of below ground surface and 310 cubic yards of soil disturbance in an area where no previous archeological studies have been prepared. Therefore, the proposed project would be subject to Mitigation Measure J-2 (Project Mitigation Measure 1). In accordance with Mitigation Measure J-2, a Preliminary Archeological Review (PAR) was conducted by Planning Department staff archeologists, which determined that the Planning Department’s first standard archeological mitigation measure (Accidental Discovery) would reduce the potential effect of the proposed project on archeological
resources to a less-than-significant level.\(^7\) The project sponsor has agreed to implement the Accidental Discovery mitigation measure as Project Mitigation Measure 1 (full text provided in the “Mitigation Measures” section below).

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

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<tr>
<td>4. TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION—Would the project:</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses?</td>
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<td>e) Result in inadequate emergency access?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR anticipated that growth resulting from the zoning changes would not result in significant impacts related to pedestrians, bicyclists, loading, or construction traffic. The PEIR states that in general, the analyses of pedestrian, bicycle, loading, emergency access, and construction transportation impacts are specific to individual development projects, and that project-specific analyses would need to be conducted for future development projects under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans.

Accordingly, the planning department conducted project-level analysis of the pedestrian, bicycle, loading, and construction transportation impacts of the proposed project.\(^8\) Based on this project-level

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\(^7\) Randall Dean, San Francisco Planning Department. Archeological Review Log.
review, the department determined that the proposed project would not have significant impacts that are peculiar to the project or the project site.

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR anticipated that growth resulting from the zoning changes could result in significant impacts on transit ridership, and identified seven transportation mitigation measures, which are described further below in the Transit sub-section. Even with mitigation, however, it was anticipated that the significant adverse cumulative impacts on transit lines could not be reduced to a less than significant level. Thus, these impacts were found to be significant and unavoidable.

As discussed above under Automobile Delay and Vehicle Miles Traveled, in response to state legislation that called for removing automobile delay from CEQA analysis, the Planning Commission adopted resolution 19579 replacing automobile delay with a VMT metric for analyzing transportation impacts of a project. Therefore, impacts and mitigation measures from the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR associated with automobile delay are not discussed in this checklist.

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR did not evaluate vehicle miles traveled or the potential for induced automobile travel. The VMT Analysis and Induced Automobile Travel Analysis presented below evaluate the project’s transportation effects using the VMT metric.

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

**Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Analysis**

Many factors affect travel behavior. These factors include density, diversity of land uses, design of the transportation network, access to regional destinations, distance to high-quality transit, development scale, demographics, and transportation demand management. Typically, low-density development at great distance from other land uses, located in areas with poor access to non-private vehicular modes of travel, generate more automobile travel compared to development located in urban areas, where a higher density, mix of land uses, and travel options other than private vehicles are available.

Given these travel behavior factors, San Francisco has a lower VMT ratio than the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region. In addition, some areas of the City have lower VMT ratios than other areas of the City. These areas of the City can be expressed geographically through transportation analysis zones. Transportation analysis zones are used in transportation planning models for transportation analysis and other planning purposes. The zones vary in size from single city blocks in the downtown core, multiple blocks in outer neighborhoods, to even larger zones in historically industrial areas like the Hunters Point Shipyards.

The San Francisco County Transportation Authority (Transportation Authority) uses the San Francisco Chained Activity Model Process (SF-CHAMP) to estimate VMT by private automobiles and taxis for different land use types. Travel behavior in SF-CHAMP is calibrated based on observed behavior from the California Household Travel Survey 2010-2012, Census data regarding automobile ownership rates and county-to-county worker flows, and observed vehicle counts and transit boardings. SF-CHAMP uses a synthetic population, which is a set of individual actors that represents the Bay Area’s actual population, who make simulated travel decisions for a complete day. The Transportation Authority uses tour-based analysis for office and residential uses, which examines the entire chain of trips over the course of a day, not just trips to and from the project. For retail uses, the Transportation Authority uses

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trip-based analysis, which counts VMT from individual trips to and from the project (as opposed to entire chain of trips). A trip-based approach, as opposed to a tour-based approach, is necessary for retail projects because a tour is likely to consist of trips stopping in multiple locations, and the summarizing of tour VMT to each location would over-estimate VMT.9,10

The proposed project would have a significant effect on the environment if it would cause substantial additional VMT. State Office of Planning and Research’s (OPR) Revised Proposal on Updates to the CEQA Guidelines on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA (“Proposed Transportation Impact Guidelines”) recommend screening criteria to identify types, characteristics, or locations of projects that would not result in significant impacts to VMT. If a project meets one of the three screening criteria provided (Map-Based Screening, Small Projects, and Proximity to Transit Stations), then it is presumed that VMT impacts would be less than significant for the project and a detailed VMT analysis is not required. Map-Based Screening is used to determine if a project site is located within a transportation analysis zone (TAZ) that exhibits low levels of VMT; Small Projects are projects that would generate fewer than 100 vehicle trips per day; and the Proximity to Transit Stations criterion includes projects that are within a half mile of an existing major transit stop, have a floor area ratio of greater than or equal to 0.75, vehicle parking that is less than or equal to that required or allowed by the Planning Code without conditional use authorization, and are consistent with the applicable Sustainable Communities Strategy.

For the purpose of project analysis, the proposed PDR space was considered to be an office development because the proposed Small Enterprise Workspaces would generate work trips similar to those of an office development. For office development under the existing condition, the regional average daily VMT per employee is 19.1. For retail development, regional average daily work-related VMT per employee is 14.9. Under the future cumulative condition (Year 2040), the regional average daily VMT per employee for office development is 17.1, and the regional average daily work-related VMT per employee for retail development is 14.6. Refer to Table 1: Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled, which includes the traffic analysis zone (TAZ) in which the project site is located, 519.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use</th>
<th>Existing</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bay Area Regional Average</td>
<td>Bay Area Regional Average minus 15%</td>
<td>TAZ 519</td>
<td>Bay Area Regional Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employment (Office)</td>
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<td>16.2</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>17.1</td>
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<td>Employment (Retail)</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>14.6</td>
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9 To state another way: a tour-based assessment of VMT at a retail site would consider the VMT for all trips in the tour, for any tour with a stop at the retail site. If a single tour stops at two retail locations, for example, a coffee shop on the way to work and a restaurant on the way back home, then both retail locations would be allotted the total tour VMT. A trip-based approach allows us to apportion all retail-related VMT to retail sites without double-counting.

As shown in Table 1 above, the existing average daily VMT per employee for office uses in TAZ 519 is 14.3 miles. This is approximately 25 percent below the existing regional average daily VMT per employee of 19.1. Also, existing average daily VMT per employee for retail uses in TAZ 519 is 10.5 miles. This is 30 percent below the existing regional average daily VMT per employee of 14.9. The future average daily VMT per employee for office uses in TAZ 519 in year 2040 is 11.2 miles. This is approximately 35 percent below the existing regional average daily VMT per employee of 17.1. Also, future average daily VMT per employee for retail uses in TAZ 519 in year 2040 is 9.5 miles. This is 35 percent below the existing regional average daily VMT per employee of 14.6.

Given that the project site is located in an area where existing VMT is more than 15 percent below the existing regional average, the proposed project’s PDR and retail uses would not result in substantial additional VMT, and the proposed project would not result in a significant impact related to VMT. Furthermore, the project site meets the Proximity to Transit Stations screening criteria, which also indicates that the proposed project’s PDR and retail uses would not cause substantial additional VMT.\(^\text{11}\)

**Induced Automobile Travel Analysis**

A project would have a significant effect on the environment if it would substantially induce additional automobile travel by increasing physical roadway capacity in congested areas (i.e., by adding new mixed-flow lanes) or by adding new roadways to the network. OPR’s Proposed Transportation Impact Guidelines includes a list of transportation project types that would not likely lead to a substantial or measureable increase in VMT. If a project fits within the general types of projects (including combinations of types), then it is presumed that VMT impacts would be less than significant and a detailed VMT analysis is not required.

The proposed project is not a transportation project. However, the proposed project would include changes within the public right-of-way. The proposed project would remove an inactive driveway on the north side of 25th Street, and would install a gated fence on the Indiana Street sidewalk to prohibit pedestrians from walking north on Indiana Street across the freeway on-ramp. The project would install new ADA curb ramps at the northwest corner of Indiana and 25th Streets and upgrade the receiving curb ramps (i.e., the northeast and the southwest corners). The project would also provide marked crosswalks at the 25th and Indiana streets intersection. The width of the public right-of-way on 25th Street between the project site’s property line and curb is 10 feet. However, the existing fence on the south side of the project site is built approximately four feet into the public right-of-way making the effective width of sidewalk space (between the fence and curb) to be six feet. The proposed project would effectively widen the existing sidewalks along 25th Street from approximately six feet to ten feet by removing the existing fencing. In addition, the proposed project would include two Class II bicycle parking spaces on the sidewalk in front of the project site. These features fit within the general types of projects that would not substantially induce automobile travel, and the impacts would be less than significant.\(^\text{12}\)

**Trip Generation**

The proposed project involves the removal of an approximately 3,800-square-foot open-air storage yard with containers and construction of a 58-foot-tall, five-story, 14,800-square-foot building that would include 8,140 square feet of Small Enterprise Workspaces (PDR use) on the second through fifth floors and 3,030 square feet of ground-floor retail space.

\(^{11}\) Ibid.

\(^{12}\) Ibid.
Localized trip generation of the proposed project was calculated using a trip-based analysis and information in the 2002 Transportation Impacts Analysis Guidelines for Environmental Review (SF Guidelines) developed by the San Francisco Planning Department as detailed in the transportation memorandum.\(^1\)

The proposed project would generate an estimated 2,018 person trips (inbound and outbound) on a weekday daily basis, consisting of 1,293 person trips by auto (702 vehicle trips accounting for vehicle occupancy data for this Census Tract), 256 transit trips, 421 walk trips and 47 trips by other modes (bike, etc.). During the PM peak hour, the proposed project would generate an estimated 262 person trips, consisting of 170 person trips by auto (94 vehicle trips accounting for vehicle occupancy data for this Census Tract), 33 transit trips, 54 walk trips and 5 trips by other modes.

**Transit**

Mitigation Measures E-5 through E-11 in 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 towards funding transit and complete streets. In addition, San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved amendments to the San Francisco Planning Code, referred to as the Transportation Sustainability Fee (Ordinance 200-154, effective December 25, 2015).\(^2\) The fee updated, expanded, and replaced the prior Transit Impact Development Fee, which is in compliance with portions of Mitigation Measure E-5: Enhanced Transit Funding. The City is also currently conducting outreach regarding Mitigation Measures E-5: Enhanced Transit Funding and Mitigation Measure E-11: Transportation Demand Management. Both the Transportation Sustainability Fee and the transportation demand management efforts are part of the Transportation Sustainability Program.\(^3\)

In compliance with all or portions of Mitigation Measure E-6: Transit Corridor Improvements, Mitigation Measure E-7: Transit Accessibility, 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 with the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area; for instance the implemented new Route 55 on 16th Street.

Mitigation Measure E-7 also identifies implementing recommendations of the Bicycle Plan and Better Streets Plan. As part of the San Francisco 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 San Francisco 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

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\(^2\) Two additional files were created at the Board of Supervisors for TSF regarding hospitals and health services, grandfathering, and additional fees for larger projects: see Board file nos. 151121 and 151257.

\(^3\) [http://tsf.sfplanning.org](http://tsf.sfplanning.org)
codified in Section 138.1 of the Planning Code and new projects constructed in the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area are subject to varying requirements, dependent 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 located within a quarter mile of several local transit lines including Muni lines 10-Townsend, 48-Quintara/24th Street, and T-Third. The closest bus stop to the project site is the 48-Quintara/24th Street stop at the intersection of 25th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, approximately 500 feet west of the project site. The 48-Quintara/24th Street Muni line operates under Muni’s maximum planning limit of 85 percent ridership-to-capacity utilization ratio in both the inbound and outbound directions during the weekday AM and PM peak hours in the vicinity of the project site. However, Muni lines T-Third and 10-Townsend operate above the 85 percent standard during the PM peak hour.

The proposed project would generate approximately 256 daily transit trips, with 33 transit trips occurring during the PM peak hour. It is noted above that two individual lines (i.e., T-Third and 10-Townsend) would operate above 85 percent capacity; however, transit riders typically have multiple transit options to reach the project site and will choose a route based on several factors including reliability, headways, travel time, type of transit, comfort and convenience. Based on this understanding, the increased transit demand by the proposed project would likely be spread over multiple routes, with the majority of trips occurring in the non-peak direction during the PM peak hour. The proposed project would contribute less than one percent to sub-corridors currently operating at or above the 85-percent utilization standard (i.e., Third Street sub-corridor) in the outbound direction during the PM peak hour. Because the proposed project would not result in a substantial contribution to the existing ridership levels, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant transit impact.

Each of the rezoning options in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified significant and unavoidable cumulative impacts relating to increases in transit ridership on Muni lines, with the Preferred Project having significant impacts on seven lines. Of those lines, the project site is located within a quarter-mile of Muni line 48-Quintara/24th Street. The proposed project would not contribute considerably to these conditions as its minor contribution of 33 PM peak hour transit trips 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.

**Pedestrian**

The project site is located within an industrial area and pedestrian amenities are lacking near the project site due to discontinuous sidewalks along Indiana and 25th streets and the lack of pedestrian crosswalks at nearby intersections. The proposed project would generate a total of approximately 87 pedestrian trips during the PM peak hour, including 33 trips from transit stops to the project site and 54 walking trips. The proposed project would improve the local streetscape and pedestrian experience by planting eight street trees along the project site, removing an inactive driveway on the north side of 25th Street, and

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16 The 10-Townsend bus service operates with 88 percent capacity utilization in the inbound direction, and the T-Third Muni light rail line operates at 98 percent capacity utilization in the inbound direction.
installing new ADA curb ramps at the northwest, northeast, and southwest corners of the Indiana and 25th streets intersection. The project would install a gated fence on the west side of the Indian Street sidewalk to prevent pedestrians from walking north on Indiana Street across the freeway onramp. The proposed project would also remove the existing fence along 25th Street on the south side of the project site, which is currently encroaching four feet into the public right-of-way along 25th Street. This would effectively widen the sidewalk on 25th Street from approximately six to ten feet. The new pedestrian trips generated by the proposed project could be accommodated on the proposed sidewalks without resulting in a substantial overcrowding along sidewalk areas.

**Bicycle**

In the project vicinity, there are bicycle lanes along Cesar Chavez Street and bicycle routes along Indiana and Minnesota streets. The proposed project would generate approximately five bicycle trips during the PM peak hour. The addition of five new bicycle trips would be sufficiently accommodated within these facilities and would not interfere with bicycle accessibility to the site and adjoining area. Although the proposed project would result in an increase in the number of vehicles in the vicinity of the project site, this anticipated increase would not be substantial enough to create potentially hazardous conditions for bicyclists. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on bicycles.

**Conclusion**

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

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**5. NOISE—Would the project:**

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17 This installation of pedestrian buffer would not require an encroachment permit from Caltrans because it would be contained within the sidewalk; however, in the event any of the project’s elements encroach upon the Caltrans right-of-way, the project sponsor would obtain an encroachment permit from Caltrans.
The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans and Rezoning would result in significant noise impacts during construction activities and due to conflicts between noise-sensitive uses in proximity to noisy uses such as PDR, retail, entertainment, cultural/institutional/educational uses, and office uses. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR also determined that incremental increases in traffic-related noise attributable to implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans and Rezoning would be less than significant. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified six noise mitigation measures, three of which may be applicable to subsequent development projects. These mitigation measures would reduce noise impacts from construction and noisy land uses to less-than-significant levels.

**Construction Noise**

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 building would be supported by drilled, cast-in-place friction piers. Since construction of the proposed building would not require impact pile driving, Mitigation Measure F-1 is not applicable. Since heavy equipment would be required during excavation and construction of the proposed building, Mitigation Measures F-2 is applicable to the proposed project. The project sponsor has agreed to implement Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure F-2 as Project Mitigation Measure 2 (full text provided in the “Mitigation Measures” section below).

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18 Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measures F-3, F-4, and F-6 address the siting of sensitive land uses in noisy environments. In a decision issued on December 17, 2015, the California Supreme Court held that CEQA does not generally require an agency to consider the effects of existing environmental conditions on a proposed project’s future users or residents except where a project or its residents may exacerbate existing environmental hazards (California Building Industry Association v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District, December 17, 2015, Case No. S213478. Available at: [http://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions/documents/S213478.PDF](http://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions/documents/S213478.PDF). As noted above, the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that incremental increases in traffic-related noise attributable to implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans and Rezoning would be less than significant, and thus would not exacerbate the existing noise environment. Therefore, Eastern Neighborhoods Mitigation Measures F-3, F-4, and F-6 are not applicable. Nonetheless, for all noise sensitive uses, the general requirements for adequate interior noise levels of Mitigation Measures F-3 and F-4 are met by compliance with the acoustical standards required under the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations Title 24).
In addition, all construction activities for the proposed project (approximately 12 months) would be subject to the San Francisco Noise Ordinance (Article 29 of the San Francisco Police Code) (Noise Ordinance). Construction noise is regulated by the Noise Ordinance. The Noise Ordinance requires construction work to 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 Public Works (PW) 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 PM and 7:00 AM unless the Director of PW authorizes a special permit for conducting the work during that period.

DBI is responsible for enforcing the Noise Ordinance for private construction projects during normal business hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM). The Police Department is responsible for enforcing the Noise Ordinance during all other hours. Nonetheless, during the construction period for the proposed project of approximately 12 months, 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. 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, as the contractor would be required to comply with the Noise Ordinance and Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measures F-2, which would reduce construction noise impacts to a less-than-significant level.

**Operational Noise**

Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure F-5 addresses impacts related to individual projects that include uses that would be expected to generate noise levels in excess of ambient noise in the project vicinity. Immediately adjacent to the west and east of the project site is the elevated Interstate 280 viaduct and an Interstate 280 on-ramp, respectively. The existing traffic noise levels at the project site is above 70 dBA (Ldn).\(^{19,20,21}\) The proposed uses, which include 8,140 square feet of Small Enterprise Workspace\(^{22}\) and 3,030 square feet of commercial space, would not generate operational noise levels in excess of ambient noise in the project vicinity. Therefore, PEIR Mitigation Measure F-5 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, topic 12e and f are not applicable.

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\(^{20}\) The dBA, or A-weighted decibel, refers to a scale of noise measurement that approximates the range of sensitivity of the human ear to sounds of different frequencies. On this scale, the normal range of human hearing extends from about 0dBA to about 140 dBA. A 10-dBA increase in the level of a continuous noise represents a perceived doubling of loudness.

\(^{21}\) The DNL or Ldn is the Leq, or Energy Equivalent Level, of the A-weighted noise level over a 24-hour period with a 10 dB penalty applied to noise levels between 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Leq is the level of a steady noise which would have the same energy as the fluctuating noise level integrated over the time period of interest.

\(^{22}\) Per Planning Code Section 202.2(g), Small Enterprises Workspace is a use comprised of discrete workspace units of limited size. Each workspace unit is limited to 1,500 gross square feet in size.
For the above reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant noise impacts that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

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<td>6. AIR QUALITY—Would the project:</td>
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<td>a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?</td>
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<td>b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?</td>
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<td>c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under any applicable federal, state, or regional ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?</td>
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<td>d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?</td>
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<td>e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?</td>
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The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR identified potentially significant air quality impacts resulting from construction activities and impacts to sensitive land uses23 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, the applicable air quality plan at that time. All other air quality impacts were found to be less than significant.

Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure G-1 addresses air quality impacts during construction, and PEIR Mitigation Measures G-3 and G-4 address proposed uses that would emit DPM and other TACs.24

Construction Dust Control

Eastern Neighborhoods 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 subsequently approved a series of amendments to the San Francisco

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23 The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) 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, page 12.

24 The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR also includes Mitigation Measure G-2, which has been superseded by Health Code Article 38, as discussed below, and is no longer applicable.
Building and Health Codes, generally referred to as the Construction Dust Control Ordinance (Ordinance 176-08, effective July 30, 2008). The intent of the Construction Dust Control 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, minimize public nuisance complaints, and to avoid orders to stop work by DBI. 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, street and sidewalk sweeping and other measures.

The regulations and procedures set forth by the San Francisco 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 Construction Air Quality 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.” The BAAQMD’s CEQA Air Quality Guidelines (Air Quality Guidelines) provide screening criteria25 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, as the proposed project involves the construction of a five-story building with 8,140 square feet of Small Enterprise Workspaces (PDR use) and 3,030 square feet of retail space which would meet the Air Quality Guidelines criteria air pollutant screening levels for operation and construction.26 Therefore, the project would not have a significant impact related to criteria air pollutants, and a detailed air quality assessment is not required.

Since certification of the PEIR, San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a series of amendments to the San Francisco Building and Health Codes, generally referred to as the Enhanced Ventilation Required for Urban Infill Sensitive Use Developments or Health Code, Article 38 (Ordinance 224-14, amended December 8, 2014)(Article 38). The Air Pollutant Exposure Zone as defined in Article 38 are areas that, based on modeling of all known air pollutant sources, exceed health protective standards for cumulative PM2.5 concentration, cumulative excess cancer risk, and incorporates health vulnerability factors and proximity to freeways.

26 Bay Area Air Quality Management District, CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, updated May 2011. See pp. 3-2 to 3-3.
27 Bay Area Air Quality Management District, CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, Updated May 2011. Table 3-1. Criteria air screening sizes for a General Light Industry Building is 541,000 square feet for operational and 259,000 square feet for construction and a Regional Shopping Center is 99,000 square feet for operational and 277,000 square feet for construction.
Construction

The project site is located within an Air Pollutant Exposure Zone as defined by Article 38 of the San Francisco Health Code. The proposed project would require heavy-duty off-road diesel vehicles and equipment during one month of the anticipated 12-month construction period. Thus, Project Mitigation Measure 3: Construction Air Quality has been identified to implement the portions of Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure G-1 related to emissions exhaust by requiring engines with higher emissions standards on construction equipment. Project Mitigation Measure 3: Construction Air Quality would reduce DPM exhaust from construction equipment by 89 to 94 percent compared to uncontrolled construction equipment. Therefore, impacts related to construction health risks would be less than significant through implementation of Project Mitigation Measure 3: Construction Air Quality. The full text of Project Mitigation Measure 3: Construction Air Quality is provided in the Mitigation Measures Section below.

Siting New Sources

The proposed project would not be expected to generate 100 trucks per day or 40 refrigerated trucks per day. Therefore, Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure G-3 is not applicable. In addition, the proposed project would not include any sources that would emit DPM or other TACs. Therefore, Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure G-4 is not applicable and impacts related to siting new sources of pollutants would be less than significant.

Conclusion

As discussed above, with Project Mitigation Measure 3: Construction Air Quality, which implements a portion of Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure G-1, the project would not result in significant air quality impacts that were not identified in the PEIR.

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28 PM emissions benefits are estimated by comparing off-road PM emission standards for Tier 2 with Tier 1 and 0. Tier 0 off-road engines do not have PM emission standards, but the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s Exhaust and Crankcase Emissions Factors for Nonroad Engine Modeling – Compression Ignition has estimated Tier 0 engines between 50 hp and 100 hp to have a PM emission factor of 0.72 g/hp-hr and greater than 100 hp to have a PM emission factor of 0.40 g/hp-hr. Therefore, requiring off-road equipment to have at least a Tier 2 engine would result in between a 25 percent and 63 percent reduction in PM emissions, as compared to off-road equipment with Tier 0 or Tier 1 engines. The 25 percent reduction comes from comparing the PM emission standards for off-road engines between 25 hp and 50 hp for Tier 2 (0.45 g/hp-hr) and Tier 1 (0.60 g/bhp-hr). The 63 percent reduction comes from comparing the PM emission standards for off-road engines above 175 hp for Tier 2 (0.15 g/bhp-hr) and Tier 0 (0.40 g/bhp-hr). In addition to the Tier 2 requirement, ARB Level 3 VDECs are required and would reduce PM by an additional 85 percent. Therefore, the mitigation measure would result in between an 89 percent (0.0675 g/bhp-hr) and 94 percent (0.0225 g/bhp-hr) reduction in PM emissions, as compared to equipment with Tier 1 (0.60 g/bhp-hr) or Tier 0 engines (0.40 g/bhp-hr).
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? □ □ □ ○

b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? □ □ □ ○

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR assessed the GHG emissions that could result from rezoning of the Central Waterfront Area Plan under the three rezoning options. 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 CO₂E\(^{29}\) per service population,\(^{30}\) respectively. The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR concluded that the resulting GHG emissions from the three options analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans would be less than significant. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

The BAAQMD has prepared guidelines and methodologies for analyzing GHGs. These guidelines are consistent with CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064.4 and 15183.5 which address the analysis and determination of significant impacts from a proposed project’s GHG emissions and allow for projects that are consistent with an adopted GHG reduction strategy to conclude that the project’s GHG impact is less than significant. San Francisco’s Strategies to Address Greenhouse Gas Emissions\(^{31}\) presents a comprehensive assessment of policies, programs, and ordinances that collectively represent San Francisco’s GHG reduction strategy in compliance with the BAAQMD and CEQA guidelines. These GHG reduction actions have resulted in a 23.3 percent reduction in GHG emissions in 2012 compared to 1990 levels,\(^{32}\) exceeding the year 2020 reduction goals outlined in the BAAQMD’s 2010 Clean Air Plan,\(^{33}\) Executive Order S-3-05\(^{34}\), and Assembly Bill 32 (also known as the Global Warming Solutions Act).\(^{35,36}\) In addition, San Francisco’s GHG reduction goals are consistent with, or more aggressive than, the long-term goals.

\(^{29}\) 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.

\(^{30}\) Memorandum from Jessica Range to Environmental Planning 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.


\(^{36}\) 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 year 2020.
established under Executive Orders S-3-05, B-30-15, and Senate Bill (SB) 32. Therefore, projects that are consistent with San Francisco’s GHG Reduction Strategy would not result in GHG emissions that would have a significant effect on the environment and would not conflict with state, regional, and local GHG reduction plans and regulations.

The proposed project would increase the intensity of use with removal of the existing open-air storage yard for the construction of a five-story, 14,800-square-foot building that would include 8,140 gross square feet of Small Enterprise Workspaces and 3,030 gross square feet of retail space. Therefore, the proposed project would contribute to annual long-term increases in GHGs as a result of increased vehicle trips (mobile sources) and PDR and retail operations that result in an increase in energy use, water use, wastewater treatment, and solid waste disposal. Construction activities would also result in temporary increases in GHG emissions.

The proposed project would be subject to regulations adopted to reduce GHG emissions as identified in the GHG reduction strategy. As discussed below, compliance with the applicable regulations would reduce the project’s GHG emissions related to transportation, energy use, waste disposal, wood burning, and use of refrigerants.

Compliance with the City’s Commuter Benefits Program, Emergency Ride Home Program, Transportation Sustainability Fee, Jobs-Housing Linkage Program, and bicycle parking requirements would reduce the proposed project’s transportation-related emissions. These regulations reduce GHG emissions from single-occupancy vehicles by promoting the use of alternative transportation modes with zero or lower GHG emissions on a per capita basis.

The proposed project would be required to comply with the energy efficiency requirements of the City’s Green Building Code, which would promote energy and water efficiency, thereby reducing the proposed project’s energy-related GHG emissions. Additionally, the project would be required to meet the renewable energy criteria of the Green Building Code, further reducing the project’s energy-related GHG emissions.

The proposed project’s waste-related emissions would be reduced through compliance with the City’s Recycling and Composting Ordinance, and Green Building Code requirements. These regulations reduce

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37 Executive Order S-3-05, sets forth a series of target dates by which statewide emissions of GHGs need to be progressively reduced, as follows: by 2010, reduce GHG emissions to 2000 levels (approximately 457 million MTCO2E); by 2020, reduce emissions to 1990 levels (approximately 427 million MTCO2E); and by 2050 reduce emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels (approximately 85 million MTCO2E).


39 San Francisco’s GHG Reduction Goals are codified in Section 902 of the Environment Code and include: (i) by 2008, determine City GHG emissions for year 1990; (ii) by 2017, reduce GHG emissions by 25 percent below 1990 levels; (iii) by 2025, reduce GHG emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels; and by 2050, reduce GHG emissions by 80 percent below 1990 levels.

40 Senate Bill 32 amends California Health and Safety Code Division 25.5 (also known as the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006) by adding Section 38566, which directs that statewide greenhouse gas emissions to be reduced by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

41 Senate Bill 32 was paired with Assembly Bill 197, which would modify the structure of the State Air Resources Board; institute requirements for the disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions criteria pollutants, and toxic air contaminants; and establish requirements for the review and adoption of rules, regulations, and measures for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

42 Compliance with water conservation measures reduce the energy (and GHG emissions) required to convey, pump and treat water required for the project.
the amount of materials sent to a landfill, reducing GHGs emitted by landfill operations. These regulations also promote reuse of materials, conserving their embodied energy\(^{43}\) and reducing the energy required to produce new materials.

Compliance with the City’s Street Tree Planting requirements would serve to increase carbon sequestration. Other regulations, including those limiting refrigerant emissions and the Wood Burning Fireplace Ordinance would reduce emissions of GHGs and black carbon, respectively. Regulations requiring low-emitting finishes would reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs).\(^{44}\) Thus, the proposed project was determined to be consistent with San Francisco’s GHG reduction strategy.\(^{45}\)

Therefore, the proposed project’s GHG emissions would not conflict with state, regional, and local GHG reduction plans and regulations. Furthermore, the proposed project is within the scope of the development evaluated in the PEIR and would not result in impacts associated with GHG emissions beyond those disclosed in the PEIR. For the above reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant GHG emissions that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR and no mitigation measures are necessary.

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<tr>
<td>8. WIND AND SHADOW—Would the project:</td>
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<td>a) Alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas?</td>
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<td>b) Create new shadow in a manner that substantially affects outdoor recreation facilities or other public areas?</td>
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Wind

Based upon experience of the Planning Department in reviewing wind analyses and expert opinion on other projects, it is generally (but not always) the case that projects under 80 feet in height do not have the potential to generate significant wind impacts. Although the proposed 58-foot-tall, five-story building (68 feet including the mechanical penthouse) would be approximately 15 to 40 feet taller than the existing one- to three-story buildings located in the vicinity of the project site, the proposed project would not alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas because the building would not exceed 80 feet in height. For the above reasons, the proposed project is not anticipated to cause significant impacts related to wind that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

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\(^{43}\) Embodied energy is the total energy required for the extraction, processing, manufacture and delivery of building materials to the building site.

\(^{44}\) While not a GHG, VOCs are precursor pollutants that form ground level ozone. Increased ground level ozone is an anticipated effect of future global warming that would result in added health effects locally. Reducing VOC emissions would reduce the anticipated local effects of global warming.

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, sites surrounding parks could be redeveloped with taller buildings without triggering Section 295 of the Planning Code because certain parks are not subject to Section 295 of the Planning Code (i.e., under jurisdiction of departments other than the Recreation and Parks Department or privately owned). The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR could not conclude that the rezoning and community plans would result in less-than-significant shadow impacts because the feasibility of complete mitigation for potential new shadow impacts of unknown proposed proposals could not be determined at that time. Therefore, the PEIR determined shadow impacts to be significant and unavoidable. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

The proposed project would construct a 58-foot-tall (68 feet including the mechanical penthouse) building. The Planning Department conducted a preliminary shadow fan analysis to determine whether the proposed project would have the potential to cast new shadow on nearby parks. The results of the shadow fan analysis showed that the project does not have the potential to cast shadow on a park.

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

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

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<td>9. RECREATION—Would the project:</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?</td>
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<td>c) Physically degrade existing recreational resources?</td>
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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. However, the PEIR identified Improvement Measure H-1: Support for Upgrades to Existing Recreation Facilities. This improvement measure calls for the City to implement funding mechanisms for an ongoing program to repair, upgrade and adequately maintain park and recreation facilities to ensure the safety of users.

As part of the Eastern Neighborhoods adoption, the City adopted impact fees for development in Eastern Neighborhoods that goes towards 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 Parks Department 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, Potro 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 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, are both set to open in 2016. In addition, the amended ROSE identifies the role of both the Better Streets Plan (refer to “Transportation” section for 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).

Furthermore, the Planning Code requires a specified amount of new usable open space (either private or common) for each new residential unit. Some developments are also required to provide privately owned, publicly accessible open spaces. The Planning Code open space requirements would help offset some of the additional open space needs generated by increased residential population to the project area.

As the proposed project would not degrade recreational facilities and is consistent with the development density established under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, there would be no additional impacts on recreation beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.
### 10. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS—Would the project:

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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 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 city-wide 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% 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 consistent with the development density established 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.

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**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?

☐  ☐  ☐  ☒

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that the anticipated increase in population would not result in a substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of or need for new or physically altered public services, including fire protection, police protection, and public schools. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

As the proposed project is consistent with the development density established under the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans, the project would not result in new or substantially more severe impacts on the physical environment associated with the provision of public services beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

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**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?

☐  ☐  ☐  ☒

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?

☐  ☐  ☐  ☒
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 Area Plan. In addition, development envisioned under the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plan would not substantially interfere with the movement of any resident or migratory wildlife species. For these reasons, the PEIR concluded that implementation of the Area Plan would not result in significant impacts on biological resources, and no mitigation measures were identified.

The project site is located within Central Waterfront 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 to biological resources not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

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:

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.)
The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR concluded that implementation of the Plan would indirectly increase the population that would be subject to an earthquake, including 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 risks, but would reduce them to an acceptable level, given the seismically active characteristics of the Bay Area. Thus, the PEIR concluded that implementation of the Plan would not result in significant impacts with regard to geology, and no mitigation measures were identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

A geotechnical investigation was prepared for the proposed project.\(^{46}\) Based on the two test borings, the project site is underlain by six feet of heterogeneous fill materials consisting of sandy and silt clay with layers of rusty metal, gravel, and Serpentine rock fragments followed by very stiff/medium dense silty clay and clayey sand. These fill materials were underlain by fractured, very weathered to competent Serpentine and Shale bedrock materials, which continued to the bottom of the borings at approximately 10 feet. The project site is not located within a liquefaction zone, and the test borings did not encounter groundwater. The geotechnical report recommends that the proposed building be supported by drilled, cast-in-place friction piers that extend into the underlying bedrock.

The project is required to conform to the San Francisco Building Code, which ensures the safety of all new construction in the City. DBI will review the project-specific geotechnical report during its review of the building permit for the project. In addition, DBI may require additional site specific soils report(s)

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\(^{46}\) Harold Lewis & Associates, Foundation Investigation, Proposed Commercial Building, 1100 25th Street (Lot 13 in Block 4227), San Francisco, California, October 26, 2014.
through the building permit application process, as needed. The DBI requirement for a geotechnical report and review of the building permit application pursuant to DBI’s implementation of the Building Code would ensure that the proposed project would have no significant impacts related to soils, seismic or other geological hazards.

In light of the above, the proposed project would not result in a significant effect related to seismic and geologic hazards. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts related to geology and soils that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

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<td>14. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY—Would the project:</td>
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<td>a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?</td>
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<td>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)?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<tr>
<td>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?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<tr>
<td>h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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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.

The amount of impervious surface coverage on the project site would not change with implementation of the proposed project as the existing scrap yard is covered by pavement and storage containers. As a result, the proposed project would not increase stormwater runoff beyond what was studied in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any significant impacts related to hydrology and water quality that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.
The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR noted that implementation of any of the proposed project’s rezoning options would encourage construction of new development within the project area. The PEIR found that there is a high potential to encounter hazardous materials during construction activities in many parts of the project 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, Under Storage Tank (UST) closure, and investigation and cleanup of soil and groundwater would ensure implementation of measures to protect workers and the community from exposure to hazardous materials during construction.

**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 building 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 that Mitigation Measure L-1: Hazardous Building Materials, as outlined below, would reduce effects to a less-than-significant level. Because the proposed development does not include demolition of an existing building, Mitigation Measure L-1 would not apply to the proposed project.

**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, sites with historic bay fill, and sites in close proximity to freeways or underground storage tanks. The over-arching 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 in the building construction process. Projects that disturb 50 cubic yards or more of soil that are located on sites with potentially hazardous soil or groundwater within Eastern Neighborhoods Plan area are subject to this ordinance.

The proposed project is located within the Article 22A (Maher) area and would involve up to approximately four feet of excavation below ground surface and approximately 310 cubic yards of soil.
disturbance. Therefore, the project is subject to Article 22A of the Health Code, also known as the Maher Ordinance, which is administered and overseen by the Department of Public Health (DPH). The Maher Ordinance requires the project sponsor 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 would determine the potential for site contamination and level of exposure risk associated with the 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 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 agency(ies), and to remediate any site contamination in accordance with an approved SMP prior to the issuance of any building permit.

In compliance with the Maher Ordinance, the project sponsor submitted a Maher Application and a Phase I ESA to DPH. Based on the Phase I ESA, the project site appears to have been partially undeveloped and part of a railroad line and right-of-way. The railroad line was removed and was used as a right-of-way or a temporary easement for the construction of the elevated Interstate Highway 280 viaduct and an on-ramp system. The project site was fenced at some point with access limited to the storage of contractor supplies, equipment, and vehicles. The Phase I ESA found no physical or documentary evidence of any use, storage or disposal of any chemicals, hazardous materials, reportable substances or hazardous water at the project site. Additionally, no Recognized Environmental Concerns were identified in the nearby area.

The proposed project would be required to remediate potential soil contamination described above in accordance with Article 22A of the Health Code.

**Naturally Occurring Asbestos**

The proposed project would involve up to approximately four feet of excavation and approximately 310 cubic yards of soil disturbance within an area that is underlain by serpentinite bedrock. Therefore, the proposed project’s construction would potentially release serpentinite into the atmosphere. Serpentinite commonly contains naturally occurring chrysotile asbestos (NOA) or tremolite-actinolite, a fibrous mineral that can be hazardous to human health if airborne emissions are inhaled. In the absence of proper controls, NOA could become airborne during excavation and handling of excavated materials. On-site workers and the public could be exposed to airborne asbestos unless appropriate control measures are implemented. Although the California Air Resources Board (ARB) has not identified a safe exposure level for asbestos in residential areas, exposure to low levels of asbestos for short periods of time poses minimal risk. To address health concerns from exposure to NOA, ARB enacted an Asbestos Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) for Construction, Grading, Quarrying, and Surface Mining Operations in July 2001. The requirements established by the Asbestos ATCM are contained in California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 17, Section 93105 and are enforced by the BAAQMD.

The Asbestos ATCM requires construction activities in areas where NOA is likely to be found to employ best available dust control measures. Additionally, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors

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48 Cesarina Tabora, SFDPH, email to Don Lewis, 1228 25th Street, December 13, 2016.
approved the Construction Dust Control Ordinance in 2008 to reduce fugitive dust generated during construction activities. The requirements for dust control as identified in the Construction Dust Control Ordinance are as effective as the dust control measures identified in the Asbestos ATCM. Thus, the measures required in compliance with the Construction Dust Control Ordinance would protect the workers themselves as well as the public from fugitive dust that may also contain asbestos. The project sponsor would be required to comply with the Construction Dust Control Ordinance, which would ensure that significant exposure to NOA would not occur. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a hazard to the public or environment from exposure to NOA.

For the above reasons, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts related to hazards or hazardous materials that were not identified in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics:</th>
<th>Significant Impact Peculiar to Project or Project Site</th>
<th>Significant Impact not Identified in PEIR</th>
<th>Significant Impact due to Substantial New Information</th>
<th>No Significant Impact not Previously Identified in PEIR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16. MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES—Would the project:</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Encourage activities which result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that the Area Plan 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 DBI. 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 Area Plan would not result in a significant impact on mineral and energy resources. No mitigation measures were identified in the PEIR.

As the proposed project is located within the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans area, there would be no additional impacts on mineral and energy resources beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.
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?
☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?
☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

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)?
☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?
☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

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?
☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

The Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR determined that no agricultural resources exist in the Area Plan; 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 located within the Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plans area, there would be no additional impacts on agriculture and forest resources beyond those analyzed in the Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Archeological Resources

Project Mitigation Measure 1 – Procedures for Accidental Discovery of Archeological Resources (Eastern Neighborhoods Mitigation Measure J-2)

This mitigation measure is required to avoid any potential adverse effect on accidentally discovered buried or submerged historical resources as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)(c).

The project sponsor shall distribute the San Francisco Planning Department archeological resource “ALERT” sheet to the project prime contractor; to any project subcontractor (including demolition, excavation, grading, foundation, etc. firms); and to utilities firms involved in soils-disturbing activities within the project site. Prior to any soils-disturbing activities being undertaken, each contractor is responsible for ensuring that the “ALERT” sheet is circulated to all
field personnel, including machine operators, field crew, and supervisory personnel. The project sponsor shall provide the ERO with a signed affidavit from the responsible parties (prime contractor, subcontractor(s), and utilities firms) to the ERO confirming that all field personnel have received copies of the “ALERT” sheet.

Should any indication of an archeological resource be encountered during any soils-disturbing activity of the project, the project head foreman and/or project sponsor shall immediately notify the ERO and shall immediately suspend any soils-disturbing activities in the vicinity of the discovery until the ERO has determined what additional measures should be undertaken.

If the ERO determines that an archeological resource may be present within the project site, the project sponsor shall retain the services of an archeological consultant from the pool of qualified archeological consultants maintained by the San Francisco Planning Department archeologist. The archeological consultant shall advise the ERO as to whether the discovery is an archeological resource, retains sufficient integrity, and is of potential scientific/historical/cultural significance. If an archeological resource is present, the archeological consultant shall identify and evaluate the archeological resource. The archeological consultant shall make a recommendation as to what action, if any, is warranted. Based on this information, the ERO may require, if warranted, specific additional measures to be implemented by the project sponsor.

Measures might include preservation in situ of the archeological resource, an archeological monitoring program, or an archeological testing program. If an archeological monitoring program or archeological testing program is required, it shall be consistent with the Environmental Planning (EP) division guidelines for such programs. The ERO may also require that the project sponsor immediately implement a site security program if the archeological resource is at risk from vandalism, looting, or other damaging actions.

The project archeological consultant shall submit a Final Archeological Resources Report (FARR) to the ERO that evaluates the historical significance of any discovered archeological resource and describes the archeological and historical research methods employed in the archeological monitoring/data recovery program(s) undertaken. Information that may put at risk any archeological resource shall be provided in a separate removable insert within the final report.

Copies of the Draft FARR shall be sent to the ERO for review and approval. Once approved by the ERO, copies of the FARR shall be distributed as follows: California Archaeological Site Survey Northwest Information Center (NWIC) shall receive one copy and the ERO shall receive a copy of the transmittal of the FARR to the NWIC. The Environmental Planning Division of the San Francisco Planning Department shall receive one bound copy, one unbound copy, and one unlocked, searchable PDF copy on a CD of the FARR along with copies of any formal site recordation forms (CA DPR 523 series) and/or documentation for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places/California Register of Historical Resources. In instances of high public interest or interpretive value, the ERO may require a different final report content, format, and distribution from that presented above.
Noise

Project Mitigation Measure 2 – Construction Noise (Eastern Neighborhoods Mitigation Measure F-2)

The project sponsor is required to develop a set of site-specific noise attenuation measures under the supervision of a qualified acoustical consultant. Prior to commencing construction, a plan for such measures shall be submitted to the Department of Building Inspection to ensure that maximum feasible noise attenuation will be achieved. These attenuation measures shall include as many of the following control strategies as feasible:

- Erect temporary plywood noise barriers around a construction site, particularly where a site adjoins noise-sensitive uses;
- Utilize noise control blankets on a building structure as the building is erected to reduce noise emission from the site;
- Evaluate the feasibility of noise control at the receivers by temporarily improving the noise reduction capability of adjacent buildings housing sensitive uses;
- Monitor the effectiveness of noise attenuation measures by taking noise measurements;
- Post signs on-site pertaining to permitted construction days and hours and complaint procedures and who to notify in the event of a problem, with telephone numbers listed.

Air Quality

Project Mitigation Measure 3 – Construction Air Quality (Implementing Eastern Neighborhoods PEIR Mitigation Measure G-1)

The project sponsor or the project sponsor’s Contractor shall comply with the following

A. Engine Requirements.

1. All off-road equipment greater than 25 hp and operating for more than 20 total hours over the entire duration of construction activities shall have engines that meet or exceed either U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) or California Air Resources Board (ARB) Tier 2 off-road emission standards, and have been retrofitted with an ARB Level 3 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy. Equipment with engines meeting Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final off-road emission standards automatically meet this requirement.
2. Where access to alternative sources of power are available, portable diesel engines shall be prohibited.
3. Diesel engines, whether for off-road or on-road equipment, shall not be left idling for more than two minutes, at any location, except as provided in exceptions to the applicable state regulations regarding
idling for off-road and on-road equipment (e.g., traffic conditions, safe operating conditions). The Contractor shall post legible and visible signs in English, Spanish, and Chinese, in designated queuing areas and at the construction site to remind operators of the two minute idling limit.

4. The Contractor shall instruct construction workers and equipment operators on the maintenance and tuning of construction equipment, and require that such workers and operators properly maintain and tune equipment in accordance with manufacturer specifications.

B. Waivers.

1. The Planning Department’s Environmental Review Officer or designee (ERO) may waive the alternative source of power requirement of Subsection (A)(2) if an alternative source of power is limited or infeasible at the project site. If the ERO grants the waiver, the Contractor must submit documentation that the equipment used for onsite power generation meets the requirements of Subsection (A)(1).

2. The ERO may waive the equipment requirements of Subsection (A)(1) if: a particular piece of off-road equipment with an ARB Level 3 VDECS is technically not feasible; the equipment would not produce desired emissions reduction due to expected operating modes; installation of the equipment would create a safety hazard or impaired visibility for the operator; or, there is a compelling emergency need to use off-road equipment that is not retrofitted with an ARB Level 3 VDECS. If the ERO grants the waiver, the Contractor must use the next cleanest piece of off-road equipment, according to Table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compliance Alternative</th>
<th>Engine Emission Standard</th>
<th>Emissions Control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>ARB Level 2 VDECS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>ARB Level 1 VDECS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>Alternative Fuel*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to use the table: If the ERO determines that the equipment requirements cannot be met, then the project sponsor would need to meet Compliance Alternative 1. If the ERO determines that the Contractor cannot supply off-road equipment meeting Compliance Alternative 1, then the Contractor must meet Compliance Alternative 2. If the ERO determines that the Contractor cannot supply off-road equipment meeting Compliance Alternative 2, then the Contractor must meet Compliance Alternative 3.

** Alternative fuels are not a VDECS.

C. Construction Emissions Minimization Plan. Before starting on-site construction activities, the Contractor shall submit a Construction
Emissions Minimization Plan (Plan) to the ERO for review and approval. The Plan shall state, in reasonable detail, how the Contractor will meet the requirements of Section A.

1. The Plan shall include estimates of the construction timeline by phase, with a description of each piece of off-road equipment required for every construction phase. The description may include, but is not limited to: equipment type, equipment manufacturer, equipment identification number, engine model year, engine certification (Tier rating), horsepower, engine serial number, and expected fuel usage and hours of operation. For VDECS installed, the description may include: technology type, serial number, make, model, manufacturer, ARB verification number level, and installation date and hour meter reading on installation date. For off-road equipment using alternative fuels, the description shall also specify the type of alternative fuel being used.

2. The ERO shall ensure that all applicable requirements of the Plan have been incorporated into the contract specifications. The Plan shall include a certification statement that the Contractor agrees to comply fully with the Plan.

3. The Contractor shall make the Plan available to the public for review on-site during working hours. The Contractor shall post at the construction site a legible and visible sign summarizing the Plan. The sign shall also state that the public may ask to inspect the Plan for the project at any time during working hours and shall explain how to request to inspect the Plan. The Contractor shall post at least one copy of the sign in a visible location on each side of the construction site facing a public right-of-way.

D. Monitoring. After start of Construction Activities, the Contractor shall submit quarterly reports to the ERO documenting compliance with the Plan. After completion of construction activities and prior to receiving a final certificate of occupancy, the project sponsor shall submit to the ERO a final report summarizing construction activities, including the start and end dates and duration of each construction phase, and the specific information required in the Plan.