



NEW IRVINGTON TUNNEL PROJECT

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

JUNE 2006

Please join the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) at a public workshop about an important construction project proposed for your neighborhood. Located in the Sunol Valley to the east and near Mission San Jose High School to the west, the New Irvington Tunnel Project will ensure the reliability of the water system that provides drinking water to 2.4 million people in four Bay Area counties, including the City of Fremont.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 27, 2006, 6:30 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library, 2400 Stevenson Boulevard in Fremont.

Read more about the project below.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) operates and manages a major regional water delivery system that passes through the City of Fremont. The SFPUC Regional Water System delivers water from the Sierra Nevada Mountains to customers in four Bay Area counties through an extensive system of tunnels and pipelines. Approximately one-third of the City of Fremont's water comes from this system. The key to the delivery of drinking water to Bay Area residents is the Irvington Tunnel, whose east end is located in the Sunol Valley, and west end is located in Fremont, northeast of Mission San Jose High School.

The Irvington Tunnel is a lifeline between the Bay Area and water from the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Alameda Watershed. Built between 1928 and 1930, the Irvington Tunnel has served a steadily increasing number of Bay Area residents since its construction. This means the SFPUC cannot take the Irvington Tunnel out of service to conduct inspections or make repairs without impacting the water supply to customers as far east as Fremont, the South Bay and all the way to San Mateo. In order to ensure a reliable flow of drinking water for our customers, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) proposes to construct a new tunnel parallel to the existing one.

The New Irvington Tunnel will allow the SFPUC to take the existing tunnel out of service to inspect it and perform repairs. If, for any reason, portions of the tunnel should be brought out of service due to earthquake or other reasons, the New Irvington Tunnel Project will provide a viable alternative for continuing to supply water to the Bay Area.

PROPOSED PROJECT

SFPUC proposes to construct a new tunnel that will be approximately 18,200 feet long and 10 feet in diameter, parallel to, and just south of, the existing tunnel. The project will also construct new portals at the east and west end with connections for the existing and proposed Alameda Siphons to the east and the existing and proposed Bay Division Pipelines to the west.

The proposed project will include the following elements:

- Excavation of an 18,200-foot long tunnel including the installation of a 10-foot inside diameter concrete liner using a tunnel boring machine
- New access road to the Irvington Portal for construction vehicles
- New Irvington Portal
- Complete demolition and rebuilding of existing Irvington Portal
- Additional isolation valves and connections to the Bay Division Pipelines that originate from the Irvington Tunnel site on the west end.

CONSTRUCTION

Because of the limited space and access at the New Irvington Tunnel site and the close proximity to several nearby homes, the SFPUC plans to conduct the majority of the tunneling work from the Sunol Valley side of the mountain. However, there will be construction activities on the Fremont side as well.

The main activities and facilities to be based at the site in the Sunol Valley are: tunnel portal excavation; tunnel excavation; spoils handling; wastewater treatment; concrete mixing for tunnel final lining; equipment and materials storage; location of workshop; and project management. Some road upgrades between Calaveras Road and the portal site may be necessary.

The principal construction activities at the New Irvington Tunnel site in Fremont will be: tunnel boring machine dismantling and removal; installation of concreting formworks in tunnel; construction of new pipe work and connections; and construction of tunnel portal and vault.

In addition, since the existing road is not suitable for large vehicles, the access road from Mission Boulevard to the tunnel site will also be upgraded as part of construction.

If you have any suggestions on how the SFPUC can best keep you informed, please do not hesitate to contact Betsy Lauppe Rhodes of the SFPUC at blauppe@sfgwater.org, or at the mailing address on this sheet.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The San Francisco Planning Department's Major Environmental Analysis (MEA) Division is conducting the environmental review of the project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA requires that the SFPUC and the public be informed about the

significant environmental effects of a project and ways to avoid or reduce those effects before a project is approved. MEA has decided that an Environmental Impact Report, or EIR, is the appropriate level of environmental review for this project.

A scoping meeting, where members of the public can learn more about the environmental review process and comment on the scope of the environmental review, will likely take place in August 2006.

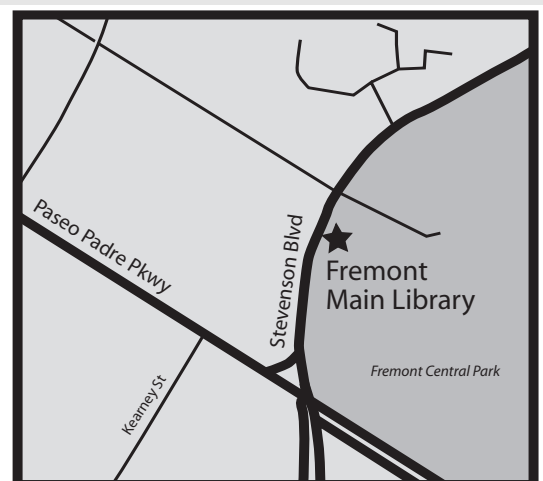
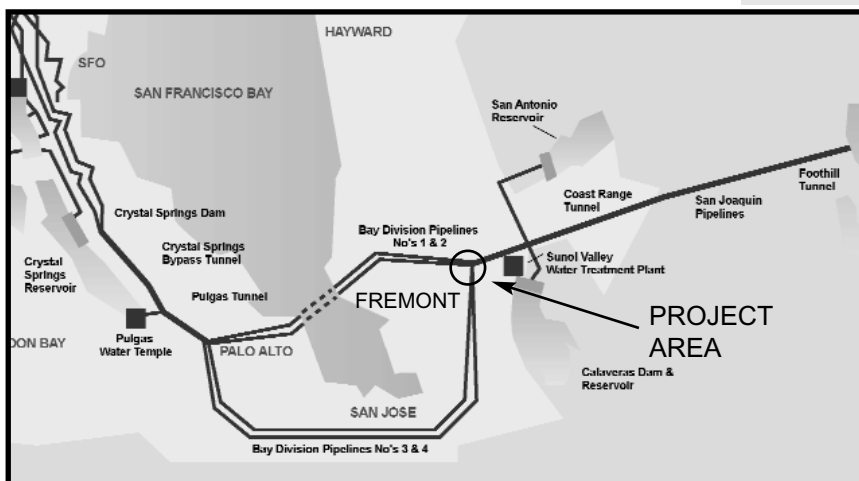
ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Environmental Review Process:
 - * Field Studies underway.
 - * Scoping Meeting anticipated for August, 2006
- Planned start of construction: 2009
- Anticipated completion of construction: 2013

PUBLIC WORKSHOP, YOU'RE INVITED

The SFPUC cordially invites you to attend an informational public workshop about the New Irvington Tunnel Project on Tuesday, June 27, 2006, 6:30 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library, 2400 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont.

Questions/ Comments?
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