



SAN RAFAEL TRANSPORTATION CENTER



Relocation Analysis, Environmental Clearance, and Preliminary Design

SMART Board Presentation February 21, 2024



SAN RAFAEL
THE CITY WITH A MISSION





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Agenda

- Project Background
- Recent Project Progress
- 2023 Public Engagement Activities
- Project Design Update
- Key Coordination Topics and Next Steps



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Role of the Transit Center

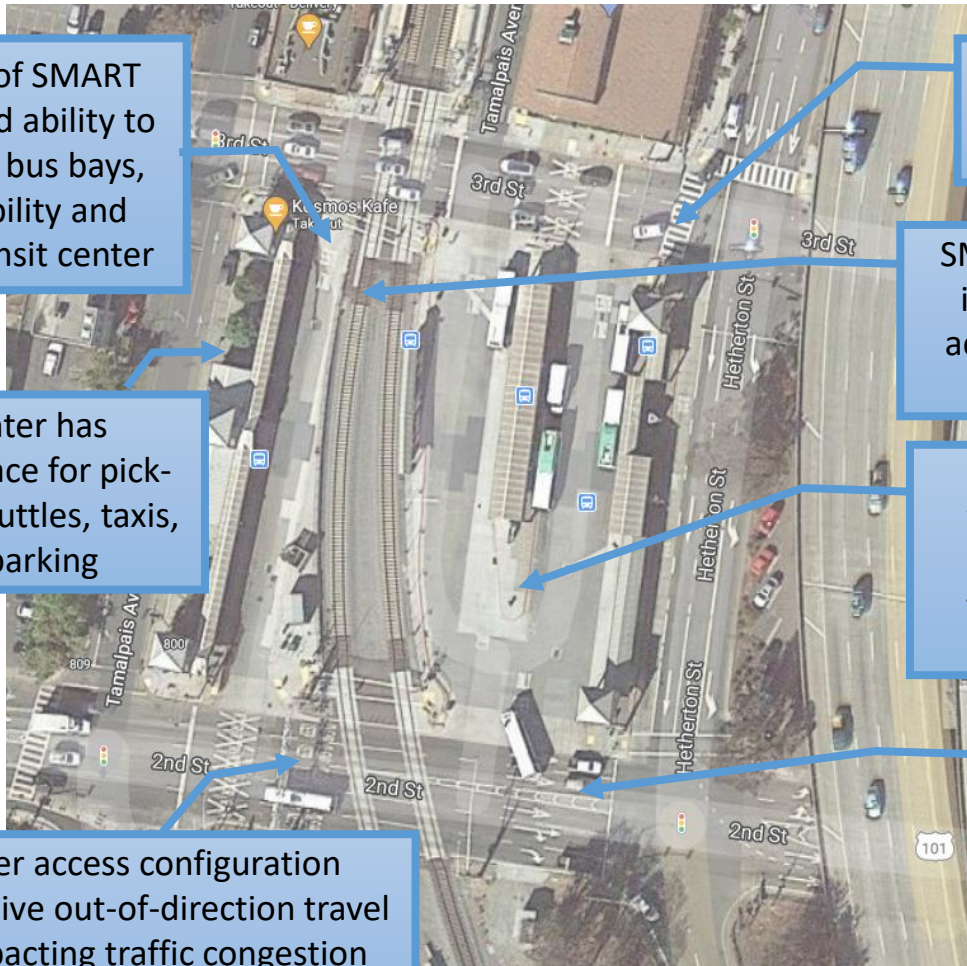
- Over 700 daily bus trips, an increase since 2019
- 9,000 daily boardings and alightings serving equally as an access point to Downtown San Rafael and as a transfer point between services
- Large contingent of transit center users are essential workers who have continued to rely on transit through pandemic and will continue to rely on transit in future



Population Group	Riders on Routes Serving Transit Center	City of San Rafael General Population	Marin County Population
Household Income Less than \$50k	45%	31%	25%
Minority (non-white)	69%	33%	29%



Why a New Transit Center is Needed



Construction of SMART tracks impacted ability to access several bus bays, limiting flexibility and usability of transit center

Transit center has insufficient space for pick-up/drop-off, shuttles, taxis, and bike parking

Transit center access configuration requires extensive out-of-direction travel for buses, impacting traffic congestion and increasing operating costs

Third Street serves as a major barrier for pedestrian access and transfers to SMART

SMART tracks bisecting transit center impacts pedestrian circulation and access, increasing transfer times and making wayfinding difficult

Current transit center was built 30 years ago, lacks sufficient space for customer service, and needs technology, sustainability, and user comfort improvements

Congestion on 2nd Street makes it challenging for buses to exit transit center, increasing travel times and impacting reliability



Overall Anticipated Project Schedule

Current stage



2018-2022

Site Selection &
Environmental
Analysis

2023-2024

Preliminary
Design

2024-2025

Final Design

2026

Construction

~2027

Completion



Recent Project Progress

- December 2022: FEIR Adopted
- February-December 2023: Community Design Advisory Group and Public Meetings
- June 2023 - Current: Began Preparing NEPA Checklist and Re-engaged FTA
- July 2023 - Current:
 - Advance Design Discussions with City of San Rafael and Marin Transit
 - Advance Preliminary Design and Engineering



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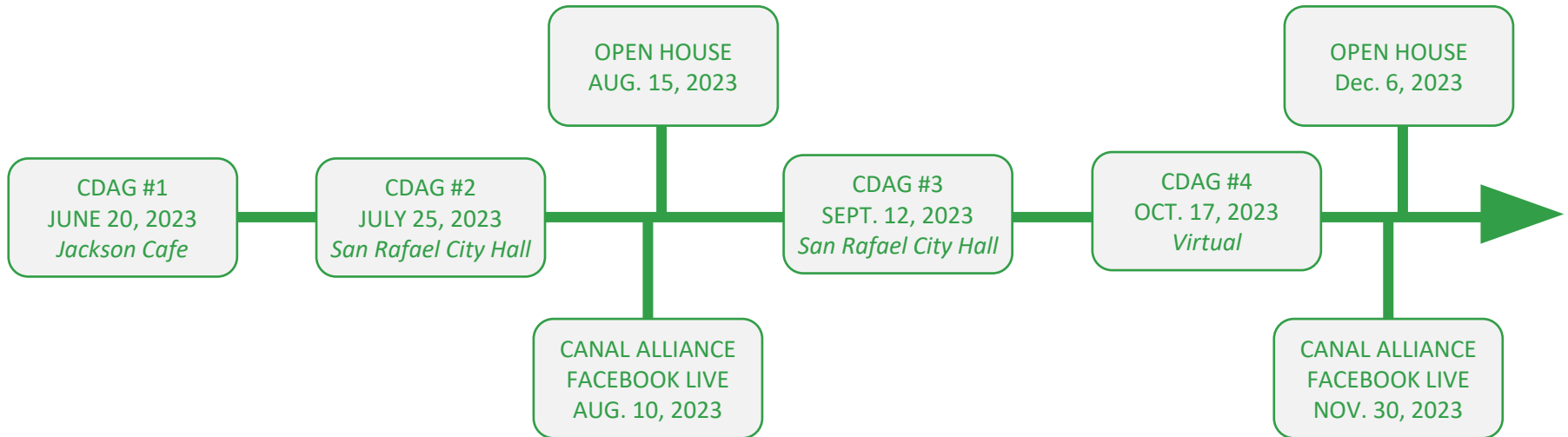
2023 Public Engagement Activities

RECONNAISSANCE;
VISION +
PRINCIPLES

BIG MOVES

CONCEPT
DEVELOPMENT

IMPLEMENTATION;
REPORT-BACK





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2023 Public Engagement Activities

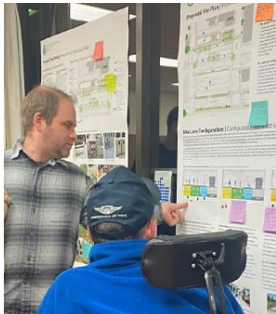
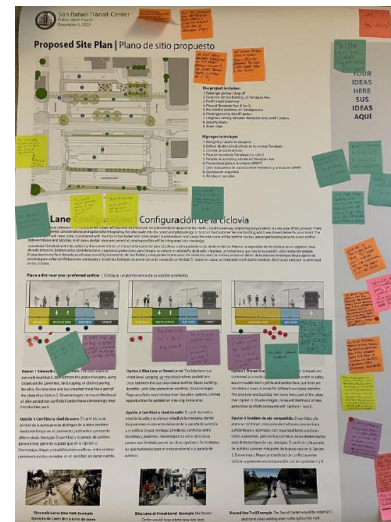
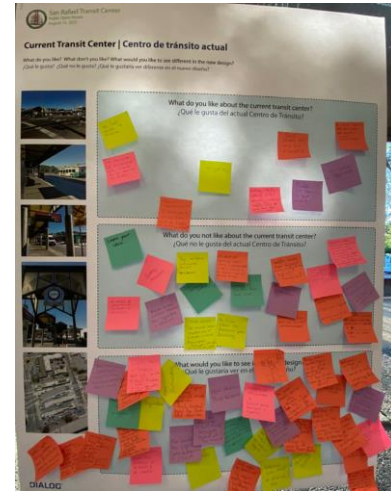
Community Open House

✓ Open House #1

- Attended by more than 50 people
- Received a total of 158 written comments
- Additional online survey received 119 responses

✓ Open House #2

- Attended by more than 60 people
- Received a total of 130 written comments





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2023 Public Engagement Activities

Partnership with the Canal Alliance

✓ Facebook Live Event #1 - (8/10/2023)

- Participated by 33 attendees
- Received over 40 comments on the feed
- Viewed by 1,100 people to-date

✓ Facebook Live Event #2 - (11/30/23)

- Participated by 32 attendees
- Received 30 comments on the feed
- Viewed by 1,200 people to-date

✓ In-Person Promotoras Outreach

- Total of 51 hours of outreach in Spanish at peak transit times
- Distributed over 950 palm cards

¿USA USTED EL CENTRO DE TRANSPORTE DE SAN RAFAEL?
¡QUEREMOS SU OPINIÓN!
 Súmate a un evento para discutir actualizaciones sobre el Proyecto de Reemplazo del Centro de Tránsito de San Rafael.

Jueves 30 de noviembre | 5:30 PM
 Únete al evento de Canal Alliance Facebook Live @CanalAlliance.SanRafael
 Este evento será solo en español.

Miércoles 6 de diciembre | 5:30 - 7:30 PM
 En persona, Centro Comunitario de San Rafael, 418 B Street.
 Materiales estarán en español y en inglés.

Por preguntas por favor contacta al equipo del proyecto llamando al 415-321-4444 o por email a SMTC@goldengate.org

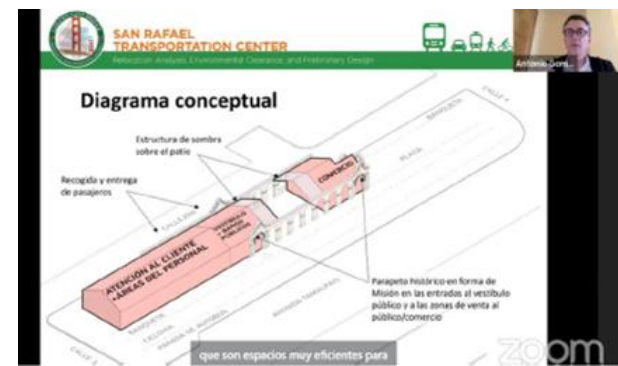


DO YOU USE THE SAN RAFAEL TRANSIT CENTER?
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
 Join us at an upcoming event to discuss updates on the San Rafael Transit Center Replacement Project.

Thursday, Nov 30 | 5:30 PM
 Virtual through Canal Alliance Facebook Live @CanalAlliance.SanRafael
 This event will be exclusively in Spanish.

Wednesday, Dec 6 | 5:30 - 7:30 PM
 In-person at San Rafael Community Center, 418 B Street.
 Materials will be provided in English and Spanish.

For questions, please contact the project team by calling 415-321-4444 or emailing SMTC@goldengate.org



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2023 Public Engagement Activities

Community Design Advisory Group (CDAG)

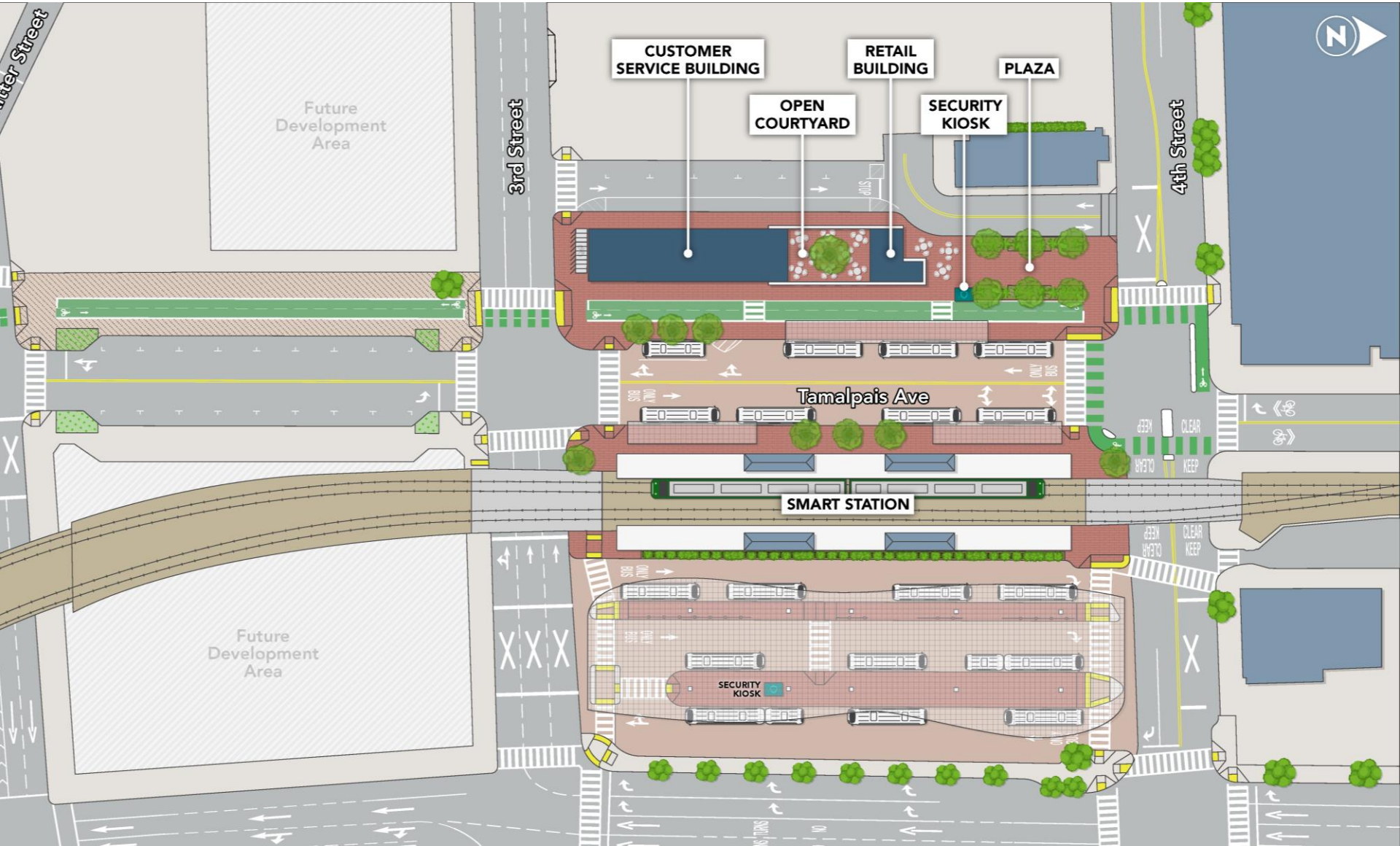
- ✓ Brought a balanced and diverse group of voices together to discuss and provide input on the design, aesthetics, amenities and features of the new transit center.
- ✓ Conducted a field walk of the existing transit center and the new site
- ✓ Served as a conduit between the District and the community
- ✓ Met four times over five months: June through October 2023





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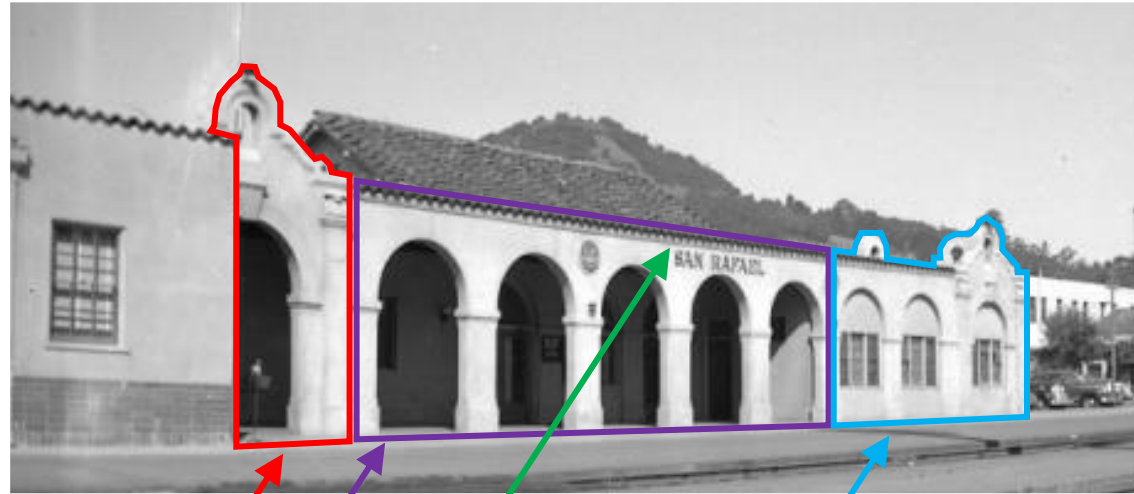
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Preserving Heritage Elements to Maintain a Sense of History from the Early Railroad Days

East Side of the Northwest Pacific Depot / Customer Service Building

1. The original 1929 Depot entry will become the main entry to the new public lobby
2. The original 1929 “arcade” will become the edge of a new public courtyard
3. Reintroduction of Railroad signage and lighting
4. The Railroad filled in this part of the “arcade” in 1951. This wall will house a new café/retail space
5. Color of stucco is intended to align with original building (to be confirmed)





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Preliminary Design Rendering



View of the Courtyard, Looking East



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Preliminary Design Rendering



View of the Plaza from 4th St., Looking South



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Preliminary Design Rendering



View of the Customer Service Building from Tamalpais Ave., Looking South



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Preliminary Design Rendering



View of the Bus Canopy from Hetherton at 4th Street



Key Ongoing Coordination Topics

- Allocation of Responsibilities for Tamalpais Avenue (City of San Rafael)
- North-South Greenway Configuration (City)
- Design Review Process (City)
- Street crossing design (California Public Utilities Commission, City, SMART, Marin Transit)
- Bus Bay Configuration (Marin Transit)
- Cultural Resources Analysis (Federal Transit Administration, City)



Next Steps

- Presentations (*Jan-Mar 2024*):
 - Marin Transit, SMART, and TAM Boards
 - San Rafael City Council
 - San Rafael BPAC
- Conclude preliminary engineering (*mid-2024*)
- Obtain NEPA Clearance (*in progress*)
- Begin ROW procurement (*after NEPA clearance*)
- District to procure Final Design contract (*Late 2024*)