



Transbay Transit Center

Year End 2013 Newsletter

TJPA Unveils New Video Highlighting New Transit Center and Surrounding Development

The new Transbay Transit Center will be a national model for transit-oriented development. It will bring 11 different transportation systems under a single roof, all in close proximity to jobs, housing, retail, recreation and open space. This type of high-density urban development not only fosters economic growth, but also reduces congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. Our new video highlights the astounding development that is already occurring in the South of Market neighborhood as a result of the Transbay Project. We've also added new features to our website! Check out our redesigned homepage and new "Faces of Transbay" section, as well as the new video, by visiting www.transbaycenter.org.

Click on the picture below to view the new video:



Leader Pelosi Celebrates Milestone with TJPA as First Concrete is Poured for Permanent Foundation of the Transbay Transit Center

Dignitaries including House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Mayor Edwin M. Lee, Supervisor and TJPA Chair Jane Kim, Labor Leader Mike Theriault and others joined the TJPA in a celebration to commemorate the first concrete pour of the Transbay Transit Center's foundation. "Today's milestone marks the day 'the Grand Central Station of the West coast,' begins to take shape," said Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan, TJPA Executive Director.

The ceremony was held at the site of the initial pour. Leader Pelosi was instrumental in securing a \$400 million federal investment from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to make reaching this milestone possible.

"As we pour concrete into the first permanent part of the new Transbay Transit Center, we are laying the foundation for the future of transit-oriented development in the Bay Area," said House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi.

"From the start, the Transbay Transit Center has represented the best product of a strong, thriving public-private partnership – already creating thousands of construction jobs. These jobs – along with the promise of long-term economic growth for our community and a better quality of life for local workers and families – are a direct result of smart investments through the Recovery Act."

"Today as we celebrate this milestone I cannot help but think of how this visionary project has already begun to transform San Francisco – breathing new life into the South of Market neighborhood, stimulating smart-growth, and encouraging mass transit in the City and the region," said Mayor Lee.

Construction of the Transit Center, which will stretch four city blocks, began in August 2010. This initial concrete pour is the beginning of the permanent foundation for the new facility. The five-foot thick cement foundation will require 60,000 cubic yards of concrete. The foundation will be poured in 15 segments, each of which will require approximately 4,000 cubic yards of concrete. Since the Transbay Project began construction, nearly one million craft hours have taken place on site and approximately 2,400 construction jobs have been created.



Leader Pelosi, Mayor Lee, Supervisor Kim, and Mike Theriault join TJPA Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan to celebrate the first concrete pour for the new Transbay Transit Center

Transbay Rail Extension Designated as Regional Priority for Federal New Starts Program

On July 18th, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) adopted Plan Bay Area, a regional transportation and land-use strategy that plans the infrastructure needed to accommodate projected population and job growth in the Bay Area. This long-range plan also meets the requirements of California's landmark 2008 Senate Bill 375, which calls on each of the state's 18 metropolitan areas to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



The high density transit-oriented development anchored by the new Transbay Transit Center is an essential component of the Plan Bay Area strategy. The prominent role of the Transbay project in the region's long-term plan is highlighted by the designation of the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) as a regional priority for funding from the federal New Starts program. New Starts is the largest federal discretionary funding stream available for transit expansion projects. It provides funds for construction after a region has successfully lined up all required local funds. Entry into the New Starts "pipeline" requires designation as a regional priority in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which for our region is represented by Plan Bay Area. The Bay Area region has traditionally been allotted two spots in the New Starts pipeline. Securing one of those spots for the DTX is a major step forward for Phase 2 of the Transbay project.

The TJPA has worked with MTC and other regional funding partners to develop a regional funding plan for DTX. The funding plan includes future revenues from bridge tolls, local sales tax, development in the area surrounding the Transit Center, and other funding sources. For more information on Plan Bay Area, please visit http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/plan_bay_area/.

Transbay Transit Center Incorporates Famed Mathematician's Design Into Newly Approved Façade

The TJPA has received approval from Dr. Roger Penrose, the eminent British mathematical physicist, to incorporate his groundbreaking geometrical pattern in the design of the exterior walls of the future Transbay Transit Center (TTC) designed by Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects (PCPA). The Penrose tiling, with its non-repeating pattern, is well suited to the complex, curved form of the TTC. To achieve the undulating sensation of the TTC exterior, PCPA has designed multiple metal panels of varying sizes and trapezoidal shapes that require seamless visual transitions from panel to panel—a visual effect that can be achieved only with a non-periodic pattern. The pearlescent white metal skin of the Transit Center will be perforated with the Penrose pattern, with 35 percent of the wall surface remaining open to light and air. The passenger experience from the inside will be one of openness and diffused light.



Close up of panels featuring Penrose pattern

Discovered in 1974, the Penrose Rhombus Tiling was heralded by mathematicians and physicists ultimately helping to create the field of quasicrystals, which spawned discoveries in material science and biology. Dr. Penrose's discovery initially yielded designs that were only known to exist in synthetic materials. Patterns similar to Dr. Penrose's design, however, have recently been found in natural materials such as meteorites. The Penrose pattern to be featured on the exterior of the Transit Center will symbolize the interconnections among mathematics, science and art which are so deeply ingrained in the rich, technologically advanced culture of the Bay Area.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to incorporate Dr. Penrose's mathematical pattern in the flowing design of the new Transbay Transit Center," said Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan, Executive Director of the TJPA. "The addition of Dr. Penrose's pattern to the skin of the Transit Center will provide additional educational opportunities for the public who visit the new station."



View of Transbay Transit Center from Natoma Street

"I am delighted that the Transbay Transit Center has chosen to employ a non-periodic 5-fold quasi-symmetric mathematical pattern that I discovered in 1974, in order to adorn the exterior skin of their magnificent project, in this most impressive design," said Dr. Penrose. "The existence of such patterns was very unexpected, since they appear to violate the standard symmetry rules of crystallography. Yet they reveal hidden aspects of mathematical structure, some of which had been hinted at earlier in the works of the great 17th Century astronomer Johannes Kepler, and also, to some extent, in ancient Islamic designs," he said.

TJPA Hosts First in the Nation Outreach Event to LGBT Business Owners

High levels of competition on public works projects leads to lower bids. The TJPA actively engages with all minority, women, veteran, and disabled veteran business organizations and entities on its contract opportunities and encourages all members of the small business community to participate in its competitive bidding processes. On September 26, 2013, we were proud to be the first public works project in the history of the United States to extend an express invitation to the LGBT business community to participate in a competitive bidding process.



Eugene Cornelius, Jr., Deputy Associate Administrator of the Small Business Administration, Justin Nelson, Co-Founder/President of the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, and Berkeley Councilmember Darryl Moore at TJPA's LGBT Contractor Outreach Event

TJPA and Webcor/Obayashi Joint Venture hosted this well attended outreach event, which included a surprise appearance by our Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, along with TJPA Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan and representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, the Golden Gate Business Association, and small business owners who have secured contracts on the Transbay Project. LGBT-owned construction/trade businesses, architecture and engineering companies, and professional service companies participated in the event to obtain information required to compete for Transbay project contracts. [LGBT businesses most frequently qualify as a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) under the California Department of General Services SBE Certification Program. Certification criteria includes 100 employees or less and/or average annual gross revenues of \$14 million or less over a three year period.]

Cal Poly Students Visit Transbay to Learn about Construction Management

As one of the largest infrastructure projects in the country (and currently the largest construction project in the Bay Area), construction of the new Transbay Transit Center provides an excellent learning opportunity for students interested in a wide range of fields, including construction, engineering and project management. In July, 16 students from Cal Poly received an in-depth project presentation and tour as part of a summer course on construction management. Speakers affiliated with various contractors working on the project covered a variety of topics from preconstruction to bid strategies to management of heavy equipment. The TJPA is strongly committed to creating these kinds of learning opportunities for the students who will lead our nation's infrastructure development in the future.



Cal Poly students visit the Transbay site

I hope you will explore opportunities to participate in the shaping of this project through our Transbay Joint Powers Authority Board meetings, Citizens Advisory Committee meetings, monthly public progress briefings or one of many presentations we make throughout the community. For regular updates, including a weekly 10-day construction outlook, please visit our website at <http://www.transbaycenter.org>.

Thank you for your support of this innovative model for transit-oriented development. We look forward to continuing to work with all of the stakeholders in the Transbay community surrounding our construction site and throughout San Francisco, the Bay Area, and the State of California.

Sincerely,

Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan
Executive Director