



US 101/Zanker Road/Skyport Drive/Fourth Street Improvement Project

Public Meeting and Open House

January 10, 2024

Welcome



Introductions



- Councilmembers
- Zahir Gulzadah
- Neil Ong
- Fabian Hernandez
- Kay Ruan
- John Ristow



- Taslima Khanum
- Charles Winter
- Nick Saleh



- Gene Gonzalo
- Karsten Adam
- Menominee McCarter
- Alex Bode
- Christina Jaworski
- David Kobayashi
- Lauren Ledbetter

Meeting Agenda and Format

6:00 – 6:30 Presentation

A recording of this presentation will be available online for those who could not make it tonight.

6:30 – 7:30 Open House

At the conclusion of the presentation, please join as at the exhibits around the room. Staff will be available to answer questions.

VTA Code of Conduct: Demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech will not be tolerated. VTA staff will remove participants who refuse to adhere to this code.

Presenters

- Menominee McCarter, Community Outreach Supervisor, VTA
- Christina Jaworski, Manager, Environmental Programs, VTA
- Karsten Adam, Project Manager, VTA
- Will Burns, Principal Project Manager, David J. Powers & Associates

Purpose of this Public Meeting



Purpose of this Public Meeting/Open House

- Provide an overview of the proposed project including location, purpose, and description of improvements.
- Provide an overview of the environmental review process and contents of the draft environmental document.
- Provide instructions on how to submit written comments.

Draft EIR/EA is Available for Public Review

- Caltrans, in cooperation with VTA and the City of San Jose, prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project.
- The Draft EIR/EA is available to download and review online. Scan the QR code on the comment card by the entrance.
- Printed copies are also available to read at the VTA Administrative Office (Building B Lobby, 3331 North First Street, San Jose), and at the Joyce Ellington Branch Library (491 East Empire Street, San Jose, CA 95112).

Focus of Public Review

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15204 recommends that commenters provide detailed comments that focus on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the possible impacts on the environment and ways in which the significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated.
- Comments on the Draft EIR/EA must be received by Friday, February 16, 2024.

How to Submit Comments

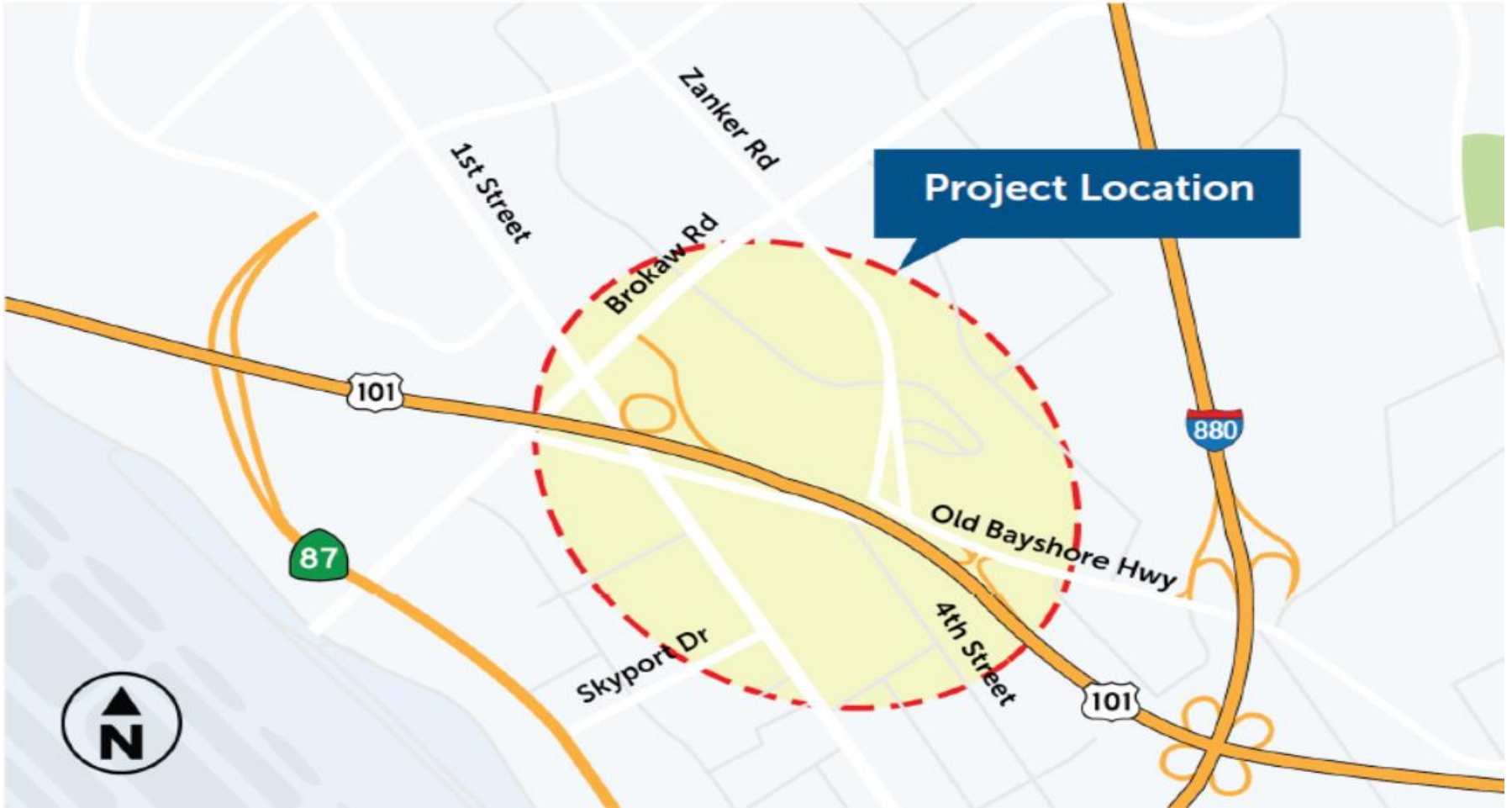
- Please use the **Comment Cards** provided at today's meeting.
- You can also submit written comments after the meeting by **email** to 101-zanker@vta.org or by **mail** to:

Caltrans, District 4-Office of Environmental Analysis
Attn: Charles Winter
P.O. Box 23660 MS-8B
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

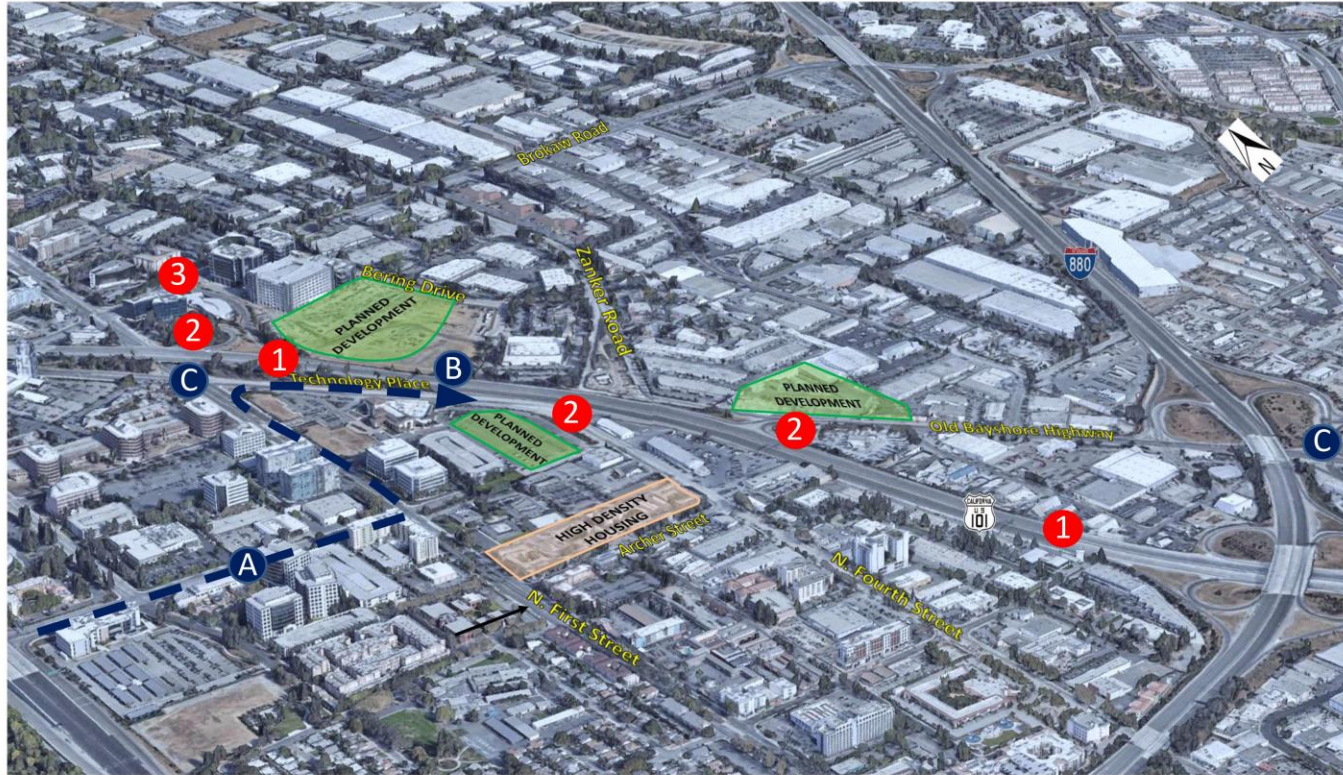
Project Description



Project Location



Project Deficiencies



A INDIRECT ROUTE FROM SJIA TO US 101

B BROKAW ROAD OFF-RAMP QUEUE EXTENDS TO FREEWAY

C BIKE/PEDESTRIAN ACROSS BARRIER CONNECTION DEFICIENCY – LIMITED MULTIMODAL ACCESS ACROSS US 101

1 NONSTANDARD INTERCHANGE SPACING/ WEAVING DISTANCE

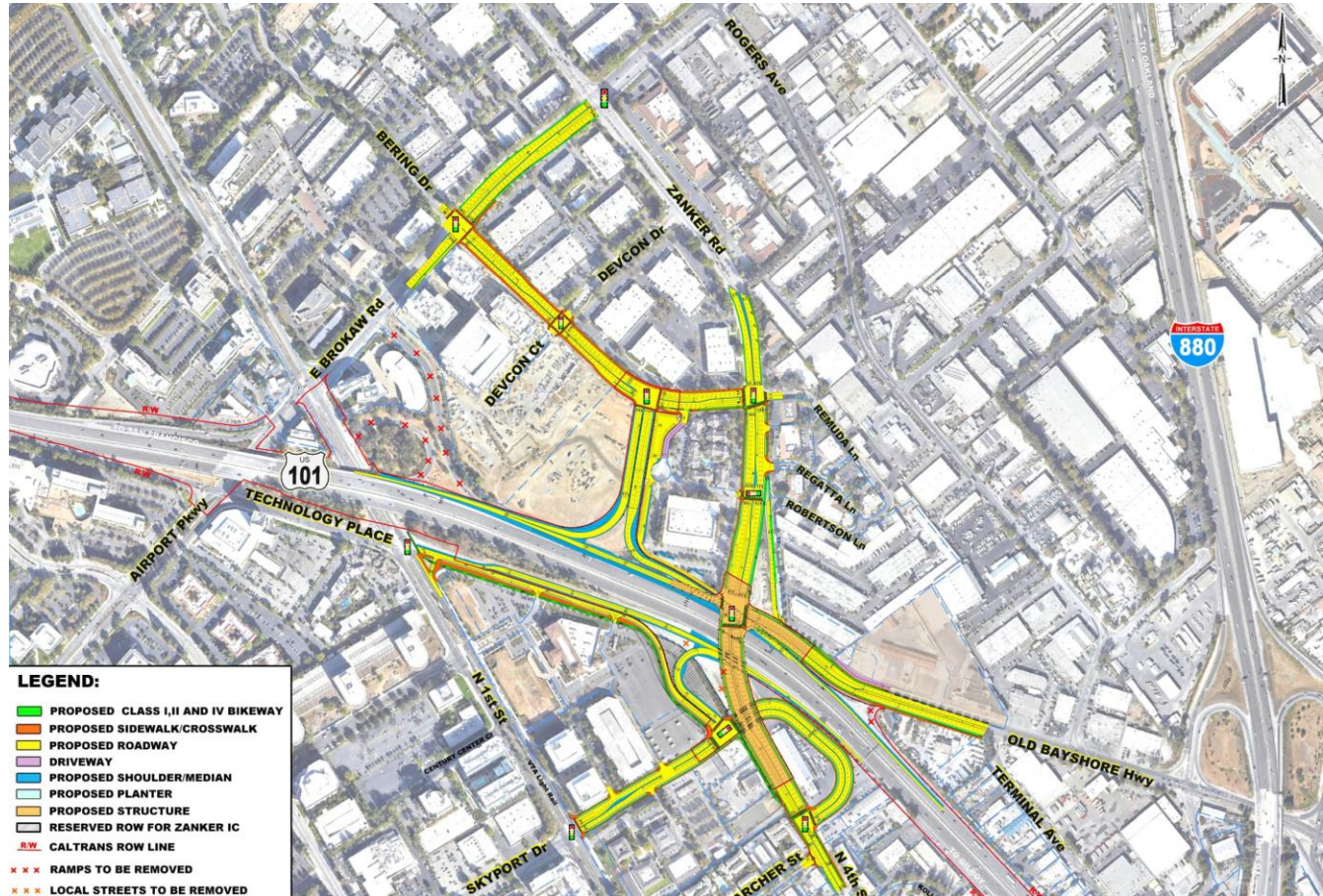
2 NONSTANDARD RAMPS – NO RAMP METERING/HOV BYPASS LANE

3 NONSTANDARD ISOLATED OFF-RAMP

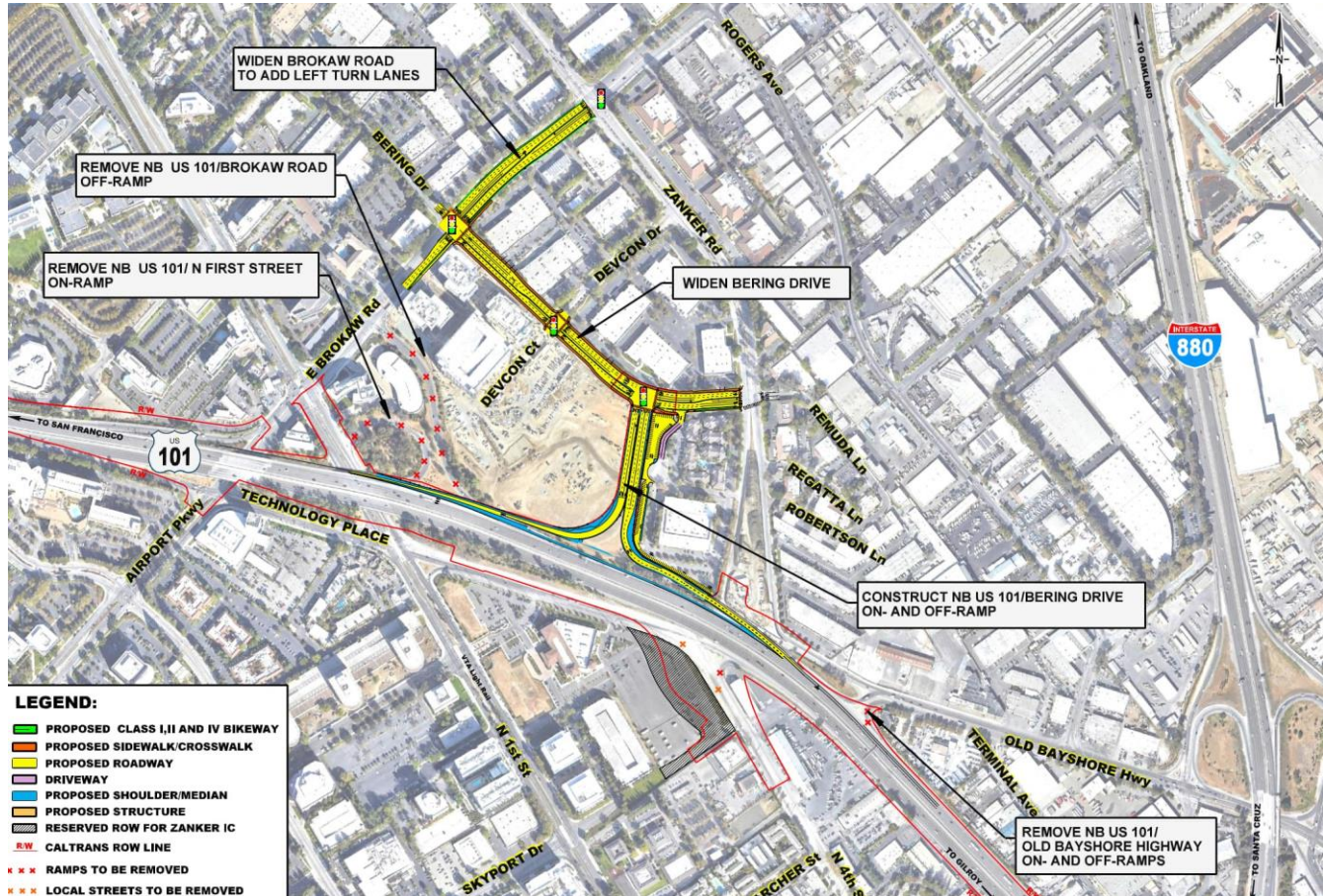
Project Purpose and Need

- Enhance transportation network in the Project area to accommodate planned growth as anticipated under the adopted Envision San José 2040 General Plan.
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the Project area.
- Improve safety and traffic operations at the on- and off-ramps and mainline of US 101 within the Project limits.
- Improve access to/from the San José Mineta International Airport (SJIA).

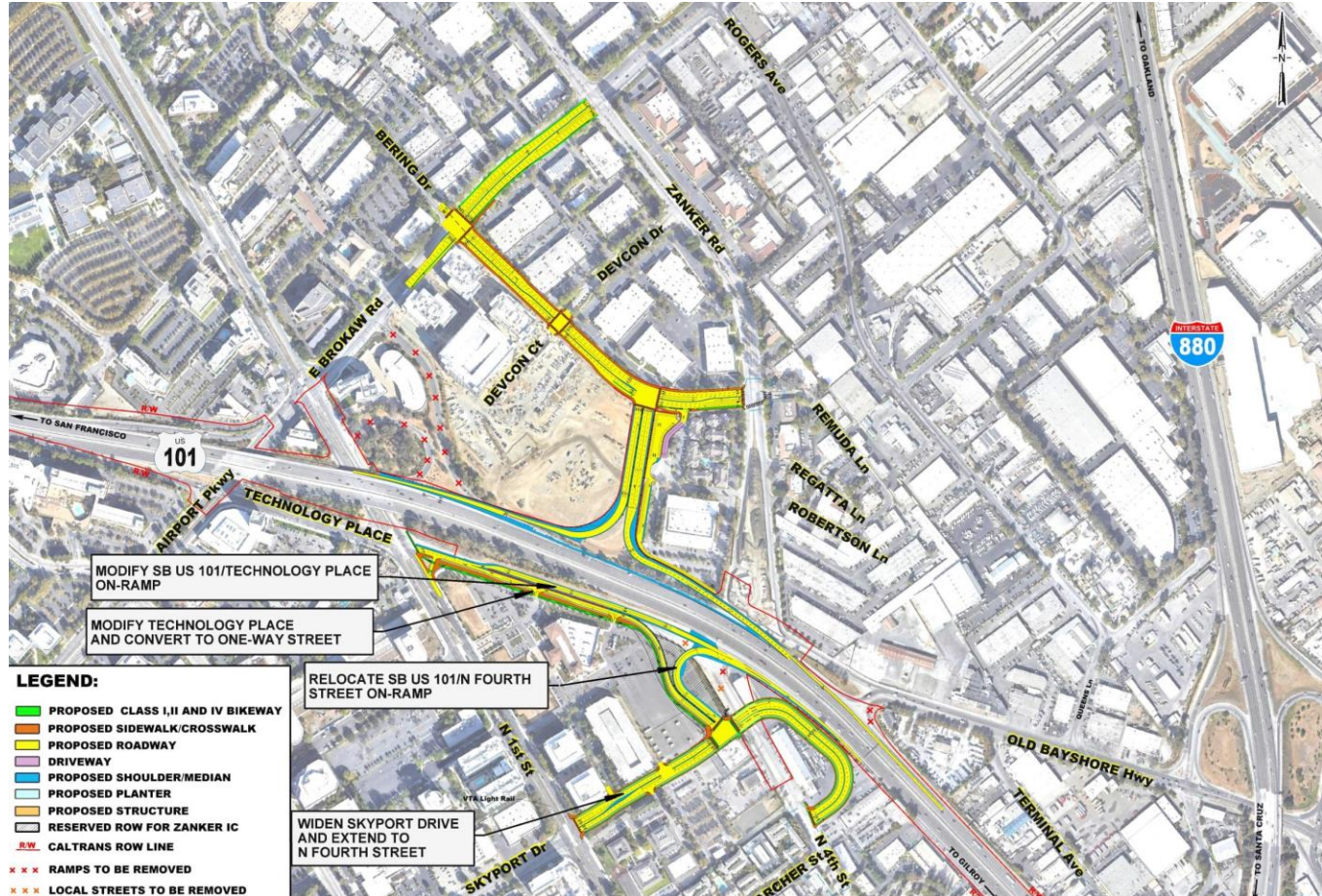
Proposed Project



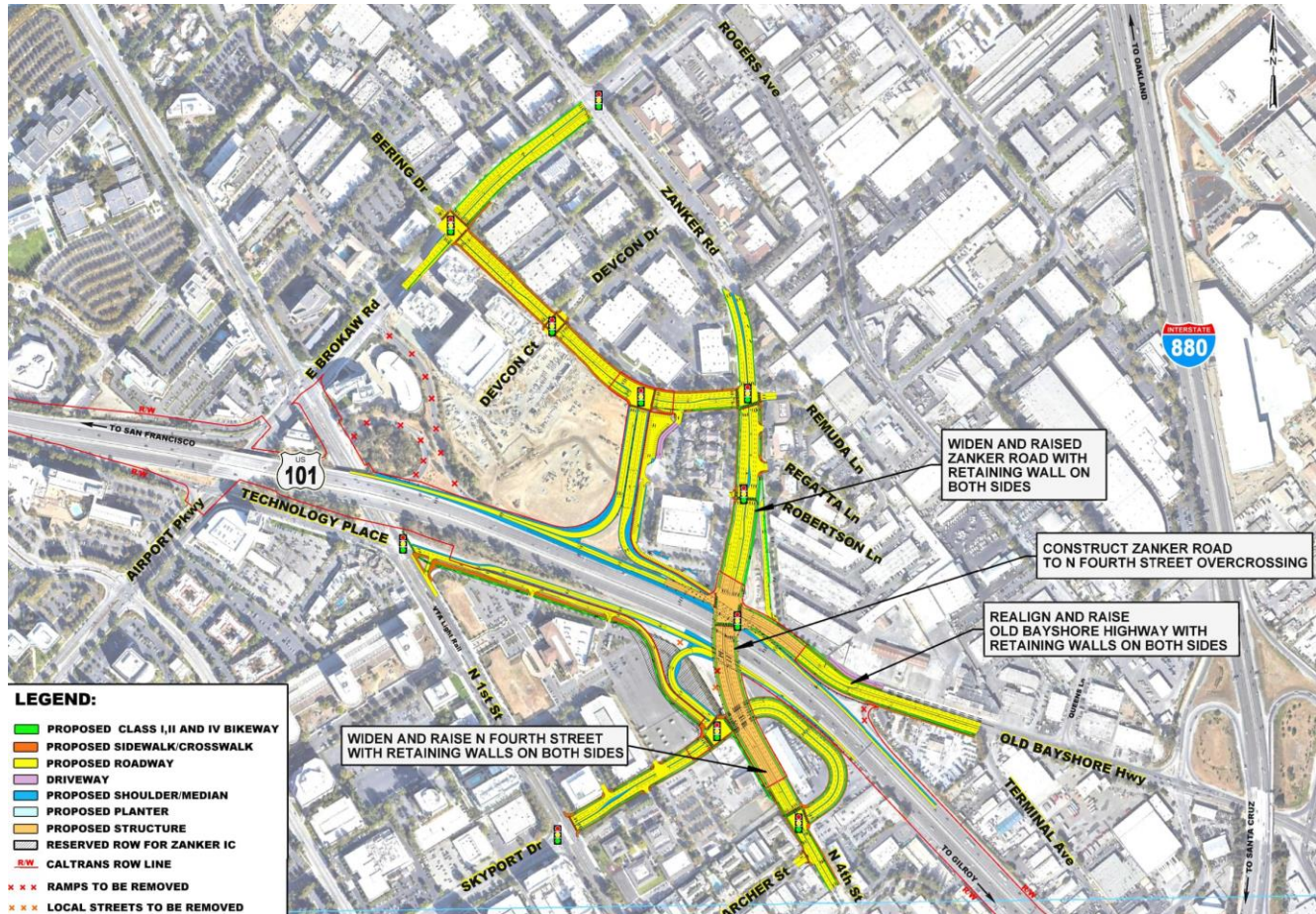
Proposed Project



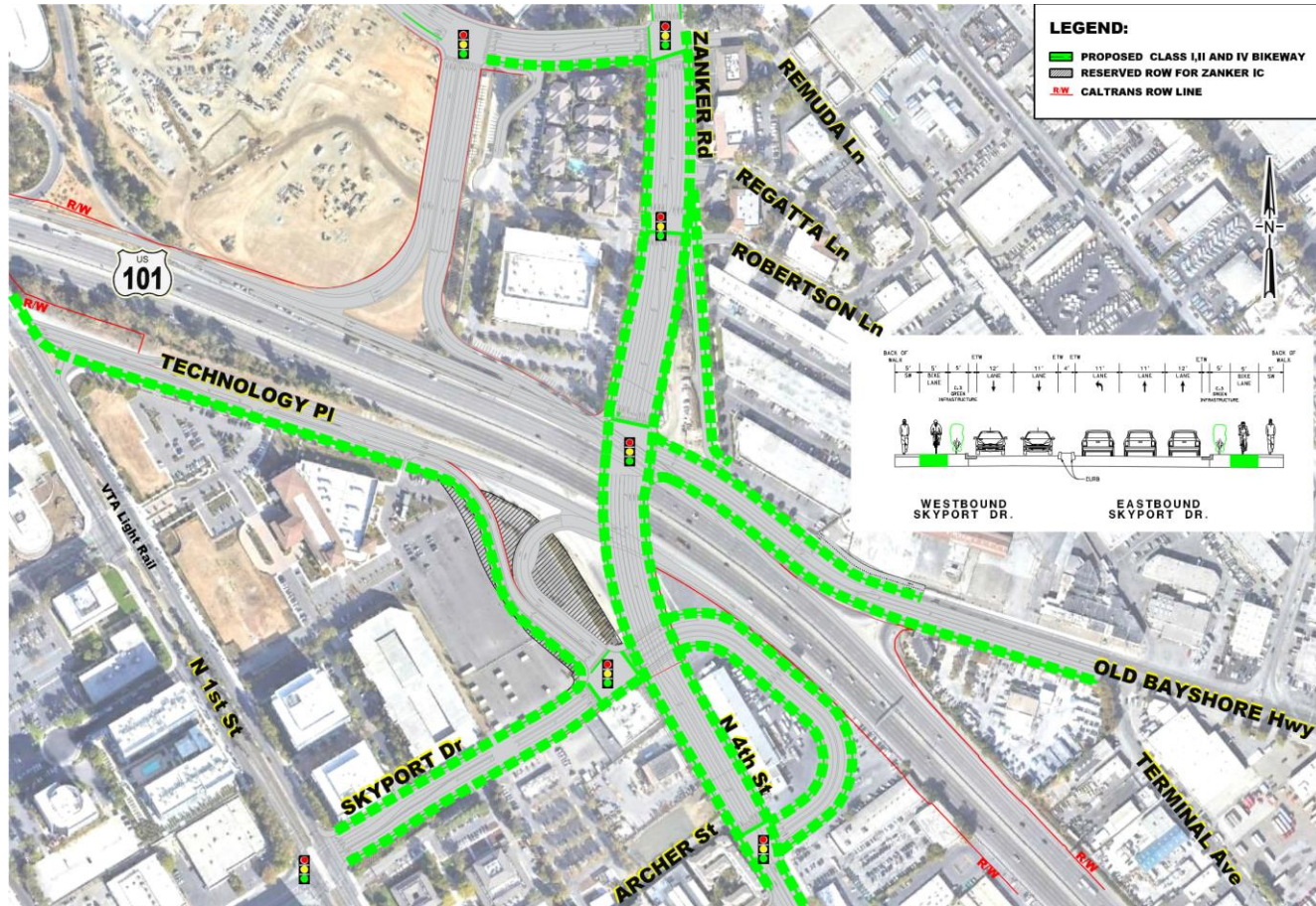
Proposed Project



Proposed Project



Proposed Project – Bicycle and Pedestrian



Environmental Review Process



Preparing the Draft EIR/EA

- A Notice of Preparation stating that a Draft EIR/EA will be prepared was published and distributed on October 4, 2021.
- During the early consultation or scoping period, comments regarding community impacts to Japantown and traffic were received.
- In preparing the Draft EIR/EA, technical analysis was completed to assess the impact of the proposed Project on the environment. This analysis considered the scoping comments and physical environment/setting of the project area.

Environmental Issues Considered

Technical studies, reports, and other analysis were conducted for the following topics:

- ✓ Environmental justice
- ✓ Growth/community impacts
- ✓ Utilities/emergency services
- ✓ Traffic and transportation/
pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- ✓ Visual/aesthetics
- ✓ Cultural Resources
- ✓ Water quality
- ✓ Hydrology and Floodplain
- ✓ Geology
- ✓ Paleontology
- ✓ Hazardous materials
- ✓ Air quality
- ✓ Noise
- ✓ Energy
- ✓ Animal species
- ✓ Invasive species
- ✓ Cumulative impacts

Environmental Issues Not Affected

As part of project scoping and environmental analysis, it was determined that the proposed Project would not result in impacts to the following resource areas:

- Farmlands
- Timberlands
- Coastal zones
- Community cohesion
- Wild and scenic rivers
- Natural Communities
- Wetlands
- Plant species
- Threatened and endangered species
- Parks and Recreational Facilities

Contents of the Draft EIR/EA

- Description of the No Build and Build Alternative, including project purpose and need and other alternatives considered during the development of the proposed project.
- Analysis of potential environmental impacts from construction and operation of the proposed Project.
- Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate environmental impacts.
- Description of the early consultation and scoping process, including coordination with agencies and organizations.

Overview of the Environmental Process

- After public circulation of the Draft EIR/EA, all comments will be considered, and a Final EIR/EA will be prepared.
- The Final EIR/EA will include responses to comments and revisions based on public input.
- If a decision is made to approve the project, Caltrans will issue a Notice of Determination in compliance with CEQA, and a Finding of No Significant Impact in compliance with NEPA.

Previous Environmental Public Meetings

- October 20, 2021:
Environmental Document NOP- Public Scoping Meeting

Summary of Environmental Impacts



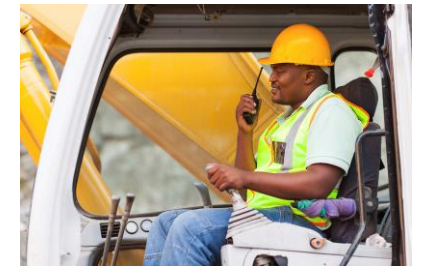
Visual Impacts



- Approximately 250+ trees would be removed or heavily pruned.
- The new ramps and overcrossing structure would block views outside the freeway corridor from US 101.
- A proposed new soundwall at the Waterford Place Apartments would reduce light to lower units.
- Tree replacement and design treatments would be included to mitigate visual impacts.

Air Quality

- Long- and short-term air quality effects of the proposed Project were evaluated.
- Compared to the No Build Alternative, long-term emissions would be reduced. This is largely due to the overall decrease in vehicle miles traveled.
- Short-term emissions would occur during construction. These include particulate emissions (dust) from construction activities, such as excavation, and emissions from construction equipment and vehicles.
- Best management practices and measures to minimize these temporary impacts would be implemented.



Noise

- Future noise levels were quantified and compared to existing noise levels. Increases in noise from the proposed Project would not be considered substantial.
- Project noise levels only approach or exceed thresholds at the Waterford Place Apartments as is currently the case with existent noise levels.
- Most construction activities would generate average noise levels, except for short periods of pile driving and heavy demolition where higher noise levels would be expected.



Construction Impacts

- Construction would take approximately three years and occur in phases.
- Construction would include temporary lane closures and narrowing of lanes on freeways and local roadways through the construction zone.
- Prior to construction, a Transportation Management Plan would be prepared to address traffic handling, pedestrian and bicycle safety/access, and coordination with emergency responders. A component of the Traffic Management Plan will also include construction-related notices to the public.

Project Schedule

- **Environmental Review Process**

Milestone	Date
Draft EIR/EA Comment Period	December 29, 2023- February 16, 2024
Final EIR/EA	Fall 2024



- **Design and Engineering: 2024 – 2028**
- **Construction: 2028 – 2031**

How to Submit Public Comments

- **Comment Card**
- **Email:** 101-zanker@vta.org
- **Postal Mail:** Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis
Attn: Charles Winter
P.O. Box 23660, MS 8B
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

Comments must be received by Friday, February 16, 2024.

Thank You

Menominee McCarter, VTA Community Outreach

(408) 321-7575

community.outreach@vta.org

For more information, please visit the project
webpage at [www.vta.org/projects/us-101zanker-road-
project](http://www.vta.org/projects/us-101zanker-road-project).

Open House Session

