



**Port of Redwood City
NOTICE OF PREPARATION and
NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING**

Date: May 1, 2024

To: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report, Notice of Public Review Period and Circulation of the Initial Study, and Notice of Scoping Meeting for the Port of Redwood City Ferry Terminal Project

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Port of Redwood City (Port), as the Lead Agency, will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Port of Redwood City Ferry Terminal Project (the proposed project).

The Port is interested in the views of your agency as to the appropriate scope and content of the EIR, as well as any recommended mitigation measures related to responsible and trustee agencies' statutory responsibilities. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by the Port when considering permits or other approvals associated with the proposed project. If you are not a public agency with any statutory or regulatory responsibility concerning this project, your comments on the environmental scope of the EIR are requested so that the EIR may be prepared in consideration of the input from the community and surrounding areas.

Project Description

The proposed project would provide Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA)-operated passenger ferry service at Redwood City with origin and destination points of San Francisco and Oakland. Initial service would be during weekday morning and afternoon commute periods between the hours of approximately 6 am to 9 pm using diesel powered ferry vessels capable of carrying up to 300 passengers. As the ferry service matures, midday, evening, weekend, and special event service may be added. The ferry terminal would include waterside and landside components, including a ferry dock, gangway, fixed access pier and security gate, kiosks, portable restroom, bicycle storage, surface parking lot, and new utilities required to establish the proposed ferry service. The proposed project also includes widening the Seaport Boulevard loop road from the Pacific Shores Center entrance to the ferry terminal site to accommodate a bicycle trail and sidewalk and extending the Bay Trail along the north edge of the project site to the ferry terminal. The relocation of existing infrastructure (e.g., railroad spur, terminus of Frontage Road, lighting and utilities, and a maintenance building) and modifications to an existing public parking lot would be required to accommodate the access improvements. The proposed project also includes a zone change to allow future visitor-serving uses consisting of a three-story hotel with an associated restaurant, retail and meeting/event facilities, a standalone restaurant, up to 10,000 square feet of standalone office space, and a permanent restroom facility at the ferry terminal.

Project Location

The ferry terminal site is a 9.2 acre Port property near the confluence of Redwood Creek and Westpoint Slough. Other project improvements would occur along a portion of Seaport Boulevard west of the Pacific Shores Center, the railroad tracks and Frontage Road east of the Port, and a portion of the existing public parking lot and waterfront park northwest of Pacific Shores Center. The ferries would operate within existing navigation routes in San Francisco Bay to and from Redwood City and San Francisco and Oakland.

Potential Significant Impacts

Based on the findings of the Initial Study prepared in conjunction with the NOP, the Port has identified potential significant impacts for the following topics: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology/Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology/Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Utilities/Service Systems.

Document Availability and Review Period

A copy of the Initial Study and NOP is attached to the notice that has been distributed by email and it can be reviewed in hard copy at the Port office located at 675 Seaport Boulevard, Redwood City, CA 94063; the Downtown Library at 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA 94063; Redwood Shores Branch Library at 399 Marine Parkway, Redwood City, CA 94065; and online at <https://www.redwoodcityport.com/ferry>.

The Port will consider all comments received in response to the NOP during the drafting of the EIR. The NOP public review period is scheduled from May 1, 2024 to May 31, 2024 (5 pm). However, Responsible Agencies and Trustee Agencies may submit their responses no later than **30 days** after receipt of the NOP. Please send your response to **Don Snaman, Project Manager** at 675 Seaport Boulevard, Redwood City, CA 94063 or c-dsnaman@redwoodcityport.com. Please provide your name or the name of a contact person in your agency.

Scoping Meeting

A public scoping meeting/open house will be held on May 15, 2024 from 11 am to 12 pm at the Board of Commissioners meeting room at the Port office located at 675 Seaport Boulevard. The meeting may also be accessed and observed by joining by video teleconference via Zoom at:

<https://zoom.us/join> Meeting ID: 985 1201 8699 Password: 85917060

Or use this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98512018699?pwd=dTc3a09SMWN5bDFQMfZMSDM4WVNSZz09>

To join by audio teleconference:

Phone: (669) 900-6833 or (346) 248-7799 Meeting ID: 985 1201 8699

The Port of Redwood City is not responsible for a member of the public's technical ability to participate in the meeting.

Information presented at the scoping meeting will also be available on the Port's website:

<https://www.redwoodcityport.com/ferry>

Once the Draft EIR is prepared there will be further opportunity to comment on the proposed project.

