

DOWNTOWN BUS STOPOVER AND MULTIUSE FACILITY FACT SHEET



Project Purpose

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), in partnership with the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), is developing a stopover facility that would provide an off-street location in Downtown San Diego where buses can be parked for short periods between runs. In conjunction with the stopover, the facility also could provide for other residential, office, and retail needs as part of a mixed-use development project.

Project Location

As part of the planning process, SANDAG conducted an exhaustive search and identified five potential sites that could accommodate a stopover facility. To ensure on-time transit service for downtown riders, the stopover must be located close to transit routes that terminate near Broadway and State Street. Because most transit vehicles at the stopover would park for a short period of time, the close location ensures that buses would operate on schedule. It would also minimize operational costs and the need for additional bus circulation on surface streets.



A screening process was completed based on operational needs, minimizing impacts to surrounding neighborhoods, environmental impacts, cost, and site readiness.

On June 24, 2016, the SANDAG Board of Directors unanimously approved the block bounded by A, Union, B and State streets as the preferred site for the proposed Downtown Bus Stopover and Multiuse Facility. This location meets operational needs, minimizes impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods, is in a good state of readiness, is environmentally compliant, is cost-effective, and is zoned for governmental uses.

In addition to ensuring reliable and efficient bus and Rapid service for thousands of San Diegans, the stopover facility would increase the availability of on-street parking within the Civic/Core-Columbia neighborhoods by eliminating the need for buses to park in front of existing homes and businesses while awaiting the start of their next route.

Project Need

Bus and Rapid service to Downtown San Diego has increased, especially over the last few years. A large number of buses begin and end their route in western downtown. Currently, the buses are parking curbside

(Continued on reverse)



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between runs. Downtown needs a long-term solution that takes buses off city streets when they are temporarily out of service between runs. The proposed Downtown Bus Stopover and Multiuse Facility would do that, improving the transit system that thousands of San Diegans rely on as their primary mode of transportation. It also would provide rest facilities for local bus drivers, allowing for the removal of portable toilets from local sidewalks, and increase the availability of on-street parking for downtown neighborhoods.

Stopover Project Features

Number of Vehicles

The stopover would accommodate more than 400 buses to start, with the potential to serve over 700 buses in the future.

Length of Stopover

The stopover is intended to serve as short-term bus parking that would range from a few minutes to 20 minutes per vehicle.

Operations

Maintenance and fueling would not be conducted at the stopover site, beyond light activities such as bus and window cleaning, refilling windshield wiper fluid, and minor repairs. Additionally, no passengers would be served there (buses would arrive and leave empty).

Facility Design

When SANDAG discussed building the stopover facility with the downtown

community, it was requested that the site be developed to its fullest potential, consistent with the goals of the Downtown Community Plan. SANDAG is studying the potential of including office, residential, and retail space and underground parking as additional components of a multi-use project. The street-level retail would create a dynamic interface between the multi-use facility and the community. The office and residential components would be built on top of the first-floor stopover and retail stores.

Project Funding

Approximately \$46 million has been allocated to the project from *TransNet*, the voter approved half-cent sales tax for transportation projects administered by SANDAG. Additional funding for this project would be required. SANDAG is investigating additional public and private funding opportunities.

Project Status

SANDAG staff plans to present project options to the SANDAG Board at their May 25, 2018 meeting for discussion and possible selection of the preferred project option. SANDAG and MTS hope to have the project open for use in 2022.

For More Information

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