

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the West Oakland Link Project

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code 21000-21189) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000-15387), the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) is the Lead Agency for the West Oakland Link Project (proposed project or Link) located in west Oakland between the Bay Bridge Trail near the Caltrans maintenance facility on the south side of the Bay Bridge toll plaza and the existing bicycle/pedestrian path on Mandela Parkway. Based on the Initial Study prepared for the proposed project, BATA has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) pursuant to CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15072, BATA is distributing this Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt an MND to agencies that have permit authority over the proposed project, interested groups, and organizations in accordance with CEQA.

Notice is hereby given that a MND for the proposed project is available for public review during the public comment period (June 15, 2022 through July 14, 2022). BATA has prepared the MND to analyze environmental impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project and to propose mitigation measures for identified potentially significant impacts that will eliminate or mitigate impacts to less than significant levels.

Lead Agency: Bay Area Toll Authority

Project Title: West Oakland Link Project

Project Location: in west Oakland between the Bay Bridge Trail near the Caltrans maintenance facility on the south side of the Bay Bridge toll plaza and the existing bicycle/pedestrian path on Mandela Parkway, Oakland

Some of the project facilities would be located on or near sites or facilities on hazardous materials/contaminated site lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (Cortese List).

Project Description: The project proposes construction of a new bicycle/pedestrian path connection between West Oakland and the bike path leading to the East Span of the San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge (Bay Bridge) in Oakland, California. The Link would provide safe access to the newly constructed bicycle/pedestrian path connecting to and on the Bay Bridge (Bay Bridge Trail), as well as access to existing and planned segments of the regional San Francisco Bay Trail and a connection between West Oakland and the Port via the Class I trail along the east side of Maritime Street. On the west end, the Link would connect to the Bay Bridge Trail near the Caltrans maintenance facility on the south side of the Bay Bridge toll plaza. On the east end, the Link would connect to the existing bicycle/pedestrian path on Mandela Parkway in West Oakland. The Class I portion of the Link would extend 6,030 feet (1.14 miles) between Mandela Parkway on the east and the Bay Bridge Trail on the west. The Link is an elevated structure for most of this distance to provide access across existing freeways, railways and industrial areas. In addition, at the east end, there would be 8,170 feet of Class II bike lanes on surface streets. There may also be a 100-space parking lot on Wood Street. There could be stormwater treatment areas on undeveloped land west of Wood Street and landscaping in the Mandela Parkway median and along the Class I segment of the Link.

MND: The MND examines the potential impacts generated by the proposed project in relation to the following Environmental Analysis Checklist categories: Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forest Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire.

The purpose of this notice is to inform local residents, institutions, agencies, and other interested parties about the availability of the MND during the public comment period (June 15, 2022 through July 14, 2022). **Written comments on the MND must be submitted no later than July 14, 2022, to the address below.**

Address Comments to:

Gavin Lohry, Project Manager, Bay Area Toll Authority, 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 778-6676, glohry@bayareametro.gov; <https://mtc.ca.gov/west-oakland-link>

MND Reviewing Locations

Online

<https://mtc.ca.gov/west-oakland-link>

Bay Area Toll Authority

375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

Oakland Public Library

125 14th St, Oakland, CA 94612

Oakland Public Library, West Oakland Branch

1801 Adeline Street, Oakland, CA 94609