

## Central Subway Project Fact Sheet

**Spring 2008**

The Central Subway Project is Phase 2 of the Third Street Light Rail Project that will link Little Hollywood and Visitación Valley with SoMa, Moscone Center, Union Square, and Chinatown. This project is vital to connecting the city's civic, business and cultural centers with the diverse communities along the corridor. Once complete, the project will improve service reliability and travel times, enhance transit connections, and provide economic opportunities and access to jobs for local residents. The project is supported by a financial plan that includes significant contributions at the federal, state and local levels.

The initial phase of the Third Street Light Rail Project began operating in April of 2007, with 18 stations serving communities along a 5.1-mile alignment from Visitación Valley to Fourth and King Streets.

Preliminary engineering on the Central Subway, Phase 2 of the Third Street Light Rail Project, began in 2003. It has been focused on refining station locations, alignment, and construction methods. Extensive public outreach is also being conducted. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) has adopted a 1.7-mile Fourth/Stockton alignment as the locally preferred alternative (LPA).

In addition to preliminary engineering, an environmental review process is underway as required by state and federal environmental law. This effort is currently scheduled to culminate in 2008 with a Record of Decision (ROD) constituting final environmental approval from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

The Central Subway has been favorably evaluated by the FTA as a "New Starts" project and is receiving federal funding from Congress. The San Francisco County Transportation Authority and the State of California have also made significant funding commitments to the project. In addition, the nine-county Metropolitan Transportation Commission has committed State Infrastructure Bond funds.

### Financial Facts At-A-Glance

The Central Subway Project funding is part of the overall Third Street Light Rail Project financial plan. There is a strong commitment of local and state funding, which comprises over 50% of the total funding for both phases of the project.

### Benefits of the Central Subway

The Central Subway is a critical transportation improvement linking neighborhoods in the southeastern part of the City with the retail and employment centers downtown and in Chinatown.

The Project:

- Significantly improves travel times for both transit riders and motorists.
- Reduces passenger overcrowding through the use of high occupancy light rail vehicles.
- Reduces pollution and surface congestion.
- Provides more reliable transit service.
- Improves travel time and efficiency by providing direct connections to Caltrain, BART, regional buses, cable cars and other Muni lines.
- Improves access to the heart of Chinatown, and strengthens community connections between Visitación Valley and Chinatown.
- Provides a direct connection to SoMa, Moscone Center, Union Square, and Chinatown. It also connects the future Mission Bay community, the new UCSF campus and the revitalized Bayview-Hunters Point with downtown.

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