



STOCKTON DIAMOND GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT

A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO REVIEWING AND COMMENTING ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

**ALL INTERESTED PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO
REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE DRAFT EIR**

FROM MARCH 15 THROUGH APRIL 29, 2021

(45-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD)



Today, the tracks of two major railways intersect at-grade in the City of Stockton at what is called the Stockton Diamond, the busiest, most congested rail bottleneck in California.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRCC) proposes to construct a grade separation of the principal lines of BNSF Railway (BNSF) and Union Pacific Railroad (UP) at the Stockton Diamond to create uninterrupted flow of rail traffic through the crossing. By elevating one track over the other, the Stockton Diamond Grade Separation Project (proposed Project) will enhance passenger and freight rail operations, efficiency and safety as the tracks are shared with the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE), and Amtrak San Joaquin's passenger rail services.

BENEFITS OF THIS CRITICAL RAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



STIMULATE MOBILITY
Improve regional passenger and freight rail efficiency and travel reliability by reducing conflicting train movements.



ECONOMIC VITALITY
Reducing delays will result in increased throughput and more efficient movement of goods. This decreases fuel consumption and leads to cost savings.



ENHANCE SAFETY
Improve Stockton residents' access, safety, and mobility across rail lines through enhancements or closures at roadway-rail grade crossings.



INSPIRE CONNECTIONS
Support faster, more reliable passenger rail service linking residents to family, jobs, and recreational destinations throughout Northern California.



IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY
Improve air quality through reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from trains and vehicles that idle due to congestion and delays.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING AN ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

WE ARE HERE



- ▶ Project alternative development
- ▶ Solicitation of public input on proposed Project and environmental scope
- ▶ 45-Day Public Comment Period (August 19 - October 3, 2020)
- ▶ Host Public Scoping Meetings
- ▶ Input considered as technical studies are conducted

- ▶ Known as "Full Disclosure Document", the Draft EIR examines project alternatives to identify potential effects on the surrounding environment
- ▶ Identifies mitigation measures to avoid or lessen significant effects
- ▶ The Draft EIR is made available for public review/comment during 45-Day Comment Period (March 15 - April 29, 2021)

- ▶ All comments gathered on the Draft EIR are reviewed and addressed within the Final EIR
- ▶ Includes a Statement of Overriding Considerations and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
- ▶ Will identify the preferred and environmentally superior alternative
- ▶ If approved, the Final EIR is certified by SJRRCC at a Public Hearing with a Notice of Determination

WHERE TO VIEW THE DRAFT EIR

**THE DRAFT EIR IS POSTED ON THE STOCKTON DIAMOND WEBSITE AT
WWW.STOCKTONDIAMOND.COM**



PRINT COPIES FOR ONSITE VIEWING AT AREA REPOSITORIES:

- ▶ **San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission**
949 E Channel Street, Stockton, CA
- ▶ **California High Speed Rail Authority**
770 L Street, Suite 620, Sacramento, CA
- ▶ **Stockton City Hall**
425 N El Dorado Street, Stockton, CA
- ▶ **San Joaquin County**
44 N San Joaquin Street, Stockton, CA
- ▶ **Catholic Charities Diocese of Stockton**
1106 N. El Dorado Street, Stockton, CA
- ▶ **Café Coop**
42 N. Sutter Street, Stockton, CA
- ▶ **El Concilio**
445 N. San Joaquin Street, Stockton, CA
- ▶ **Restoration for Life Ministries**
1234 Anderson Street, Stockton, CA

This document was prepared by the SJRRCC to serve as a guide, but it is not intended to be a legal resource. For further information regarding the formal CEQA process, please visit the Governor's Office of Planning and Research at www.opr.ca.gov.

HOW TO COMMENT ON THE DRAFT EIR COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- ONLINE** stocktondiamond.com/contact
- EMAIL** info@stocktondiamond.com
- HOTLINE** (209) 235-0133
- BY MAIL**
c/o Public Outreach
2379 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95833

BILINGUAL VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING Tuesday, April 6, 2021 from 6-7:30 p.m.

JOIN US ONLINE OR BY PHONE

SJRRCC is offering a virtual opportunity for the public to learn more about the proposed Project, interact with team members, ask questions and submit formal comments.

ENGLISH MEETING INFORMATION

Webex: bit.ly/SD_Meeting_English
Webex Password: SD_English
Dial-in #: 408-418-9388
Access Code: 187 558 2321

SPANISH MEETING INFORMATION

WebEx: bit.ly/SD_Meeting_Spanish
Webex Password: SD_Spanish
Dial-in #: 408-418-9388
Access Code: 187 359 6057

COMMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING DURING THE ESTABLISHED 45-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

DUE BY 5 P.M. APRIL 29, 2021



Sign-up on the website to receive project notices and follow us on social.

stocktondiamond.com



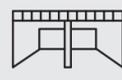
LOCAL BENEFITS



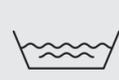
20-30% reduction in vehicle delay at crossings



Bicycle & pedestrian improvements at Main & Market Streets plus Hazelton, Scotts & Weber Avenues



Proposed new bridges accommodate future improved underpass at MLK Jr. Blvd./Charter Way



Proposed structure across Mormon Channel accommodates future flood diversion

1 LAFAYETTE ST. (Looking West)*

Proposed Improvements
Close roadway at Union & Aurora Streets



2 SONORA ST. (Looking West)*

Proposed Improvements
Close roadway west of Union St.



3 UNION ST. (Looking North)*

No Proposed Improvements
North of Hazelton Ave.



4 HAZELTON AVE. (Looking West)*

Proposed Improvements
Construct grade separated crossing that accommodates future bike lanes & separated sidewalk

On-street parking west of existing tracks

Roadway grade lowered to provide required minimum vertical clearance from overhead bridge



Three design options being evaluated in Draft EIR:

RETAINING WALL

EARTHEN EMBANKMENT

VIADUCT STRUCTURE

KEY FINDINGS

The Stockton Diamond Grade Separation Project:

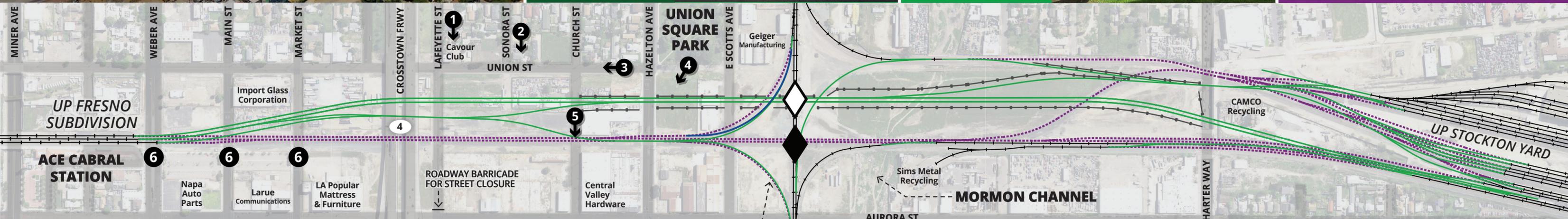
► Would result in **overall regional benefits** in terms of:

- Improving regional connectivity
- Improving air quality
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

► Would **not** result in significant and unavoidable impacts, or cumulatively considerable and unavoidable impacts, to any resource evaluated in the Draft EIR, after incorporation of mitigation

► Would result in **less than significant impacts with mitigation incorporated** on these resource topics:

- Biological resources
- Hazards & hazardous materials
- Land use & planning
- Noise & vibration



5 CHURCH ST. (Looking West)

Proposed Improvements
Close roadway at Union St. & maintain private access off of Aurora St.



6 WEBER AVE., MAIN & MARKET STREETS

Proposed Improvements

- ◆ Relocate existing at grade crossings to the east
- ◆ Adjust roadway grades to accommodate new crossing locations
- ◆ New curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements
- ◆ Accommodate City's future bicycle plans



LEGEND

- Proposed Flyover Location
- Existing at-Grade Stockton Diamond
- Proposed Track
- Existing Tracks (to remain)
- Proposed Elevated Structure on Retaining Wall
- Track Removal (existing)
- Phase 1 - Shift Wye Track
- Location Marker
- Image View

STOCKTON WYE TO BE CONSTRUCTED BY UP IN 2021