

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Howard Terminal</b> 1 Market Street (APN's: 018-0405-001-00; -002-00; & -004-00; and 018-0410-001-04; -001-05; -003-00; -005-00; -006-01; -006-02; -007-00 & -008-00)
<b>Proposal:</b>	Scoping session for a proposal to construct an approximately 35,000-person capacity Major League Baseball park for the Oakland Athletics. The proposal will also include ancillary development that will include up to 2.27 million square feet of commercial development, up to 4,000 residential dwelling units, a new hotel with approximately 400 rooms, and a new performance venue with a capacity of approximately 3,500 individuals.  Please see the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for more in depth detail of the project description.
<b>Applicant:</b>	Oakland Athletics Investment Group, LLC
<b>Contact/Phone Number:</b>	Noah Rosen – (510) 746-4406
<b>General Plan:</b>	General Industry
<b>Zoning:</b>	IG
<b>Environmental Determination:</b>	Staff has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for this project. A NOP to prepare the EIR was published on November 30, 2018. The comment period for the NOP ends on January 7, 2019.
<b>Historic Status:</b>	Potential Designated Historic Property (PDHP), survey rating A1+, PG&E Station C - Area of Primary Importance (API)
<b>City Council District:</b>	3
<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>	Receive public and Board Member comments about what Cultural Resources information and analysis should be included in the EIR. No action will be taken on the proposed project at this hearing.
<b>For further information:</b>	Contact case planner <b>Peterson Z. Vollmann</b> at (510) 238-6167 or by email: <a href="mailto:pvollmann@oaklandca.gov">pvollmann@oaklandca.gov</a>

**SUMMARY**

The Oakland Athletics have filed a request for environmental review to begin review and consideration of a proposal for a new Major League Baseball (MLB) ballpark and related ancillary development at Howard Terminal on the Oakland estuary waterfront.

The City has determined that project impacts may be significant and an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared. The City will be the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). As such, the City has the responsibility to prepare an EIR for the project. The City has not prepared an Initial Study.



The Notice of Preparation (NOP) was published on November 30, 2018. This scoping session is being held to solicit public and Landmark Board comments on what information and analysis should be contained in the EIR. Specifically, comments should focus on discussing possible impacts on the physical environment as it relates to Cultural Resources, ways in which potential adverse effects might be minimized, and alternatives to the project in light of the EIR's purpose to provide useful and accurate information about such factors. In addition to the oral and written comments received at the scoping meeting, written comments will be accepted until January 7, 2019 at 4 PM. Written comments are encouraged in order to provide an accurate record of public comments and may be submitted electronically via the following link: <http://comment-tracker.esassoc.com/tracker/oaklandsportseir/>. Written comments may alternatively be submitted by mail to Peterson Z. Vollmann, Planner IV, City of Oakland, Bureau of Planning, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 2114, Oakland, CA 94612.

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Project Site consists of approximately 55 acres that comprise the Charles P. Howard Terminal and adjacent parcels, located at the Port of Oakland along the Inner Harbor of the Oakland-Alameda Estuary. The site is bound generally by the Oakland Estuary Middle Harbor on the south; Jack London Square on the east; Union Pacific railroad tracks and Embarcadero West on the north; and the heavy metal recycling center, Schnitzer Steel, on the west.

The current use of the Project Site includes maritime support uses for short-term tenants. Existing uses and activities include but are not limited to: truck parking, loaded and empty container storage and staging, and longshore training facilities. The Project Site was previously used as a maritime container terminal until 2014. Howard Terminal is designated as Berths 67 through 69 within the Port of Oakland. Berths 67 and 68 were constructed in the early 1980's, and Berth 69 was constructed in the mid 1990's. The site includes a marginal wharf structure approximately 75' wide. A below grade rock dike sits adjacent to the Oakland Inner Harbor as the site's shoreline. The remaining site is understood to be on grade pavement. Four cranes are located on Howard Terminal that were used to load/unload ships when the site was an active shipping facility. Howard Terminal is currently used by short term tenants.

Existing regional access to the Project Site exists via both Interstate 880 and Interstate 980, with on-ramps to each within one mile of the Project Site. The Project Site is located about one mile, a 20- to 25-minute walk, from three BART stations including West Oakland, 12th Street Downtown, and Lake Merritt. Railroad tracks are adjacent to the north boundary of the Project Site and there are several at-grade crossings of the railroad tracks nearby, including two directly into the Project Site. There is an Amtrak / Capital Corridor train station about one-half mile from the Project Site, transit bus service is within one-quarter mile, and the Jack London Ferry Terminal is immediately adjacent to the east of the Project Site.

The Project Site includes a portion of the historic PG&E Station C facility, on the southern side of Embarcadero West, which has an Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey (OCHS) rating of A1+, and is also located within the Area of Primary Importance (API) for the same facility that also includes structures on the north side of Embarcadero West.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project would demolish all the existing buildings on site except for the historic power plant and the four container cranes, which may be retained and included into the development proposal. The Project would include construction of a new open air approximately 35,000-person capacity MLB ballpark. The Project also includes ancillary development that would include up to 4,000 residential dwelling units, up to 2.27 million square feet of commercial development which would include a mix of uses such as retail, office, light industrial/ manufacturing, cultural and recreational uses. The project also includes a hotel with up to 400 rooms and a performance venue with a capacity of approximately 3,500 individuals.

The Project Site is included in the list of Hazardous Waste and Substances sites in the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor database, and as such the Project would include measures to address any issues related to hazardous materials on-site.

The Project would also include new and expanded utility and infrastructure upgrades including but not limited to a network of new streets and sidewalks and connections to the Project Site and new parks/open space and waterfront access.

The Project also includes several variants/options that will be studied in the EIR which include the following:

- New elevated pedestrian crossing over the railroad tracks as well as improvements to existing at-grade crossings;
- An aerial tram or gondola that would run between Jack London Square and the Oakland Conventions Center, which would operate over Washington Street;
- Development of a portion of the adjacent power plant structure and removal of the adjacent tanks;
- Altered edge configuration of the existing wharf to enhance public views and provide additional boat access/active water uses; and/or
- Extension of Embarcadero West to Middle Harbor Road and a new ramp from the existing Adeline Street overpass for new direct access to the Project Site.

## GENERAL PLAN

The General Plan's Land Use and Transportation Element (LUTE) classifies the project site as being located in the "General Industrial and Transportation" land use classification area. The "General Industrial and Transportation" land use classification is intended to recognize, preserve, and enhance areas of the City for a wide variety of businesses and related establishments that may have the potential to create off-site impacts such as noise, light/glare, truck traffic, and odor. These areas are characterized by sites with good freeway, rail, seaport, and/or airport access. An application for a General Plan Amendment would be necessary to allow for the mixed development currently being proposed as part of the Project.

The area east of Jefferson Street is located within the General Plan's Estuary Policy Plan Area and is designated as a "Retail, Dining and Entrainment 1" Area, which is an extension of Jack London Square. This portion of the site includes the project variant for the removal and redevelopment of the fuel tank property associated with the historic PG&E Station C power plant, and includes the area containing an existing Fire station that would likely be relocated in order to widen access into the project site.

## ZONING DISTRICT

The Project Site is located within the IG, General Industrial Zone, and the portion east of Jefferson Street is located within the M-40, Heavy Industrial Zone. These zones allow heavy industrial and manufacturing uses, transportation facilities, warehousing and distribution, and similar and related supporting uses. The Project Site is currently under the jurisdiction of the Port of Oakland, and as such is not subject to the Zoning regulations. Discussions are currently underway between the City and Port to establish a regulatory framework that would apply regulations from the City of Oakland Planning Code to the project site for entitlement purposes.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

Staff has determined that an EIR is required. The main purpose of this scoping session is to solicit comments from both the Planning Commission and the public on what types of information and analysis should be considered in the EIR. Specifically, comments should focus on discussing possible impacts on the physical environment, ways in which potential adverse effects might be minimized, and alternatives to the project in light of the EIR's purpose to provide useful and accurate information about such factors. Comments related to policy considerations and the merits of the project will be the subject of future, duly noticed public meetings.

Staff published the NOP on November 30, 2018. The public comment period lasts until January 7, 2019. Staff expects the Draft EIR will be available in the early summer of 2019. Once the DEIR is published, staff will continue to work with the project sponsor to refine their project, respond to the information and analysis contained in the DEIR, and move ahead toward the final consideration of the project once the FEIR is completed. As with previous projects, and as permitted by CEQA (Section 15004), the EIR process and project review, to the maximum extent feasible, should be coordinated and run concurrently. The environmental impact report will address potential environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of the project including construction of the proposed project and obtainment of all necessary zoning, grading and building permits, and any other discretionary actions required by the City of Oakland and other governmental agencies.

It is anticipated that the project may have significant environmental impacts related to the following environmental topic areas, which will be evaluated in the Draft EIR: **aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, hazards, land use, noise and vibration, population and housing, public services, public utilities, transportation and circulation, hydrology and water quality, and growth inducement.** The project is not anticipated to have

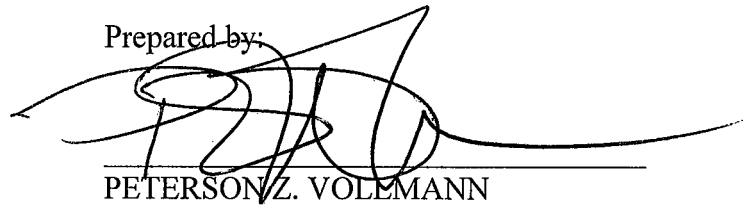
significant environmental impacts related to **agriculture and forest resources**. A brief discussion of this topic and documentation as to why impacts related to this topic will not be significant will be provided in the Draft EIR. The level of analysis and discussion for this topic is anticipated to be similar to what would typically be included in an Initial Study. The City's Standard Conditions of Approval will be referenced where applicable.

The Draft EIR will also examine a reasonable range of alternatives to the project, including the CEQA-mandated No Project Alternative, and other potential alternatives that may be capable or reducing or avoiding potential environmental effects.

**CONCLUSION**

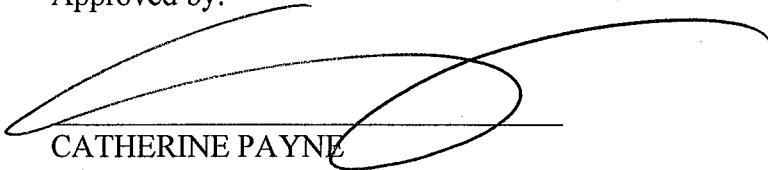
Staff requests the public and the Landmarks Board provide comments on what types of Cultural Resource related information and analysis, including alternatives, should be considered in the EIR.

Prepared by:



PETERSON Z. VOLLMANN  
Planner IV

Approved by:



CATHERINE PAYNE  
Acting Development Planning Manager  
Bureau of Planning

Attachments:

- A. Notice of Preparation (NOP)
- B. Preliminary Concept Site Plan



# CITY OF OAKLAND

Bureau of Planning

250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315, Oakland, California, 94612-2032

## **NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE OAKLAND WATERFRONT BALLPARK DISTRICT PROJECT**

The City of Oakland's Bureau of Planning is preparing an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the Oakland Waterfront Ballpark District Project ("Proposed Project") at Howard Terminal. The City is requesting comments on the scope and content of the EIR. A description of the Proposed Project and its location, together with a summary of the probable environmental effects that will be addressed in the EIR are included herein. Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines §15063(a), the City has not prepared an Initial Study.

The EIR for the Proposed Project is being prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code §§21000 et. seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Guidelines) (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, §§15000 et. seq.). The EIR for the Proposed Project is also being prepared under the new California Assembly Bill 734 judicial streamlining legislation (California Environmental Quality Act: Oakland Sports and Mixed-Use Project) that added new provisions to CEQA as Public Resources Code § 21168.6.7 for the Proposed Project. The City of Oakland is the public agency that would consider approval of an amendment to the Oakland General Plan required for the Proposed Project, and as such, it is the Lead Agency for the Proposed Project. Pursuant to Guidelines §15082(a), upon deciding to prepare an EIR, the City as lead agency must issue a Notice of Preparation (NOP) to inform the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, trustee and responsible agencies, and the public of that decision.

The purpose of the NOP is to provide information describing the project and its potential environmental effects to those who may wish to comment regarding the scope and content of the information to be included in the EIR. Guideline §15082(b) states: "... [E]ach responsible and trustee agency and the Office of Planning and Research shall provide the lead agency with specific detail about the scope and content of the environmental information related to the responsible or trustee agency's area of statutory responsibility that must be included in the draft EIR. The response at a minimum shall identify: (A) The significant environmental issues and reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures that the responsible or trustee agency, or the Office of Planning and Research, will need to have explored in the Draft EIR; and (B) Whether the agency will be a responsible agency or trustee agency for the project." This notice is being sent to responsible or trustee agencies and other interested parties. Responsible and trustee agencies are those public agencies, besides the City of Oakland, that have a role in considering approval and/or carrying out the project. The City encourages responsible and trustee agencies and the Office of Planning and Research to provide this information to the City, so that the City can ensure that the Draft EIR meets the needs of those agencies. Once the Draft EIR is published, it will be sent to all responsible or trustee agencies and to others who respond to this NOP or who otherwise indicate that they would like to receive a copy. The Draft EIR will also be available for review at the City of Oakland at the address identified immediately below.

**SUBMITTING COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO THIS NOP: The City encourages comments to be submitted electronically via the following link: <http://comment-tracker.esassoc.com/tracker/oaklandsportseir/>. Comments that address the scope of the Draft EIR may also be directed in writing to: Peterson Vollmann, Planner IV, City of Oakland Bureau of Planning, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 2214, Oakland, CA 94612, by hand**

delivery or mail, by email to PVollmann@oaklandca.gov, or by fax to (510) 238-4730. Mr. Vollmann may be reached by phone at (510) 238-6167. Time limits mandated by State law require that the City must receive comments within 30 days after publication of this notice; however, the City will receive comments through January 7, 2019, 38 days after publication of this notice. Responses to the NOP must be received via the above web address, mailing or e-mail address or fax by 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, January 7, 2019**. Please reference Case File Number **ER18-016** in all correspondence. Comments and suggestions as to the appropriate scope of analysis in the EIR are invited from all interested parties and will be received at the EIR Scoping Meetings to be held before the City Planning Commission, as noticed below.

Commenters should focus comments on potential impacts of the Proposed Project on the physical environment. Commenters are encouraged to identify ways that potential adverse effects resulting from the Proposed Project might be minimized and to identify reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures to the Proposed Project.

**EIR SCOPING MEETINGS:**

The **City of Oakland Planning Commission** will conduct a public scoping meeting on the EIR for the Oakland Waterfront Ballpark District Project on **Wednesday December 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers in **Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA.**

The **City of Oakland Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board** will conduct a public scoping meeting on the historic and cultural resource aspects of the Proposed Project on **Monday December 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers, **Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA.**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Oakland Waterfront Ballpark District Project (Case File No. **ER18-016**)

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Approximately 55 acres that comprises the Charles P. Howard Terminal and adjacent parcels, located at the Port of Oakland along the Inner Harbor of the Oakland-Alameda Estuary (See Figure 1, Site Location). The site is bound generally by the Oakland Estuary Middle Harbor on the south; Jack London Square on the east; Union Pacific railroad tracks and the Embarcadero on the north; and the heavy metal recycling center, Schnitzer Steel, on the west (see Figure 2, Site Boundary and Context).

**PROJECT SPONSOR:** Oakland Athletics Investment Group, LLC d/b/a The Oakland Athletics

**PROJECT SITE OWNERS:** City of Oakland acting by and through the Port of Oakland, Dynegy Oakland, LLC, and PG&E

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** Maritime support uses for short term tenants. Existing uses and activities include but are not limited to: truck parking, loaded and empty container storage and staging, and longshore training facilities. The Project Site was previously used as a maritime container terminal until 2014. Howard Terminal is designated as Berths 67 through 69 within the Port of Oakland. Berths 67 and 68 were constructed in the early 1980's, and Berth 69 was constructed in the mid 1990's. The site includes a marginal wharf structure approximately 75' wide. A below grade rock dike sits adjacent to the Oakland Inner Harbor as the site's shoreline. The remaining site is



understood to be on grade pavement. Four cranes are located on Howard Terminal that were used to load/unload ships when the area was an active shipping facility. Howard Terminal is currently used by short term tenants.

Existing regional access to the Project Site exists via both Interstate 880 and Interstate 980, with on-ramps to each within one mile of the Project Site. The Project Site is located about one mile, a 20- to 25-minute walk, from three BART stations including West Oakland, 12th Street Downtown, and Lake Merritt. Railroad tracks are adjacent to the north boundary of the Project Site and there are several at-grade crossings of the railroad tracks nearby, including two directly into the Project Site. There is an Amtrak / Capital Corridor train station about one-half mile from the Project Site, transit bus service is within one-quarter mile, and the Jack London Ferry Terminal is immediately adjacent to the east of the Project Site.

The City of Oakland, acting by and through the City Council, controls the General Plan designation of the Project Site, which currently has a land use designation of "General Industrial" and the "Industrial General (IG)" zoning designation. In addition, areas of Howard Terminal fronting the Oakland Estuary (to the south) are designated within the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) jurisdiction and are State Public Trust lands.

The Project Site is included in the list of Hazardous Waste and Substances sites in the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor database, one of the lists meeting the "Cortese List" requirements (<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/sitecleanup/corteselist/>, accessed October 2018).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Project Sponsor proposes to develop the Howard Terminal property with the following key initial plan elements:

- Demolish existing buildings on the Project Site, except the existing power plant and the existing container cranes, which may be retained;
- Address any hazardous materials that may be present on the Project Site;
- Construct:
  - A new privately funded, open-air, approximately 35,000 person capacity Major League Baseball park;
  - Up to 4,000 residential units of varying affordability and types
  - Approximately 2.27 million square feet of adjacent mixed use development, including retail, commercial, office, cultural, entertainment, flex light industrial/manufacturing, and recreational uses;
  - A performance venue with a capacity of up to 3,500 individuals;
  - A 300 to 400-room hotel;
  - New and expanded utility infrastructure; and
  - New signage and lighting;
- Construct/provide improved access from the surrounding neighborhood and regional transportation networks, which could include, but may not be limited to:
  - an expanded shuttle and/or bus service ("rubber-tire trams"); and

- a new network of public streets and sidewalks that provide connectivity to and through the Project Site, and pathways that lead directly to the waterfront and related amenities.
- Construct/provide new waterfront public access, enhanced water views, and on-site open space;
- Comply with AB 734 regarding implementation of sustainability measures, development of a LEED Gold ballpark, and no net increase of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; and
- Phase development of the Proposed Project, with a target completion date of Spring 2023 for construction of Phase 1, including the ballpark, associated infrastructure, and potentially some ancillary development.

The Proposed Project may also consider one or more variants or options, potentially including but not limited to:

- New elevated pedestrian connections over the railroad tracks and improvements to existing at-grade crossings;
- An aerial tram or gondola above Washington Street extending from downtown Oakland near 12<sup>th</sup> Street BART to Jack London Square;
- Development of a portion of an existing power plant and removal of adjacent tanks;
- Altered edge configuration of the existing wharf to enhance public views and provide additional boat access/active water uses; and/or
- Extension of Embarcadero West to Middle Harbor Road and a new ramp from the existing Adeline Street overpass for new direct access to the Project Site.

**ANTICIPATED ENTITLEMENTS AND APPROVALS:** Discretionary approvals required for development of the Proposed Project are anticipated to include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- City Council approval of amendments to the General Plan and Planning Code after recommendation by the Planning Commission;
- Board of Port Commissioners approval of project transactional documents (e.g. leases and conveyance agreements);
- All necessary development permits and entitlements from the City & the Port;
- Port and State Lands Commission approval of a Trust Settlement and Exchange Agreement addressing public trust issues affecting the Project Site; and
- Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) Major Permit and Amendment to the BCDC and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Seaport Plan.

**PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND PROPOSED SCOPE OF THE EIR:** The EIR will analyze and disclose the direct and indirect potentially significant impacts that would result from construction and operation of the Proposed Project under Existing Plus Project and Cumulative conditions (Guidelines §§15126.2, 15130), in addition to other analysis scenarios that may be appropriate for the EIR. Where significant impacts are identified, the EIR will describe potentially feasible mitigation measures that could minimize significant adverse impacts (Guidelines §15126.4). It is anticipated that the Proposed Project may have environmental impacts on aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, hazards, land use, noise and vibration, population and housing, public services, public utilities, transportation and circulation, hydrology and water quality, and growth inducement. It is anticipated that the Proposed Project would have no impact or less-than-significant impacts on

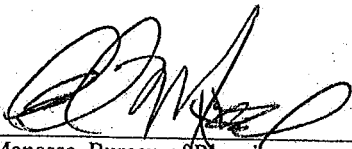
agricultural and forestry resources. Nevertheless, the EIR will evaluate the full range of environmental issues contemplated for consideration under CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, including but not limited to the following:

- Aesthetics, Shadow and Wind (including Light, and Glare)
- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural and Historic Resources (including Tribal Cultural Resources)
- Geology and Soils (including Geological and Seismic Hazards)
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions /Global Climate Change
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise and Vibration
- Population and Housing (including Growth Inducement)
- Public Services (including Police Services, Fire Protection Services, Parks and Schools);
- Recreation
- Transportation and Circulation
- Public Utilities and Service Systems (including Energy Demand and Conservation)

The Draft EIR will evaluate cumulative impacts of the Proposed Project, including the effects of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in the vicinity (Guidelines §15130).

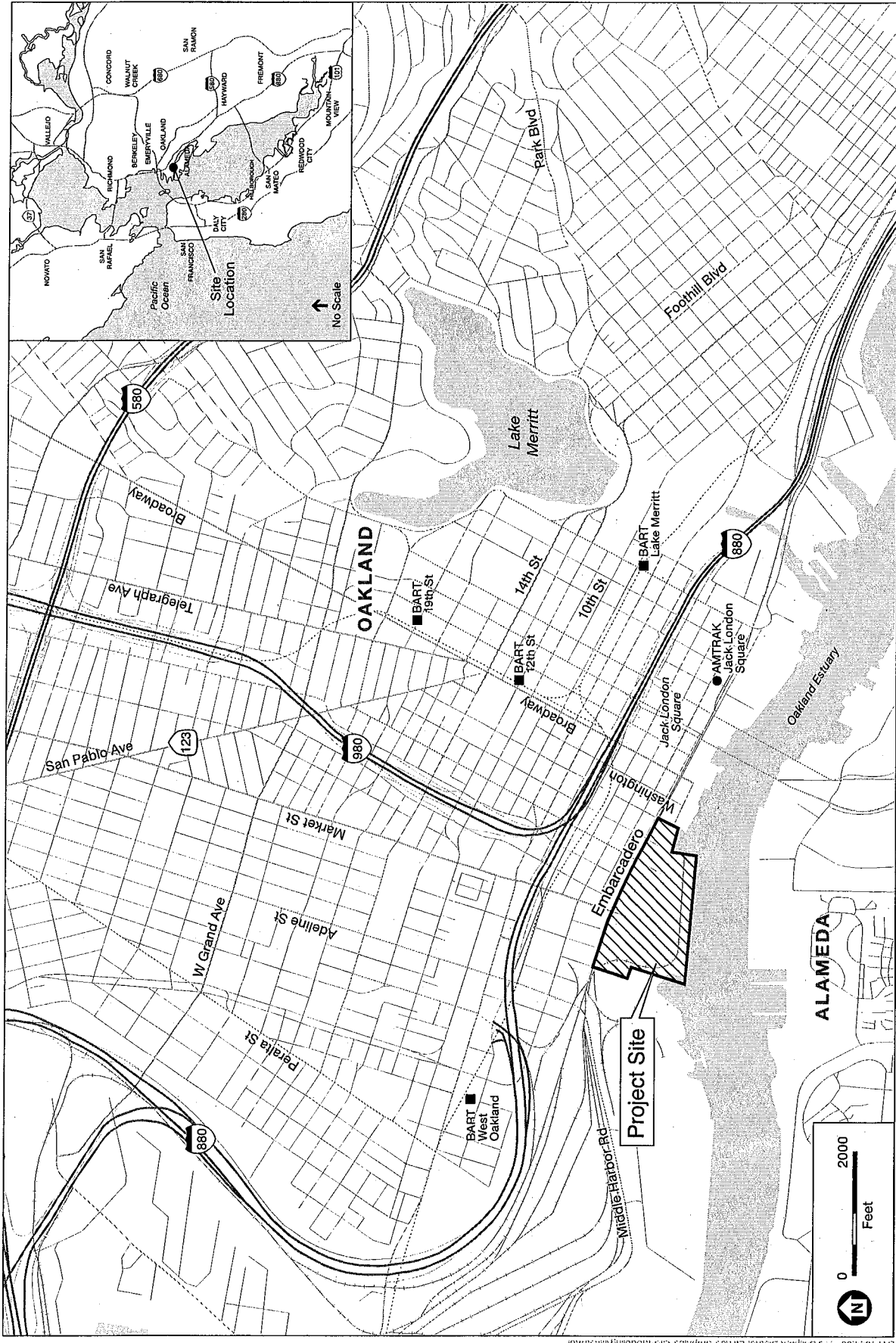
The Draft EIR will also identify and examine a range of reasonable alternatives to the Proposed Project, including, but not limited to, a No Project Alternative (Guidelines §15126.6) and an alternative site (e.g. the Oakland Coliseum site).

November 30, 2018  
Case File Number: **ER18-016**

  
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Ed Manasse, Bureau of Planning  
Environmental Review Officer

Attachments:

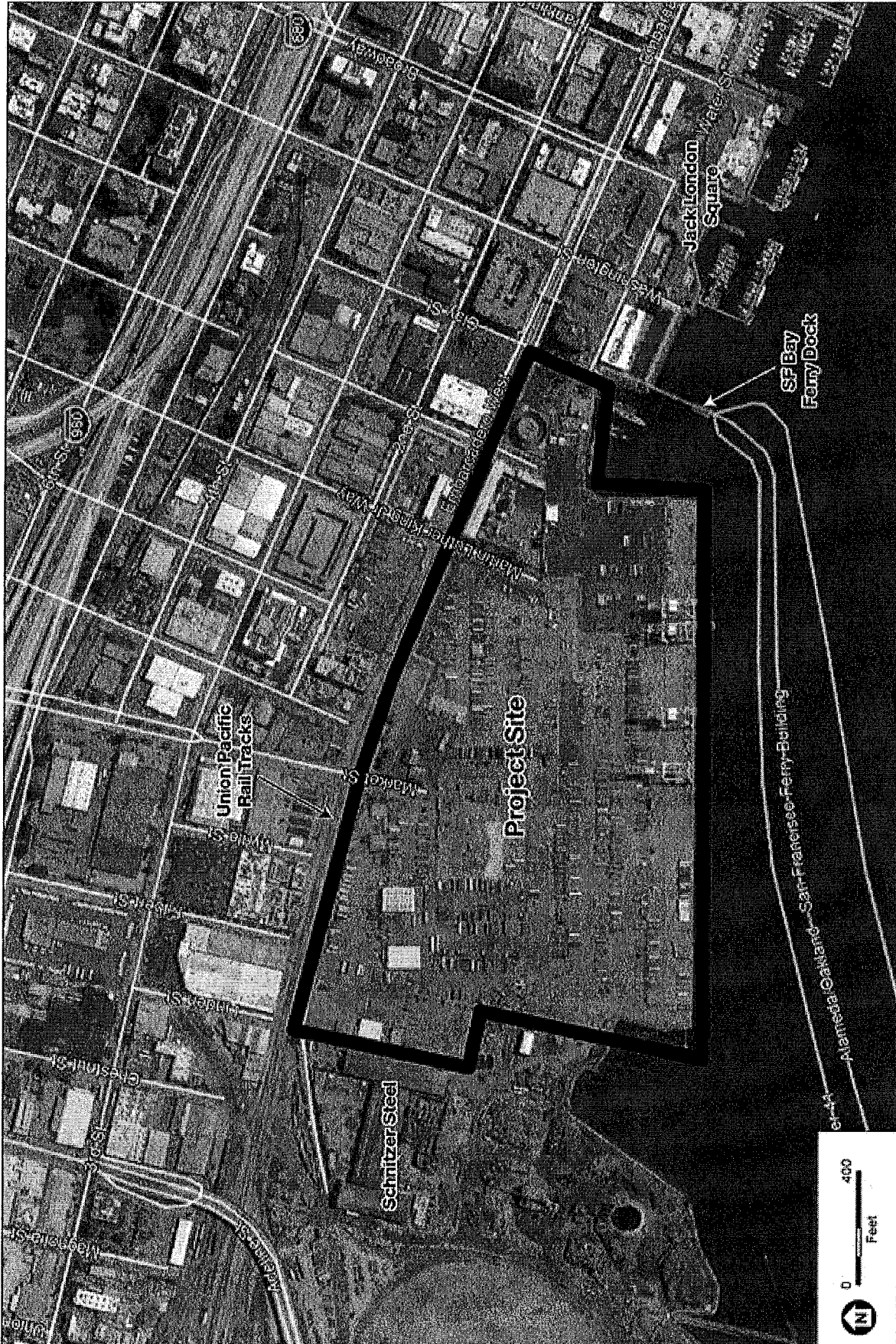
Figure 1, Project Location Map  
Figure 2, Site Boundary and Context



SOURCE: ESA, 2018

Figure 1  
Project Location



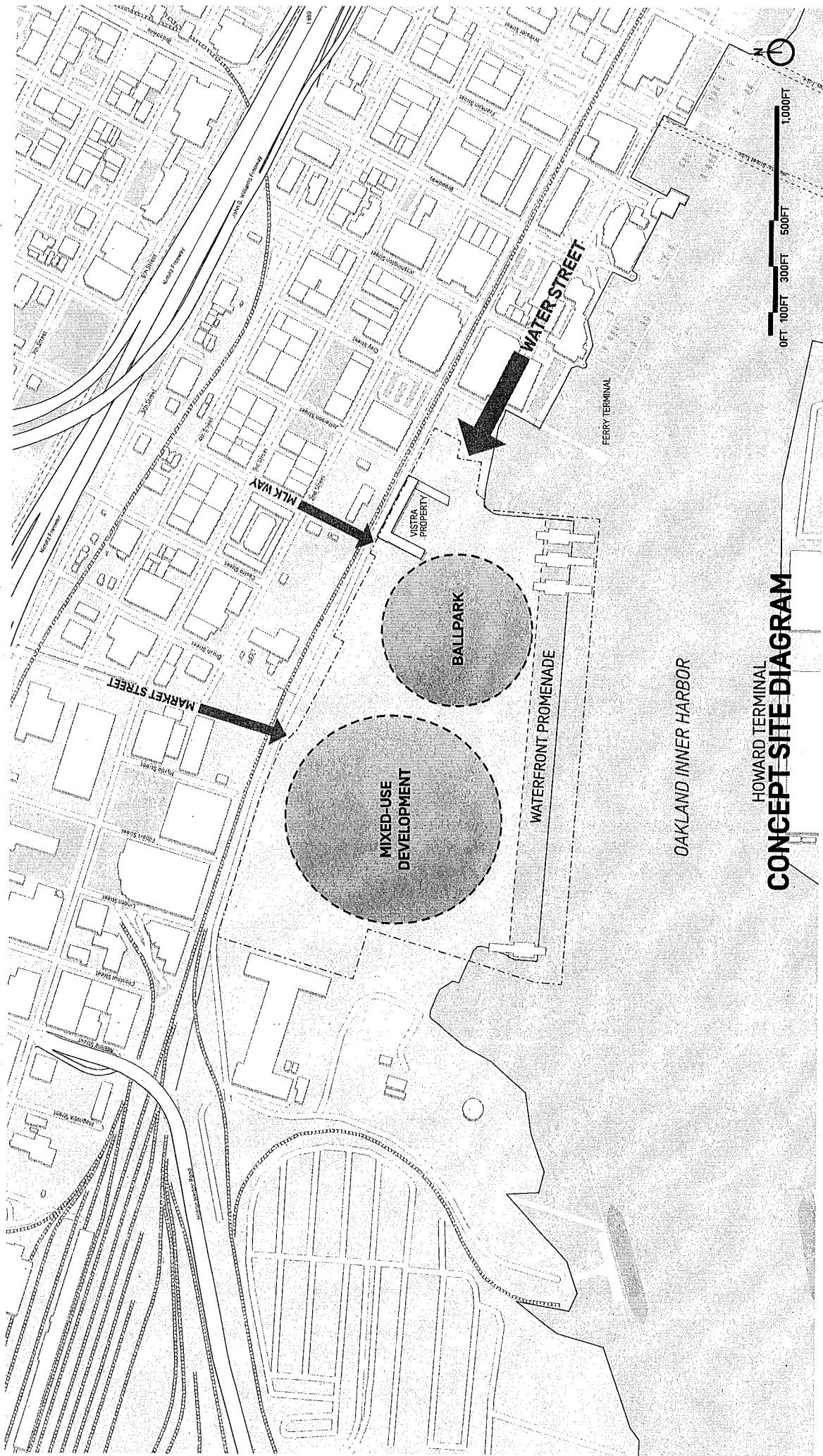


SOURCE: City of Oakland, Bureau of Planning

Figure 2  
Site Boundary and Context







HOWARD TERMINAL  
**CONCEPT SITE DIAGRAM**

OAKLAND INNER HARBOR