

# **EXECUTIVE DECISION DOCUMENT**

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: 21 J-18 2018 Rost M. Pour		GENERAL MANAGER ACTION REQ'D:		
DATE: 5/24/2018		BOARD INITIATED ITEM: No		
Originator/Prepared by: Mark Dana Dept: Extensions Signature/Date: Jate Jaco /18/16	General Counsel	Controller/Treasurer	District Secretary	BARC (b)

# Adopt The Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan for the Proposed BART Market Street Canopies and Escalators Modernization Project

#### **PURPOSE**:

To obtain the following Board actions on the Proposed BART Market Street Canopies and Escalators Modernization Project (Proposed Project): 1) Adoption of the Proposed Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for the Proposed Project, and 2) Adoption of the Proposed Project.

#### **DISCUSSION**:

The existing escalators at station street entrances/exits and to/from station platforms in the four downtown San Francisco Stations of Embarcadero, Montgomery Street, Powell Street, and Civic Center regularly malfunction and currently need replacement. The Proposed Project is intended to upgrade the durability and reliability of escalators to current industry standards while improving safety, security and passengers' experience. The proposed improvements include the installation of canopy covers over all 22 street entrance/exit openings, including those openings without escalators, to protect District assets, to provide aesthetically pleasing and attractive entrances to the stations, and to improve passenger wayfinding. Each protective canopy will be equipped with a motorized grille that would lock

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at the street level of each station entrance/exit when the stations are closed. The improvements consist of the replacement of 40 escalators: 22 escalators from the street to Concourse Level, and 18 escalators from the Concourse to Platform Level. Two canopies, one at Civic Center and one at Powell Street are currently being completed in a Pilot Project that was determined to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by District Staff in December 2015. Numerous public and stakeholder meetings have been conducted by BART and the City and County of San Francisco in connection with the Proposed Project. Input from those meetings has been incorporated into the project design process.

In order to meet the requirements of CEQA, a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and Notice of Intent to Adopt a MND for the Proposed Project was prepared and circulated for public review on April 30, 2018. The Draft IS/MND evaluated the environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Project. With implementation of the specific mitigation measures identified in the IS/MND, all potential Proposed Project impacts can be avoided, minimized, reduced, or compensated for, to a level that is less than significant and therefore the project would create no significant environmental impacts. The public comment period for the Draft IS/MND occurred from April 30, 2018 through May 30, 2018. A Public Meeting was held on May 16, 2018 at the City of San Francisco Public Library. Comments received during the public review period and corresponding responses are included in the Final IS/MND. The Final IS/MND provides a full disclosure of the anticipated potentially significant environmental impacts to a less-than-significant level. The MMRP defines a program to ensure implementation of specific mitigation measures to these impacts.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact in adoption of the motion described below as this action will not commit any funding or impact any unprogrammed District Reserves.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The Board can elect not to adopt the IS/MND, MMRP, and/or the Proposed Project. The escalators and entrances to the stations would remain the same, with no improvements to access or safety. Further design efforts would have to be suspended. Also, if the Proposed Project is not adopted, the District risks the loss of grant funds programmed for the Proposed Project.

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adoption of the following motion:

### **MOTION**:

Based on the findings presented in the Final Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan for the Proposed BART Market Street Canopies and Escalators Modernization Project together with the comments received during the public review process, the Board hereby:

- 1. Finds on the basis of the whole record before it that there is no substantial evidence that the Proposed BART Market Street Canopies and Escalators Modernization Project, as revised by the incorporation of mitigation measures, may have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore no further environmental review is required.
- 2. Finds that the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the Board's independent judgment and analysis.

3. Adopts the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

4. Adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan.

5. Approves the BART Market Street Canopies and Escalators Modernization Project as proposed.