

Oakland - Alameda Access Project



The I-880 Oakland-Alameda Access Project (formerly called the I-880 Broadway-Jackson Project) proposes to improve connectivity between I-880, I-980 and the cities of Alameda and Oakland.

Alameda CTC, the project sponsor, and Caltrans, the lead for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, are working in partnership with the cities of Oakland and Alameda to plan, identify and analyze potential freeway access and local roadway improvements between I-880, I-980 and the Posey/Webster Tubes connecting the two cities. The project is being coordinated with multiple corridor planning efforts and local and regional developments including but not limited to the Downtown Specific Plan and Bicycle Master Plan to make sure that any improvements identified for local roads will not conflict with future plans within the corridor.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?

The project will reduce traffic congestion on local roadways and improve overall corridor mobility and connectivity for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians by addressing the following transportation challenges:

- Congested city streets with long travel delays
- Indirect routes to access the freeway
- Operationally deficient intersections
- Heavy vehicle traffic within active pedestrian neighborhoods (especially around Chinatown)
- Lack of pedestrian and bicycle connectivity
- Physical and visual barrier of I-880 overhead freeway structure

HOW WILL THE PROJECT SOLVE THESE CHALLENGES?

The proposed project includes multiple types of improvements throughout the corridor such as:

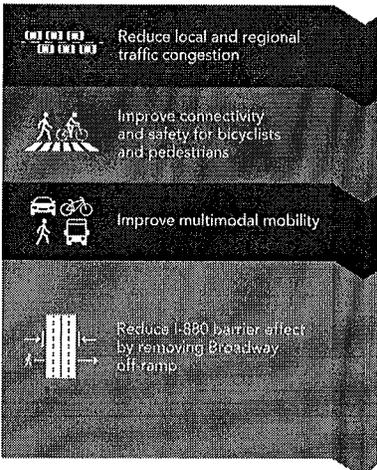
- Reconstructing intersections and freeway ramps
- Removing the northbound Broadway off-ramp to narrow the barrier effect of the overhead structure
- Enhancing local roads and sidewalks
- Constructing wider multi-use bike paths within the corridor

These proposed improvements will provide direct travel routes for motorists traveling to or from the freeway to their desired location. The project will reduce freeway-bound traffic within heavily populated pedestrian neighborhoods like Chinatown and create connected, safe and accessible paths for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Here are videos showing the proposed project elements:

- Northbound I-880 Oak Street via 6th Street
- Westbound I-980 Jackson to Webster Tube
- Posey Tube to Northbound I-880

PROJECT BENEFITS



PROPOSED PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

Roadway

- Remove Broadway off-ramp and connect 6th Street from Oak Street to Broadway
- Upgrade Oak Street off-ramp
- Construct right turn from Posey Tube onto 5th Street

- Construct "horseshoe" loop under I-880 at Jackson Street to access northbound I-880
- Reconstruct southbound I-880/Jackson Street off-ramp
- Reconstruct 6th Street between Oak and Webster Streets

Bike/Pedestrian

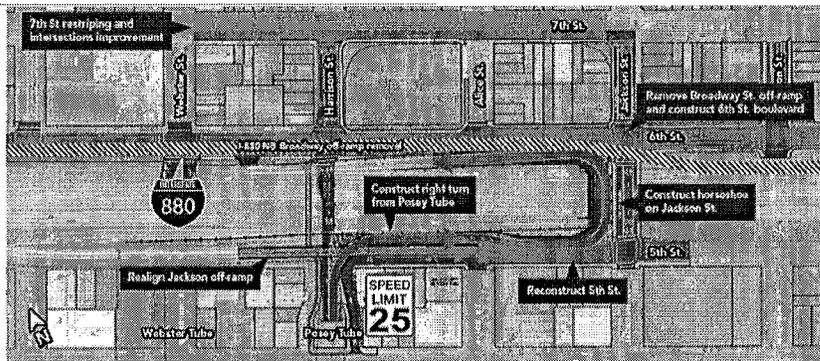
- Enhance Harrison/7th and Jackson/7th intersections for pedestrians
- Construct multi-use path connection from Posey Tube to 6th Street and downtown Oakland
- Construct bike lanes and multi-use path along 6th Street from Oak to Washington Streets
- Enhance sidewalks, bike/ped connectivity within project area

By connecting 6th Street between Oak Street and Broadway the project will:

- Increase connectivity for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists for eight city blocks
- Enhance visibility for bikes and pedestrians at both Posey and Webster Tubes
- Improve access from the south to the Chinese Garden Park and enhance park experience by adding lighting or bench amenities
- Create opportunities to re-connect areas under the freeway to adjacent neighborhoods and re-invent public spaces
- Promote possibilities for gateway/identity features for Chinatown, Jack London Square and downtown

MAP DETAIL

(showing proposed changes as part of this project)



SCHEDULE



STATUS

The project team has been working diligently to gather and analyze project information, seek stakeholder concerns and review potential concepts that will address the current challenges. A proposed project has been identified to meet the current and future needs of the growing community. Efforts to-date include:

- Data collection
- Traffic analysis
- Stakeholder engagement
- Concept development

The proposed project is moving forward into the environmental process which began in September 2017. A successful public scoping meeting was held on Thursday, September 28. Approximately 100 community members attended and reviewed information, watched the information video, talked with team members and provided comments. All meeting information can be found online. The public comment period ended October 31, 2017.

PUBLIC INPUT

There are a number of opportunities for the public to get involved in this important project. The milestones (see chart above) identify project design, environmental work and public engagement opportunities during the environmental review process.

The project team is proactively meeting with area and regional stakeholders to gather input and address potential concerns. Participation opportunities will continue during the environmental process.

Comments and suggestions on the project's environmental scope were invited from all interested parties through October 31, 2017. The project scoping comment period is now closed.

Project contact:

Caltrans, District 4
 Attn: Melissa Coppola, Associate Environmental Planner
 111 Grand Avenue, MS 8B
 Oakland, CA 94612
 Oakland.Alameda.Access@dot.ca.gov
 (510) 288-4738

Marvin, Betty

Subject: FW: Request for LPAB Comments on Oakland Alameda Access Project Changes to Posey Tube

From: Coppola, Melissa L@DOT [mailto:Melissa.Coppola@dot.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2018 10:49 AM
To: Marvin, Betty <BMarvin@oaklandnet.com>
Cc: Arnold, Jonathan <JArnold@oaklandnet.com>; Klara Komorous <klara@ktarch.com>; Naomi Schiff (Naomi@17th.com) <Naomi@17th.com>; Nenna Joiner <nenna08@gmail.com>; Stafford Buckley <Stafford@garden-restoration.com>; Vince Sugrue <vincexsugrue@gmail.com>; chrisandrews@sbcglobal.net; peter birkholz (pbirkholz@gmail.com) <pbirkholz@gmail.com>; Daniel Levy <dlouislevy@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Request for LPAB Comments on Oakland Alameda Access Project Changes to Posey Tube

The project team has been working with Nicole Ferrara (NFerrara@oaklandnet.com) from the Oakland DOT on this project.

From: Marvin, Betty [mailto:BMarvin@oaklandnet.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2018 1:39 PM
To: Coppola, Melissa L@DOT <Melissa.Coppola@dot.ca.gov>
Cc: Arnold, Jonathan <JArnold@oaklandnet.com>; Klara Komorous <klara@ktarch.com>; Naomi Schiff (Naomi@17th.com) <Naomi@17th.com>; Nenna Joiner <nenna08@gmail.com>; Stafford Buckley <Stafford@garden-restoration.com>; Vince Sugrue <vincexsugrue@gmail.com>; chrisandrews@sbcglobal.net; peter birkholz (pbirkholz@gmail.com) <pbirkholz@gmail.com>; Daniel Levy <dlouislevy@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Request for LPAB Comments on Oakland Alameda Access Project Changes to Posey Tube

Greetings, Melissa Coppola –

I have received (by cc) your response to the Landmarks Board request of February 6 for a presentation on the Oakland-Alameda Access Project and effects on the landmark Posey Tube. The next board meeting after "late March" will be on April 9, with the agenda to be final by March 21 and the the packet by March 30.

Is there a City liaison with this project in Public Works or Transportation who should also be included in this invitation?

Betty Marvin, Historic Preservation Planner | Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey | City of Oakland | Bureau of Planning | 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315 | Oakland, CA 94612 | Phone: (510) 238-6879 | Fax: (510) 238-6538 | Email: bmarvin@oaklandnet.com | Website: www.oaklandnet.com/historicpreservation

From: Coppola, Melissa L@DOT [mailto:Melissa.Coppola@dot.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 10:08 AM
To: Daniel Levy <dlouislevy@gmail.com>
Cc: Arnold, Jonathan <JArnold@oaklandnet.com>; Klara Komorous <klara@ktarch.com>; Marvin, Betty <BMarvin@oaklandnet.com>; Naomi Schiff (Naomi@17th.com) <Naomi@17th.com>; Nenna Joiner <nenna08@gmail.com>; Stafford Buckley <Stafford@garden-restoration.com>; Vince Sugrue <vincexsugrue@gmail.com>; chrisandrews@sbcglobal.net; peter birkholz (pbirkholz@gmail.com) <pbirkholz@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Request for LPAB Comments on Oakland Alameda Access Project Changes to Posey Tube

I spoke to the Project Team on Wednesday. They are more than happy to come present the project and look forward to working with Oakland Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and the Oakland Heritage Alliance. They do need a bit

more time and mentioned they could probably be ready by the end of March. I did not get a specific date from the group yet. I will keep you posted.

Best,
Melissa

From: Marvin, Betty [mailto:BMarvin@oaklandnet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 1:21 PM
To: Oakland Alameda Access@DOT <Oakland.Alameda.Access@dot.ca.gov>
Cc: Daniel Levy (dlouislevy@gmail.com) <dlouislevy@gmail.com>; Naomi Schiff (Naomi@17th.com) <Naomi@17th.com>; 'chrisandrews@sbcglobal.net' <chrisandrews@sbcglobal.net>; peter birkholz (pbirkholz@gmail.com) <pbirkholz@gmail.com>; Stafford Buckley <Stafford@garden-restoration.com>; Nenna Joiner <nenna08@gmail.com>; Klara Komorous <klara@ktarch.com>; Vince Sugrue <vincexsugrue@gmail.com>; Arnold, Jonathan <JArnold@oaklandnet.com>
Subject: FW: Request for LPAB Comments on Oakland Alameda Access Project Changes to Posey Tube

Attn: Environmental Planner Melissa Coppola –

At its meeting last night the Oakland Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board reviewed Oakland Heritage Alliance's letters (attached and previously cc'd to you) and voted to request a presentation by Caltrans on the Oakland Alameda Access Project at the next Board meeting, March 12, 6pm, at Oakland City Hall. Please let me know if there is a City liaison with this project in Public Works or Transportation who should also be included in this invitation.

The Posey Tube Portal is Oakland City Landmark #110, designated in 1991. The Board last commented on rehabilitation and safety work at the Tube in April-May 2013, at Caltrans's request in connection with Section 106 review (which appears to be some distance in the future for this project). We are aware that information-gathering for the new project is now underway, and the Landmarks Board would appreciate an opportunity for early consultation and comment.

Thank you –

Betty Marvin, Historic Preservation Planner | Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey | City of Oakland | Bureau of Planning | 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315 | Oakland, CA 94612 | Phone: (510) 238-6879 | Fax: (510) 238-6538 | Email: bmarvin@oaklandnet.com | Website: www.oaklandnet.com/historicpreservation

From: Daniel Levy [mailto:dlouislevy@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 9:33 AM
To: <chrisandrews@sbcglobal.net>; Pbirchholz@gmail.com; Stafford Buckley <Stafford@garden-restoration.com>; Nenna Joiner <nenna08@gmail.com>; Klara Komorous <klara@ktarch.com>; Vince Sugrue <vincexsugrue@gmail.com>
Cc: Oakland.Alameda.Access@dot.ca.gov; Gilchrist, William <WGilchrist@oaklandnet.com>; Merkamp, Robert <RMerkamp@oaklandnet.com>; Marvin, Betty <BMarvin@oaklandnet.com>; Adhi Nagraj <nagrajplanning@gmail.com>; EW.Oakland@gmail.com; jfearnopc@gmail.com; tlimon.opc@gmail.com; cmanusopc@gmail.com; amandamonchamp@gmail.com; Jahmese Myres <jmyres.oakplanningcommission@gmail.com>; Naomi Schiff <Naomi@17th.com>; Christopher Buckley <cbuckleyaicp@att.net>
Subject: Request for LPAB Comments on Oakland Alameda Access Project Changes to Posey Tube

Please find attached a comment letter and attachments from Oakland Heritage Alliance concerning the Oakland Alameda Access project. Thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

Daniel Levy, for Oakland Heritage Alliance

Stephen R. Wee, Principal / President
R. Meta Bunse, Principal / Vice President
Christopher D. McMorris, Partner
Bryan T. Larson, Partner
Scott A. Miltenberger, Partner

February 21, 2018

RE: Oakland Alameda Access Project

To Whom It May Concern:

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing improvements along interstates 880 (I-880) and 980 (I-980) and local roadways and intersections in the cities of Alameda and Oakland. The project will generally encompass the I-880/I-980 corridor between Washington, Fallon, 4th and 7th streets in the City of Oakland, the Posey and Webster tubes, and extend along Webster Street to Atlantic Avenue in the City of Alameda. A figure showing the approximate study limits of this project is attached, along with a list of organizations receiving this letter.

The purpose of this project is to: 1) improve mobility and reduce traffic congestion for multi-modal travelers between I-880, the City of Alameda and downtown Oakland neighborhoods; 2) reduce freeway-bound regional traffic on local roadways and within area neighborhoods, especially Chinatown; and 3) improve connectivity for bicycle and pedestrian traffic within the project area. The proposed improvements would:

- Provide a new right turn from the Posey Tube to 5th Street
- Develop a loop under I-880 at Jackson (the horseshoe) to connect to existing northbound I-880/Jackson on-ramp
- Reconstruct the southbound I-980/Jackson off-ramp on new alignment
- Remove the northbound I-880 off-ramp to Broadway
- Widen the Oak Street off-ramp (to become primary off-ramp for downtown Oakland and Alameda)
- Construct a one-way 6th Street boulevard from Oak to Broadway
- Construct a bike path from Posey Tube to new 6th Street, and potentially provide bike/pedestrian improvements on 5th Street and/or Jackson Street
- Widen the west side path inside Posey Tube and open to bike/ pedestrian access or open the Webster Tube for westbound bike/ pedestrian access
- Widen the west side path on Alameda side and connect to east path via a cross-walk at Mariner Square Drive
- Enhance 7th Street between Harrison and Jackson with intersection improvements and restriping
- Construct retaining walls to support improved on- and off-ramps

Please refer to the project website for additional information about the project:
<https://www.alamedactc.org/oakland-alamedaproject>

JRP Historical Consulting, LLC has been retained to conduct a study to survey and evaluate buildings and structures that may be affected by the project for their eligibility to be listed in the National Register

of Historic Places (NRHP) and/or the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). JRP will also be examining project effects to the Posey Tube, which is listed in the NRHP / CRHR, as well as other properties eligible for or listed in the NRHP / CRHR. This study is one part of the overall environmental compliance process and is being prepared for project compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the California Environmental Quality Act.

If you or your organization has any information or concerns regarding historic resources in the areas that could be affected by this project, please respond in writing to the address provided above, or via email to twebb@jrphistorical.com within the next thirty (30) days. Please note, this is not a request for research, just for information. Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

Sincerely,



Toni Webb
Architectural Historian III

LIST OF RECIPIENTS

Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey

City of Oakland, Bureau of Planning
250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315
Oakland, CA 94612
Betty Marvin, Historic Preservation Planner
510.238.6879
bmarvin@oaklandnet.com

Oakland Heritage Alliance

446 17th Street, Suite 301
Oakland, CA 94612
Amelia Cass, Administrative Director
510.763.9218
info@oaklandheritage.org

Art Deco Society of California

525 Bellevue Ave, Suite 311
Oakland, CA 94610
Heidi Schave, President
510.271.6760
Zelda1927@artdecosociety.org

Community Development Department

City of Alameda
2263 Santa Clara Avenue, Room 190
Alameda, CA 94501
Debbie Potter, Director
510.747.6890

Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board

City of Oakland
250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315
Oakland, CA 94612
Matthew Weintraub, Secretary
510.238.6983
mweintraub@oaklandnet.com

Planning and Building Department

City of Oakland
250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315
Oakland, CA 94612
William Gilchrist, Director
510.238.3941

Jack London Improvement District

333 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94607
Savlan Hauser, Executive Director
(510) 267-0858
Savlan@jacklondonoakland.org

Alameda Architectural Preservation Society

P.O. Box 1677
Alameda, CA 94501
Chris Rummell, President
510.479.6489



February 5, 2018

(By electronic transmission)

City of Oakland
City Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board

Dear Landmarks Board Members:

Oakland Heritage Alliance would like bring to your attention the Oakland Alameda Access Project, viewable at <https://www.alamedactc.org/oakland-alamedaproject>. The project, which just finished scoping and is now moving into the stakeholder meetings phase, plans to reconfigure the Oakland end of the Posey Tube to enhance the experience for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles traveling between Oakland and Alameda — something sorely needed. This project, however, proposes major changes to the Posey Tube's Oakland Portal and we request that the Landmarks Board weigh in, since this project directly affects historic elements of an Oakland Landmark.

The destruction of the Oakland Portal's south east exit wall concerns us. We urge that this wall be retained and expressed so in our scoping comment letter to Caltrans dated October, 30, 2017 on which this body was copied. We are attaching that letter, as well as current and proposed views, so you can see what the proposed changes are.

We recommend that Landmarks Board invite Caltrans to the next meeting for a presentation and public comment. Though Caltrans is conducting its own EIR process, having LPAB involved would increase public transparency and involvement, thus creating a better outcome for all Oaklanders.

Thank you for reading our comments. Please contact Daniel Levy at 510-289-4699 or dlouislevy@gmail.com if you have any comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Alison Finlay, President
Oakland Heritage Alliance

F-2

Attachments: (1) Photos of Current and Proposed Conditions (below)
(2) OHA letter dated October 30, 2017

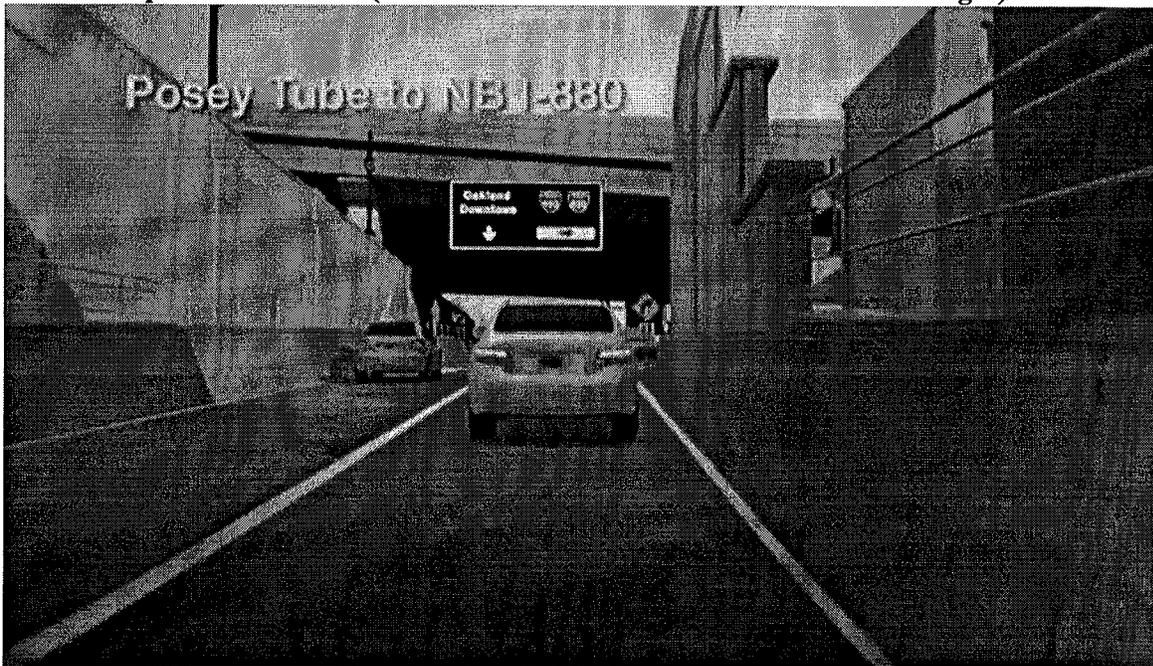
By electronic transmission:

cc: Oakland City Planning Commission
William Gilchrist, Robert Merkamp, and Betty Marvin, Bureau of Planning
Melissa Coppola, Caltrans

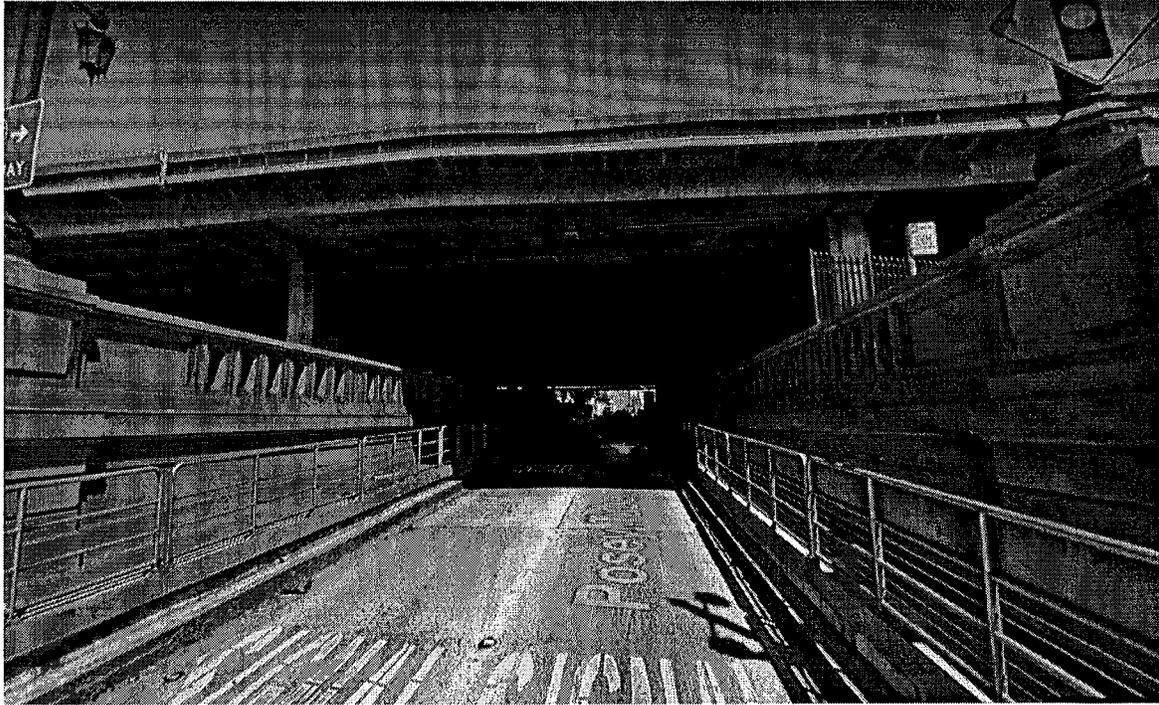
View 1 Current Conditions



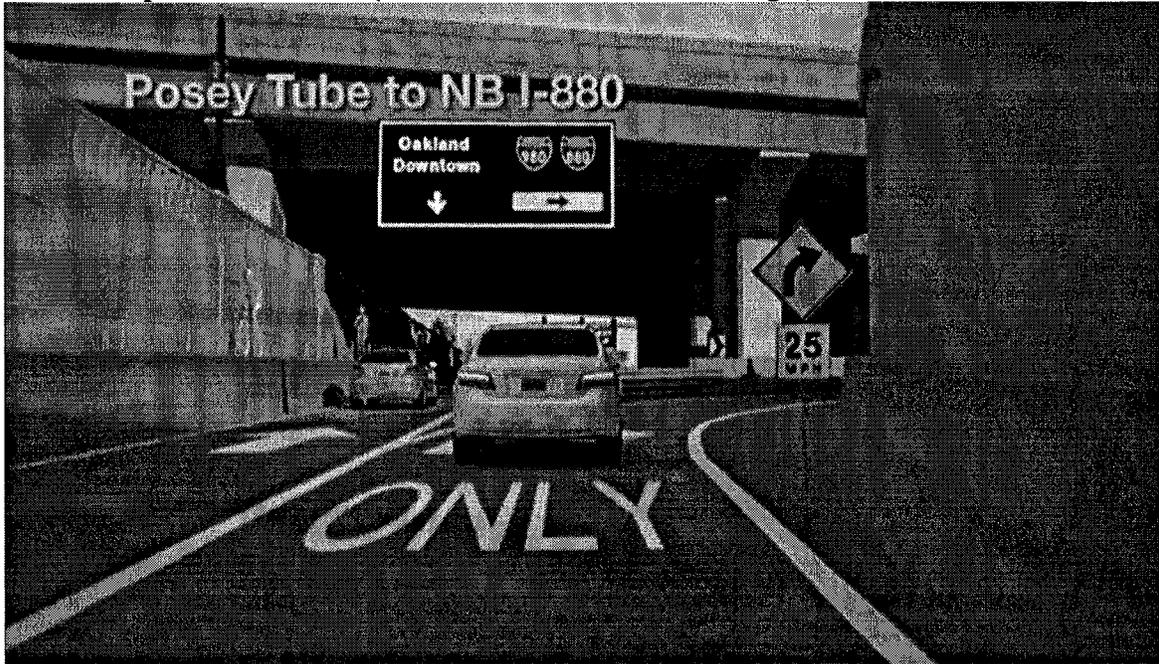
View 1 Proposed Conditions (note demolished and mimicked new wall on right)



View 2 Current Conditions



View 2 Proposed Conditions (note demolished exit wall on right)





October 30, 2017

Caltrans, District 4
Attn: Melissa Coppola, Associate Environmental Planner
111 Grand Avenue, MS 8B
Oakland, CA 94612
Oakland.Alameda.Access@dot.ca.gov
(510) 286-4736

Dear Melissa Coppola,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Oakland Alameda Access Project (<https://www.alamedactc.org/oakland-alamedaproject>). We are excited to see a forward thinking project that aims to improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity within Oakland as well as to and from Alameda. We are happy to see the proposal to remove the Broadway offramp, thereby reducing the barrier effect of I-880. However, we do have concerns about the impacts on the Posey Tube, which is Oakland Landmark #110, a major contributor to the Waterfront Warehouse National Register District, individually eligible for the National Register, and a cultural resource under CEQA.

- 1) An alternative must be studied which does not impact the exit walls or portal stairs of the Oakland Portal of the Posey Tube. These walls are character defining as they fit within the symmetric vocabulary of the portal. This project proposes to disrupt this symmetry, which negatively impacts its character. The Oakland side of the tube has already been greatly disturbed due to the construction of I-880, and an alternative should be created that avoids further impacts to its historic integrity.
- 2) We would like to see this project come to Oakland's Landmarks Board for comments. Input from the City of Oakland as well as wider participation will lead to a better outcome for Oakland and Alameda residents. Limiting the scoping to a single public meeting does not allow all voices to be heard. Holding a meeting with the Oakland Landmarks Board would also allow Caltrans to align and collaborate with the City of Oakland on treatment of this important resource.
- 3) We would like to see a historic resource evaluation that determines the impacts of removal of the exit wall, the portal stairs, and the railing. Given that the portal is an Oakland Landmark, eligible for the National Register, and a contributor to a National Register District, the proposed changes must not be taken lightly. The Waterfront Warehouse District National Register form describes the Oakland Portal as a "prime contributor to the District" and we would not want this project to impact the District's status, nor the building's eligibility for the National Register. Please study how this

project would impact the Waterfront Waterhouse's National Historic District Status as well as the Tube's own eligibility for the National Register.

- 4) We would like to see detailed existing and proposed renderings that make clear the changes to the Posey Tube's historic elements. These renderings would help us as well as the public understand and evaluate more specifically what the proposed changes are.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. We look forward to our comments being addressed. If you have any questions about our comments, please contact Daniel Levy at 510-289-4699 or at dlouislevy@gmail.com. Please add us to your list of contacts when issuing updates to this project.

Sincerely,



Alison Finlay
President
Oakland Heritage Alliance

cc:

William Gilchrist (WGilchrist@oaklandnet.com)

Robert Merkamp (RMerkamp@oaklandnet.com)

Matt Weintraub (MWeintraub@oaklandnet.com)

Betty Marvin (BMarvin@oaklandnet.com)

City of Oakland Landmarks Board

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vincexsugrue@gmail.com