



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Date: March 5, 2021
To: Interested Agencies and Organizations and Members of the Public
Subject: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
BNSF Ono Lead Track Extension Project

Lead Agency:

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The City of San Bernardino ("City"), as Lead Agency, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the BNSF Ono Lead Track Extension Project (the "Project") identified below. This Notice of Availability has been issued to notify interested parties that the Draft EIR is available for public review and comment. The City is requesting comments on the Draft EIR from responsible and trustee agencies, interested public agencies, organizations, and the general public.

Project Location: The Project site is in the southwest portion of the County of San Bernardino ("County"), in the southwest portion of the City of San Bernardino; see **Exhibit 2-1: Regional Vicinity Map**. The Project site is comprised of two dis-contiguous segments (i.e., northern and southern) which extend approximately 4.3 linear miles along the BNSF corridor adjacent to/west of Interstate 215 ("I-215"). The southern track segment comprises most of the Project site and is separated from the northern track segment by approximately 1.2 linear miles. The Project site's northern terminus is at the BNSF Railway Company's ("BNSF") overpass at State Street/University Parkway and its southern terminus is at West 5th Street, just north of the existing BNSF San Bernardino Intermodal Facility ("SBD Intermodal") A Yard ("A Yard"); see **Exhibit 2-2: Local Vicinity Map**. Within those limits, the proposed northern and southern track segments are as follows:

- Northern track segment: approximately 0.3 linear miles, milepost ("MP") 76.5 to MP 76.8,
- Southern track segment: approximately 2.8 linear miles, MP 78.0 to MP 80.8, and
- Gap between northern and southern track segments: approximately 1.2 linear miles, MP 76.8 to MP 78.0, where no improvements are proposed.

The Project site is generally north of the City of Colton, south of Muscoy (an unincorporated County community), east of the City of Rialto, and along/west of I-215.

Government Code § 65962 Lists: The Project site is not on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites.

Project Description: The BNSF Ono Lead Track Extension Project proposes to install a fourth lead track extending the existing A Yard lead track to two existing Ono Storage Sidings. A



continuous lead track would be created, closing the existing gap between the Ono Storage Sidings and improving the flow of trains in and out of the A Yard. The Project does not propose to increase rail line operations; instead it would improve the A Yard's operational efficiency by improving the A Yard's ability to assemble and hold outbound trains, as well as move around railroad cars without obstructing mainline movements, reducing train congestion along the existing lead tracks and reducing train idling by approximately 43 percent, as they wait to enter and exit the A Yard. With the proposed improvements, the A Yard would have capacity to assemble and hold outbound trains and switch out the A Yard without fouling the mainline.

The approximately 41-acre Project site consists of the existing BNSF corridor and adjacent properties where ground disturbances (including temporary construction staging) and/or property acquisitions would occur. The proposed fourth lead track would be constructed within/along approximately 4.3 miles of the existing BNSF corridor generally from the BNSF overpass at State Street/University Parkway on the north to the existing SBD Intermodal. The existing approximately 0.18-mile A Yard lead track, which runs parallel to three existing mainline tracks, would be extended by approximately 3.1 miles. Inclusive of the proposed extension, the lead track would total approximately 5.6 miles. Various improvements/modifications (i.e., stormwater drainage/water quality, circulation/ roadway, signal, sound walls, and utility) that are ancillary and related to the lead track extension are also proposed. To accommodate the proposed improvements, partial and full property acquisitions would be required outside the BNSF corridor (i.e., as many as 43 residential dwelling units and approximately 78,000 square feet of non-residential floor area (six commercial buildings and three industrial buildings)), in addition to City right-of-way (ROW) within the BNSF corridor that would be vacated and conveyed to BNSF, the track owner. To accommodate the proposed improvements, the Project would require circulation and roadway improvements/modifications to multiple City roadways, including vacations, realignments, and cul-de-sacs. The Project also proposes to either: (a) reinstate and extend a pre-existing franchise to construct, operate, and maintain a portion of an existing lead track in the City, between 4th Street and the City's northern boundary, as the boundary existed in 1906; or (b) vacate the railroad bed and convey title of the same to the BNSF. Project construction is proposed to occur in one phase and is anticipated to begin in the first quarter of 2022 and be completed by first quarter in 2024.

Agreements, Permits, and Approvals: The agreements, permits, and approvals (both discretionary and ministerial) that are expected to be required for the Project are listed below.

ANTICIPATED AGREEMENTS, PERMITS, AND APPROVALS		
Agency	Agreement/Permit/Approval	Purpose
FEDERAL		
None		
STATE		
California Air Resources Board		Air quality compliance
State Water Resources Control Board	General Construction Storm Water Permit (Water Quality Order 99-08-DWQ): Notice of Intent and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	Coverage for construction activities



ANTICIPATED AGREEMENTS, PERMITS, AND APPROVALS		
Agency	Agreement/Permit/Approval	Purpose
California Public Utilities Commission	Rail Crossing Modification	Expansion of railroad and highway/rail crossings
Caltrans	Consultation and Encroachment Permit	Activities within state highway ROW
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Streambed Alteration Agreement	Impacts to jurisdictional features
REGIONAL		
South Coast Air Quality Management District		CEQA review authority
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)	Post construction/operational stormwater discharges
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR)	Impacts to jurisdictional features
LOCAL		
City of San Bernardino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EIR Certification Reinstate and Extend Franchise Agreement Adopt Resolutions Approving Petitions to Vacate Streets/Alleys (File No. 15.30-434) Encroachment Permits Demolition Permits Miscellaneous determinations regarding street and remnant parcel compliance with City standards following acquisitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEQA Compliance To construct, operate, and maintain a portion of an existing lead track Street/alley vacations (various) Activities within City ROW Utility crossings Street modifications (various) Building demolitions (various)
OTHER		
Various Utilities	Consultation	Utility crossings

Environmental Impact Report:

The EIR evaluated the Project's potential environmental impacts and focused on the following environmental issues:

- Aesthetics,
- Air Quality,
- Biological Resources,
- Cultural Resources,
- Energy,
- Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources,
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions,
- Hazardous Materials and Wastes,
- Hydrology and Water Quality,
- Land Use and Planning,
- Noise,
- Population and Housing,
- Public Services,
- Transportation,
- Tribal Cultural Resources, and
- Utilities and Service Systems



Impacts concerning the following issue areas were determined to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated: Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Paleontological Resources Hazards; Hazardous Materials; Noise; Transportation; Tribal Cultural Resources; and Utilities and Public Service Systems.

Public Review Period: The Draft EIR is available for a public review period beginning on **March 8, 2021 and ending on April 22, 2021**. In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, should you have any comments on the Draft EIR, please provide such comments during this public review period. It is preferable that comments be e-mailed to Oliver Mujica at the e-mail address provided above with the subject line: "ONO PROJECT DEIR COMMENT." Comments may also be mailed to Mr. Mujica at the street address provided above.

Locations Where Draft EIR is Available for Public Review: Pursuant to the California Governor's Executive Orders, electronic copies of the Draft EIR and all documents referenced therein are available for download on the City's website at http://www.sbcity.org/cityhall/community_development/planning/environmental_documents.asp. Should you have trouble accessing these documents, please contact Oliver Mujica at the telephone or e-mail provided above.



Project Study Area / Alignment

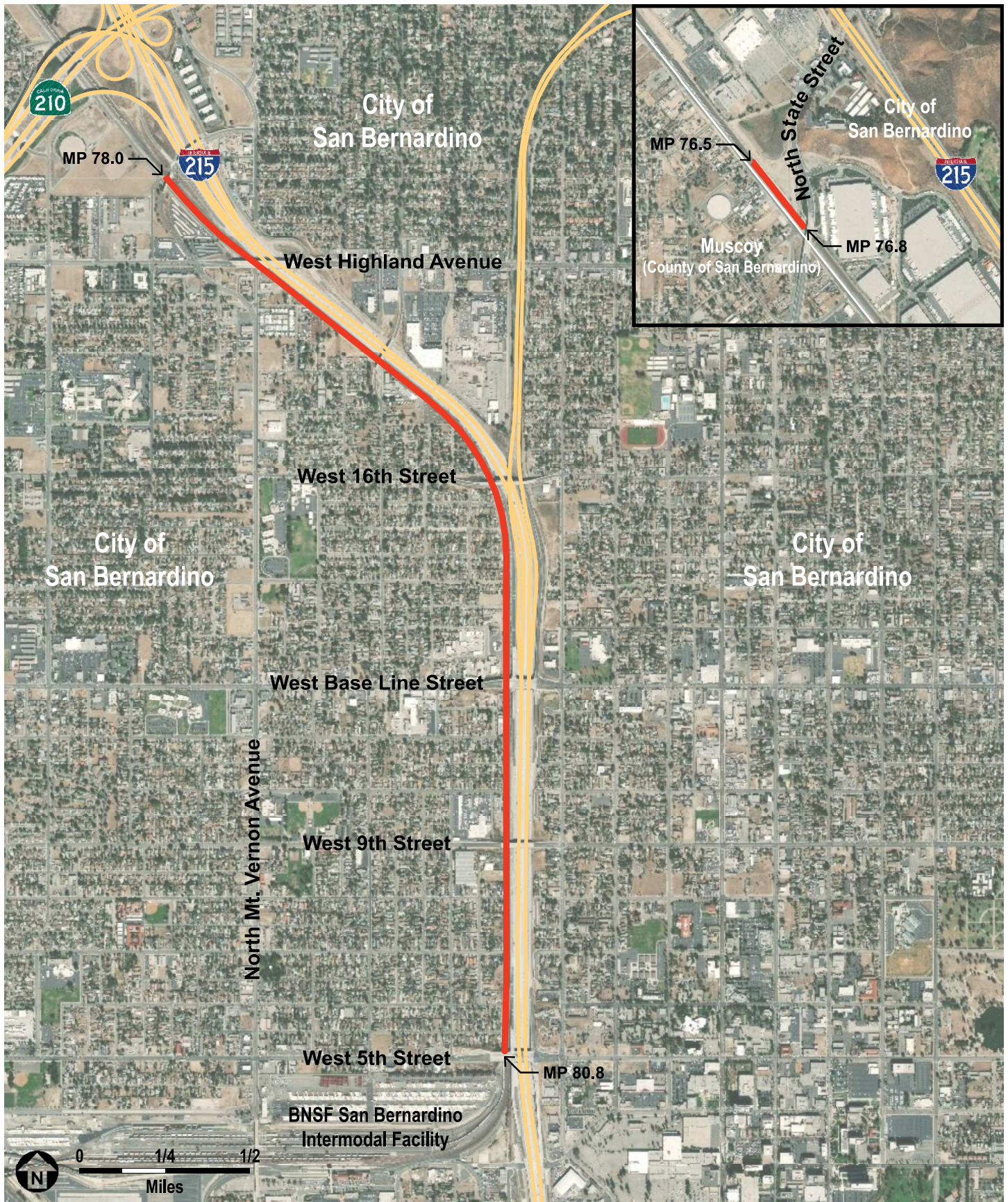
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FEBRUARY 2021



BNSF Ono Lead Track Extension Project EIR

Exhibit 2-1: Regional Vicinity Map



Project Study Area / Alignment

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Exhibit 2-2: Local Vicinity Map