

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Railyard Alternatives and I-280 Boulevard Citizen Working Group

BACKGROUND

San Francisco has committed to significant transit and infrastructure investments in the South of Market, Mission Bay, and Showplace Square/Lower Potrero Hill neighborhoods. The Downtown Rail Extension (DTX), the electrification of Caltrain and High-Speed Rail service are planned around existing infrastructure that includes an elevated freeway, a half-mile long railyard, and street-level commuter rail tracks. This infrastructure was built when the area was primarily an industrial neighborhood, but now presents a number of challenges that potentially divides these densifying neighborhoods, reduces connectivity and exacerbates congestion for public transit, cars, pedestrians and cyclists. The Railyard Alternatives and I-280 Boulevard Feasibility Study (RAB) is a multi-agency program studying transportation and land use alternatives in these rapidly growing areas of the City, led by the San Francisco Planning Department. The RAB will evaluate whether these challenges can be addressed through a comprehensive, regional approach that integrates land use with local and regional transportation and builds a high-quality urban environment.

A Citizen Working Group (CWG) has been established to aid in disseminating information and to gain public input into the City's evaluation of the second phase of the RAB study. More information about the study is available at www.sf-planning.org/rab.

ROLE OF THE WORKING GROUP

The Railyard Alternatives and I-280 Boulevard (RAB) Citizen Working Group (CWG) is the citizen body that is tasked with attending meetings and workshops to better understand the intricacies of the study, provide a public forum, and based on discussions in the working group, aid in informing recommendations for the second phase of the RAB study. Regular meetings have been organized to provide education and orientation about the RAB study, help identify community priorities and concerns, and provide context for recommendations and updates to the study. The public meetings are designed to further promote and disseminate information. Working Group members may wish to be more involved in the two public workshops being held for this phase of the study. If possible, this will be accommodated. While the Working Group provides a valuable asset to the project as a whole, input is advisory and final decisions, by the study team, and updates to the public rest with the City and County of San Francisco.

MEMBERSHIP

The Working Group is comprised of stakeholders who represent the broad interests of the communities surrounding the Caltrain right-of-way, the Caltrain railyard, and the I-280 right of way.

In an effort to balance the representation of various groups with a manageable, effective committee size, the Working Group includes the following seats:

- District Six + Ten Representatives (up to two seats)
- Community Advisory Committee/Neighborhood Representatives (up to 11 seats)
 - Bayview Hunters Point CAC member
 - Eastern Neighborhoods CAC
 - Mission Bay CAC
 - SFCTA CAC
 - Southeast Community Facility Commission
 - TJPA CAC
 - Bayview
 - Dogpatch
 - Northern Potrero Hill
 - SOMA
 - South Beach/Rincon/Mission Bay
 - Southern Potrero Hill
 - Bay Area Council
 - UCSF
 - Giants
 - Warriors
- City-wide Representatives (up to six seats)
 - Business
 - Housing
 - Bike or pedestrian advocacy
 - The senior and/or disability community
 - Environmental advocacy
 - Transportation Advocacy/Business

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITIZEN WORKING GROUP

Throughout the second phase of this study, it is expected that Working Group members will:

- Commit to attend five of the six scheduled meetings, and participate in two public workshops;
- Gain a thorough understanding of the overall project and the findings of the first phase of the study;
- Listen to and comment on presentations that cover the general direction of the study, as well as key deliverables from the study;
- Establish a dialogue with the member's group, organization, or constituency so that these views can be incorporated into broader public input collected for the study;
- Balance the needs of the member's specific interest group, organization or constituency with citywide interests;
- Assist the project team in weighing the pros, cons, and considerations of each possible alternative for future rail alignment, railyard, I-280 Boulevard, and area land use;
- Assist in publicizing any public workshops, opportunities for engagement, and announcements to the San Francisco public; and
- Respectfully listen and empathize with other viewpoints.

CITIZEN WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

Regular attendance by all Working Group members is required to ensure that the public process includes an exchange of ideas among members who represent diverse viewpoints. Meetings are held from 6:00PM-8:00PM. The topics listed below are subject to change, and the working group meeting and public workshop dates are TBD.

- **Working Group Meeting + Walking Tour #1:** Review analysis from planning phase one and tour the project area;
- **Working Group Meeting #2:** Give an overview of the 4th/King station; select a Chair for the CWG; review analysis from planning Phase One; discuss updates provided on the rail alignments and Transbay Transit Center loop options since last public meeting;
- **Working Group Meeting #3:** Explore Railyard needs, I-280 boulevarding, and possible land use scenarios as well as updates since last public meeting;
- **Working Group Meeting #4:** Explore draft alternatives, benefits, and costs in preparation for fall public workshop;
- **Working Group Meeting #5:** Review public meeting and share modifications/updates to draft alternatives, benefits, and costs.

CONTACT

For more information about the RAB Study or the Working Group, please contact Susan Gygi at the San Francisco Planning Department by email at susan.gygi@sfgov.org, or by telephone at (415) 575-9194.