



November 2, 2012

Brenda Dix  
Climate Initiatives Program Coordinator  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
101 Eighth Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

Re: Proposed Changes to Soscol Gateway Transit Center - Request for Review by Air Quality Conformity Task Force - FTIP ID # 94070/94076 / TIP ID # NAP990011

Ms. Dix:

On behalf of the Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency (NCTPA), I am submitting this letter describing proposed minor operational changes to the above referenced project.

The Soscol Gateway Transit Center (SGTC) project entails the relocation of a transit center and the construction of an administrative office building. NCTPA buses would use the relocated transit center; NCTPA administrative offices would occupy the new building. **Figure 1** shows the location of the SGTC. The project was previously reviewed by the MTC Air Quality Task Force in 2010 at which time it was determined not to be a project of air quality concern (not a POAQC). As of November 2012, construction of the transit center project is nearly complete. However, a minor change on the adjacent local street is needed to ensure buses have adequate turning room to safely enter and exit the facility as described below.

### **Previous Environmental Review and Air Quality Task Force Consultation**

Environmental review under both CEQA and NEPA was completed in the Fall of 2010. The NCTPA certified a Mitigated Negative Declaration. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) determined that the project qualified for a Categorical Exclusion under NEPA. As part of the NEPA process, NCTPA consulted with the Task Force. At its October 25, 2010 meeting, the Task Force determined the project was not a POAQC and thus not subject to “hotspot” analysis for PM 2.5.

### **Proposed Project Change**

NCTPA has identified a necessary change to project operations. The previous environmental documents assumed that buses traveling from the south on Soscol Avenue would turn right onto Eighth Street, left on Burnell Street, and left into the transit center site. Even with the proposed removal of on-street parking on Eighth Street,

NCTPA, and the City of Napa have jointly concluded that the Soscol Avenue/Eighth Street intersection lacks adequate turning radius for northbound buses.

To resolve this issue, NCTPA and the City of Napa propose that buses traveling north on Soscol Avenue continue on Soscol Avenue and turn right on Seventh Street (instead of Eighth Street) and then left onto Burnell Street and then left into the transit center. To accommodate the buses, Seventh Street would be converted from an existing two-way street to a one-way street in the eastbound direction.

**Figure 2** illustrates this proposed operational change.

No other change is proposed. The total number and types of buses accessing the transit center would remain the same as considered in the previous environmental review and by the Task Force.

The area in which the minor change in access occurs consists of commercial/light industrial uses. Inbound buses would travel through one new intersection, Soscol Avenue/Seventh Street. However, this intersection currently operates at an acceptable level of service and would continue to do so under project conditions.

NCTPA believes that the project change would not alter the Air Quality Task Force's prior determination that the SGTC project is not a POAQC.

Should the Task Force require any further information on the proposed project or the proposed project changes please contact Mr. Lawrence E. Gawell, Chief Procurement and Compliance, at (707) 259-8636 or email [lgawell@nctpa.net](mailto:lgawell@nctpa.net).

Sincerely,



Kate Miller  
Executive Director

Attachments

cc: Lawrence E. Gawell, Chief Procurement and Compliance  
Shawn O' Keefe, Mark Thomas & Company



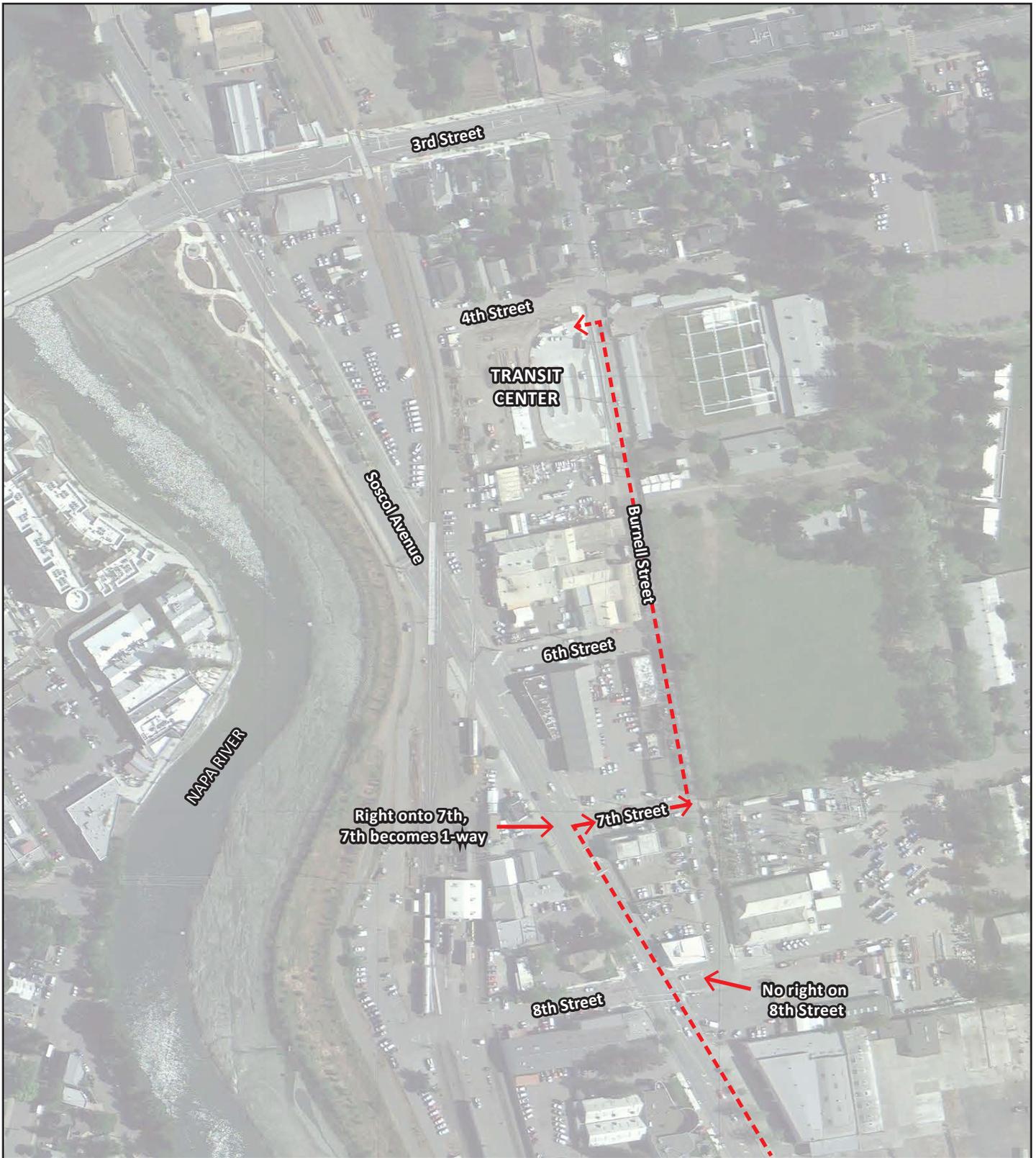
**Legend**

 Project Site



**Project Location Map**

Figure



**Legend**

--- Typical Routing for Inbound Buses

