



MEMORANDUM TO FILE

Date: June 11, 2024
To: File
From: Don Lewis, Senior Environmental Planner
Re: Skystar Observation Wheel at Fisherman's Wharf
2023-009039ENV

Introduction

On October 30, 2023, the planning department issued Addendum 2 to the Waterfront Plan Final Environmental Impact Report for the installation and operation of an illuminated observation wheel, along with temporary, portable support structures and facilities, in Fisherman's Wharf (to be relocated from Golden Gate Park) for a period of six months. The existing foundation for the wheel includes four 13-foot square concrete footings that extend approximately two feet below the existing grade. The existing shallow foundation was temporary (up to six months). The addendum analyzed the operation of the wheel for a longer term (three years) and anticipated that changes to the foundation would be required for the operation of the wheel after six months.

Proposed Revisions to Addendum 2

As anticipated in Addendum 2, Skystar proposes to extend the operation of the wheel past six month which would require a new foundation. Skystar proposes to shift the wheel approximately 15 feet west and 2 feet south from its current location to avoid the existing foundation. Each leg of the wheel would be supported over a 24-inch diameter steel pipe pile (four piles total) that would extend approximately 55 feet below grade. Approximately 11 cubic yards of excavation would be required.

The planning department completed a cultural resource review for the revised foundation plan with a determination that **FEIR Mitigation Measure M-CR-2a, Procedures for Accidental Discovery of Archeological Resources for Projects Involving Soil Disturbance** would continue to apply to the revised project.

The revised project would not cause new significant impacts or result in a substantial increase in the severity of the impacts identified in the addendum, and no new or revised mitigation measures would be required.

Conclusion

San Francisco Administrative Code Section 31.19(c)(1) states that a revised project must be reevaluated and that, "If, on the basis of such reevaluation, the Environmental Review Officer determines, based on the requirements of CEQA, that no additional environmental review is necessary, this determination and the reasons therefore shall be noted in writing in the case record, and no further evaluation shall be required by this Chapter." Thus, for the reasons outlined above, this memorandum to file provides sufficient documentation that the revised project does not warrant additional environmental review.