



STOCKTON  
**DIAMOND**

## Bilingual Virtual Public Meeting

Tuesday, April 6, 2021  
6-7:30 p.m.



**San Joaquin**  
Joint Powers Authority

STOCKTON DIAMOND GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT



**Welcome / Introductions / Meeting Format**



**Part 1: Project Presentation – Overview & Draft EIR Findings**



**Part 2: Presentation Clarification**



**Part 3: Formal Comment Period**

# Meeting Format & Reminders



- Attendees muted upon entry
- Project presentation, followed by presentation clarification & formal comment period
- **Questions/comments can be provided verbally or by using Q&A box**
- Please limit verbal questions & comments to **two minutes**
- Formal Draft EIR comments submittal tonight and through **5 p.m. April 29** via project email, website, hotline & mail
- Meeting is being recorded for documentation



# ◆ PROJECT OVERVIEW





**Reduce passenger and freight rail delays, and associated congestion**



**Maintain key community connections**



**Improve multimodal access**

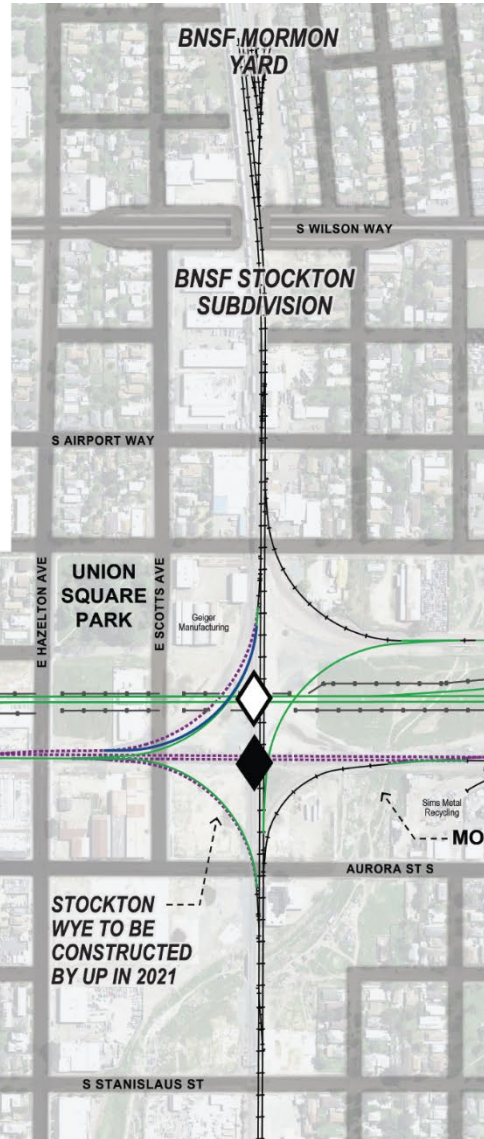
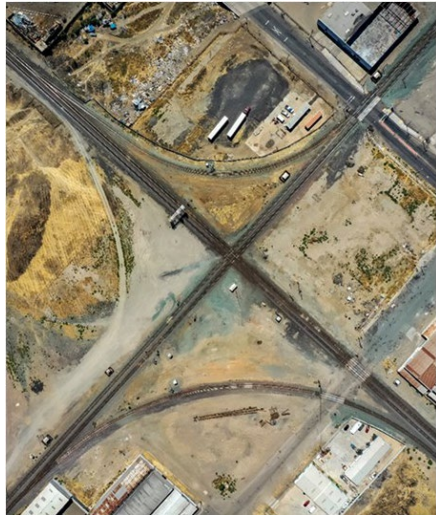


**Provide local and regional environmental and economic benefits**










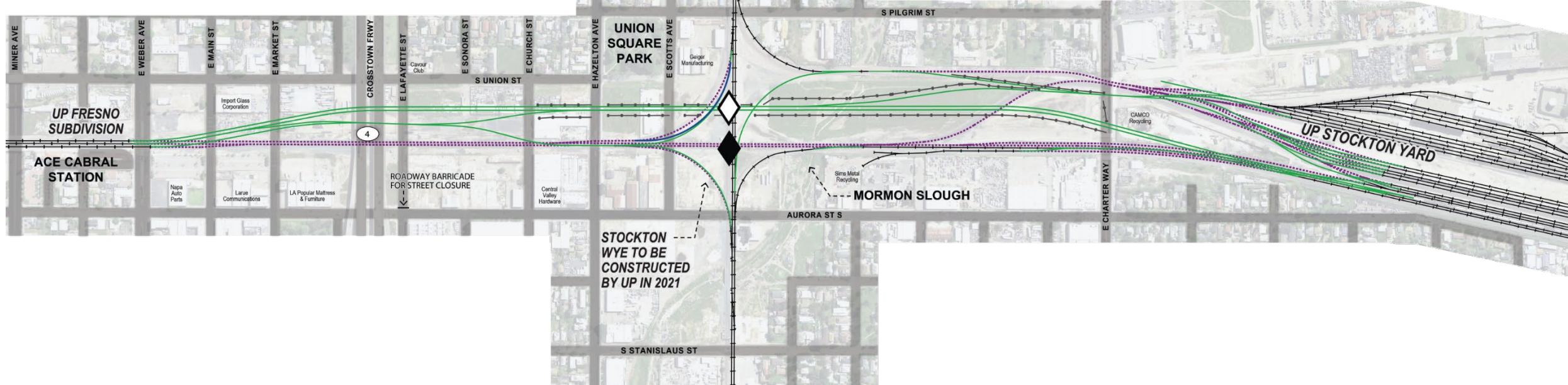
**Address safety by closures and enhancements at key roadway-rail grade crossings**

# Proposed Concept



## 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





# Project Visual Rendering

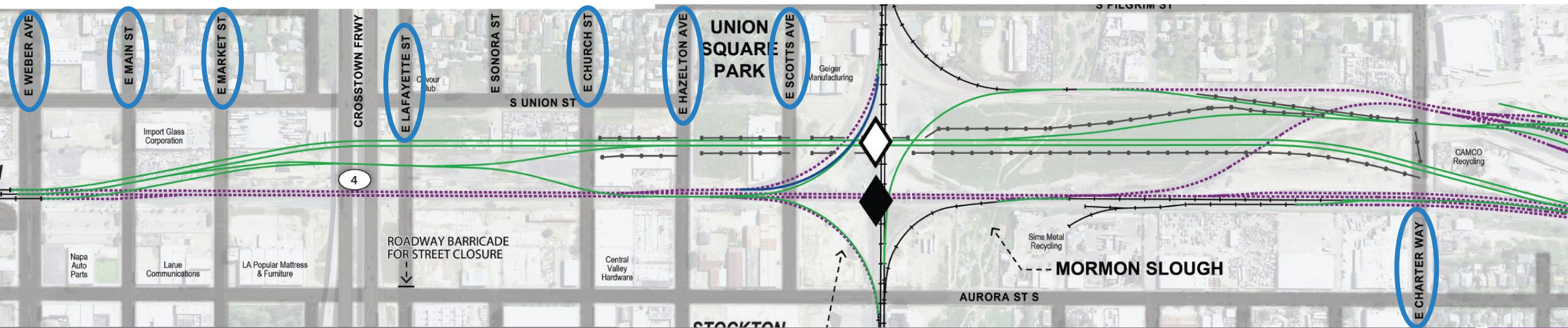




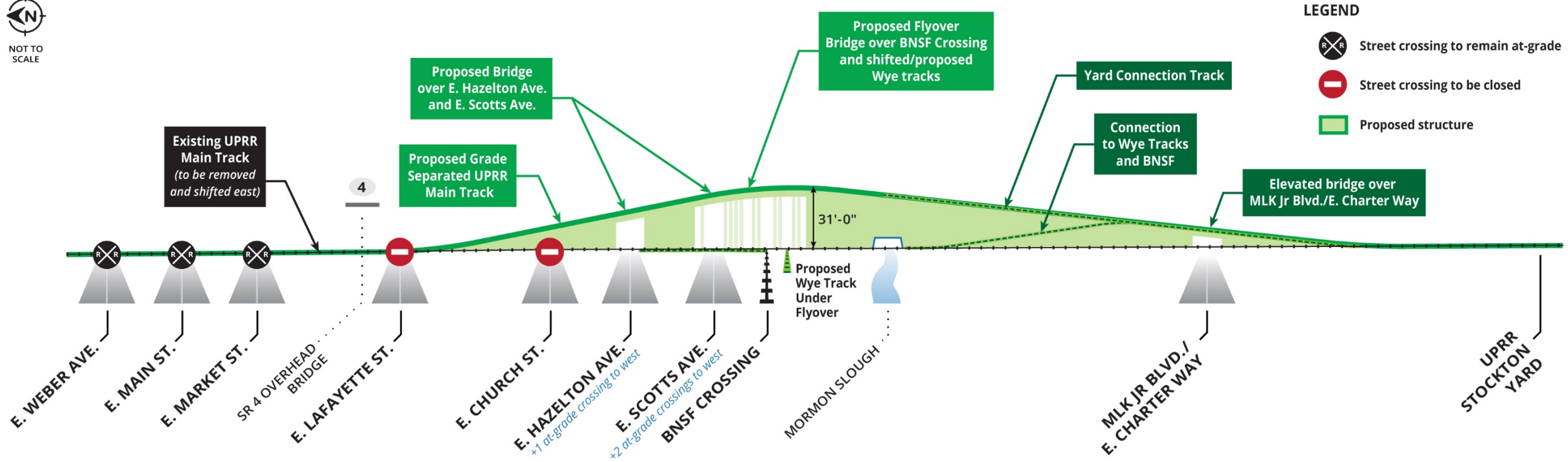
# Proposed Local Road Modifications

New alignment, rail connections & flyover bridge will impact several local east-west city streets




1. E. Weber Ave.
2. E. Main St.
3. E. Market St.
4. E. Lafayette St.
5. E. Church St.
6. E. Hazelton Ave.
7. E. Scotts Ave.
8. E. Charter Way



# Proposed Changes to Local Roads



## LEGEND

-  Street crossing to remain at-grade
-  Street crossing to be closed
-  Proposed structure

# Proposed Street Improvements – E. Weber Ave.

New curb, gutter & sidewalk on north side, from tracks to Union Street \*

*\*Note: Improvements on south side will be matched by the SJRRC Cabral Station Expansion Project (construction 2021)*





# Proposed Improvements – E. Main St.

New curb, gutter & sidewalk on south side,  
from tracks to Union Street \*



Current Conditions



E. Main St. looking west

*\*Note: Improvements on south side will be matched by the SJRRC Cabral Station Expansion Project (construction 2021)*



# Proposed Improvements – E. Market St.

New curb, gutter & sidewalk on both sides of street, from tracks to Union Street



E. Market St. looking west



# Proposed Improvements – E. Scotts Ave.

New curb, gutter & sidewalk on both sides of street, from tracks to Union Street



Current Conditions



E. Scotts Ave. looking west



# Structure Design Options – Earthen Embankment



**Structure design can influence visual aesthetics, access & public safety**



# Structure Design Options – Retaining Wall





# Structure Design Options – Viaduct





## **STIMULATE MOBILITY:** Improve rail efficiency and reliability

### **What this means to you:**

- Improved local traffic resulting from reduced delays at rail crossings (20-30%)
- Reduced delay and improved reliability for ACE and San Joaquins passengers
- Supports on-time reliability for ACE and enables future Valley Rail expansion



## **ECONOMIC VITALITY:** Increased throughput

### **What this means to you:**

- Improved freight movement and increased throughput for delivery of goods
- Decreased fuel consumption results in cost savings for rail operation



## **INSPIRE CONNECTIONS:** Support service expansion

### **What this means to you:**

- Faster, more reliable travel options for passengers connecting housing to jobs
- Rail structures create opportunity for future Charter Way underpass improvements
- Grade separation at E. Hazelton & E. Scotts accommodate future multimodal streets



## **ENHANCE SAFETY:** Improve track crossings

### **What this means to you:**

- Enhanced sidewalks, curbs and gutters on E. Weber, E. Main, E. Market & E. Scotts
- Bike & pedestrian improvements on E. Weber, E. Main, E. Market, E. Hazelton & E. Scotts
- Modifications and upgrades at existing crossings to improve access and safety
- Flyover of main tracks off E. Hazelton & E. Scotts removes train conflicts with vehicles and bikes/pedestrians



## **SUSTAINABILITY:** Improve air quality with emission reduction

### **What this means to you:**

- Grade Separation allows trains to move through Stockton Diamond quickly means less idling trains and vehicles which results in reduced greenhouse gas emissions and improving regional air quality
- Structure across Mormon Slough accommodates future flood diversion



# ◆ ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS / FINDINGS



## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

**Lead Agency** = San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission

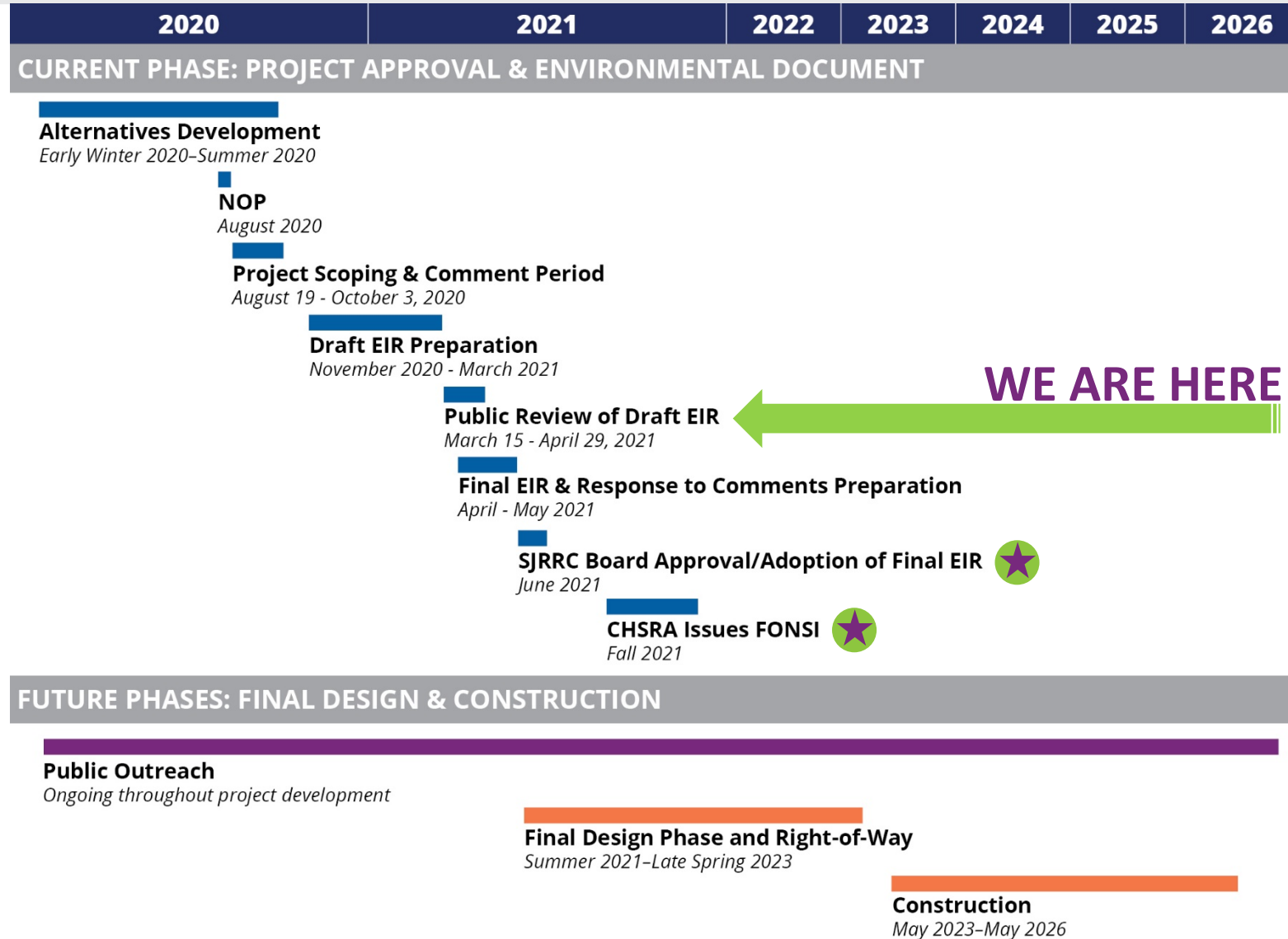
## National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

**Lead Agency** = California High Speed Rail Authority under assignment by Federal Railroad Administration



Originally scoped a joint CEQA/NEPA Environmental Document or Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) / Environmental Assessment (EA)  
February 2021- Separated processes due to schedule & funding constraints

# Project Schedule



**WE ARE HERE**

# Alternatives Evaluated

## No Build Alternative



## Proposed Project Alternative 1A





# No Build Alternative

What impacts would result if this project is not constructed?





# Proposed Alternative 1A

## What impacts would result from built project?





# Resources Analyzed in Draft EIR



Land Use Planning



Population & Housing



Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Noise & Vibration



Visual Resources



Parks & Recreation



Biological Resources



Hydrology & Water Quality



Cultural Resources



Hazards & Hazardous Materials



Transportation & Circulation



Geology & Soils



Energy



Public Services & Utilities



Agriculture & Forestry Resources



Wildfire

- Result in **overall regional and local benefits** to mobility, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and energy use
- Not result in **significant & unavoidable impacts, or cumulatively considerable & unavoidable impacts**, to any resource evaluated in Draft EIR, after incorporation of mitigation
- Result in **less than significant impacts** with mitigation:



Biological resources



Land use & planning



Hazards & Hazardous materials



Noise & vibration

# DEIR Findings: Local Circulation & Mobility

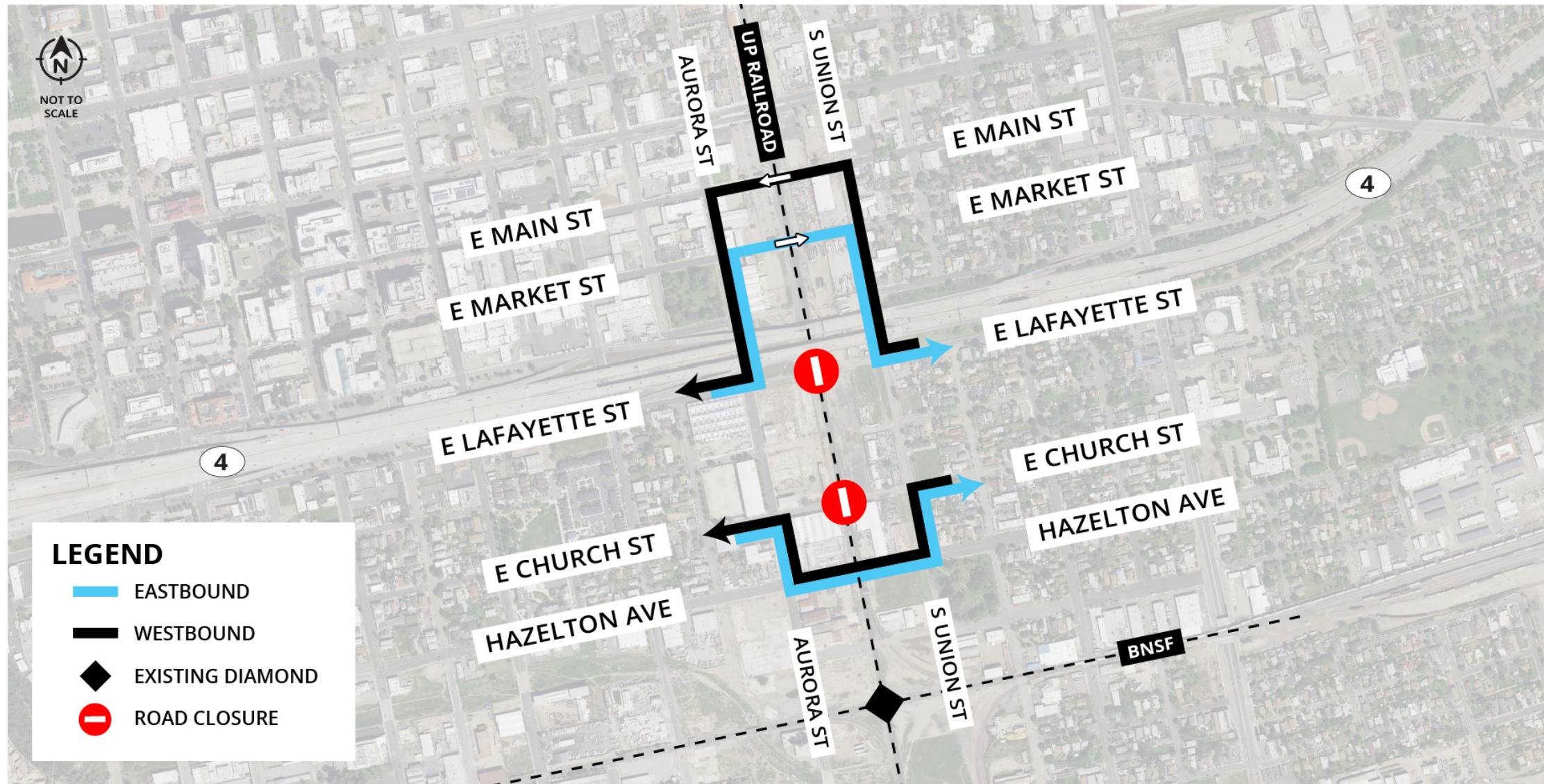
- E. Hazelton Ave. grade separation improves mobility by allowing future bike lanes & separated sidewalk
- Shorter gate-down times result in fewer delays at railroad crossings
- Permanent road closures at E. Lafayette and E. Church Streets require detours
- Traffic Management Plan to be developed to minimize temporary construction roadway impacts



*Key issues raised during Scoping*



# Traffic Circulation After Road Closures



- Short-term noise impacts during construction **mitigated** with noise and vibration control plans.
- Moderate long-term noise impacts at nine residences and two institutional facilities
- Severe long-term noise impacts at 12 residences **mitigated** through sound insulation improvements consistent with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development thresholds



*Key issues raised during Scoping*

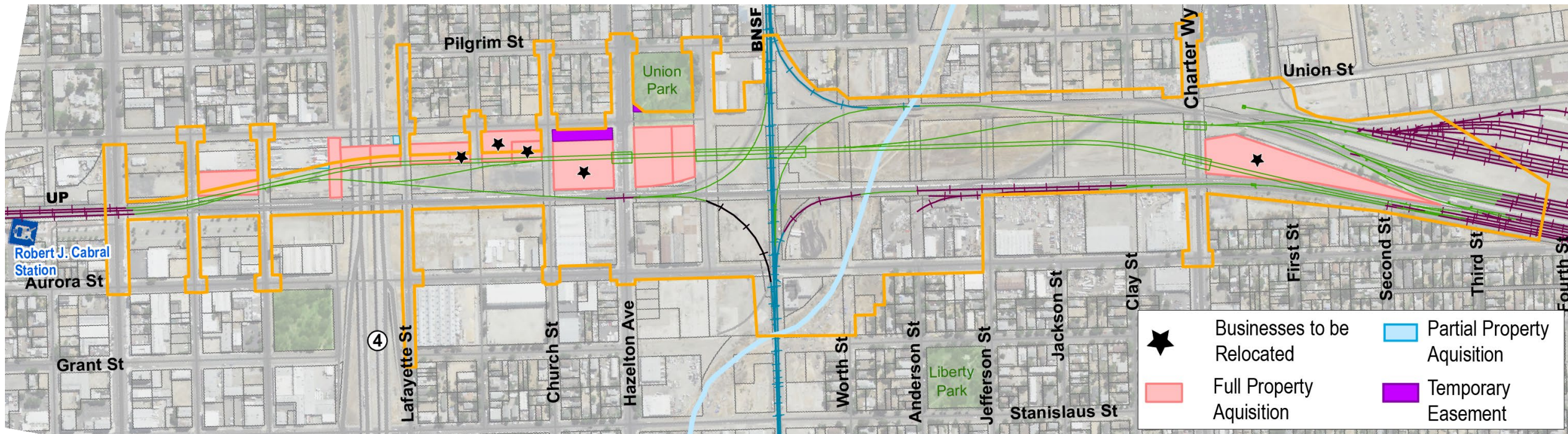
- **No impacts** to residences
- **No disproportionate impacts** to minority and low-income populations (environmental justice) in the area
- 12 full and two partial **property acquisitions**
- Five active auto/truck-related **businesses to be relocated** and vacant property
- **Temporary impacts** to transient populations in Mormon Slough



*Key issues raised during Scoping*



# Land Use & Community Impacts Map





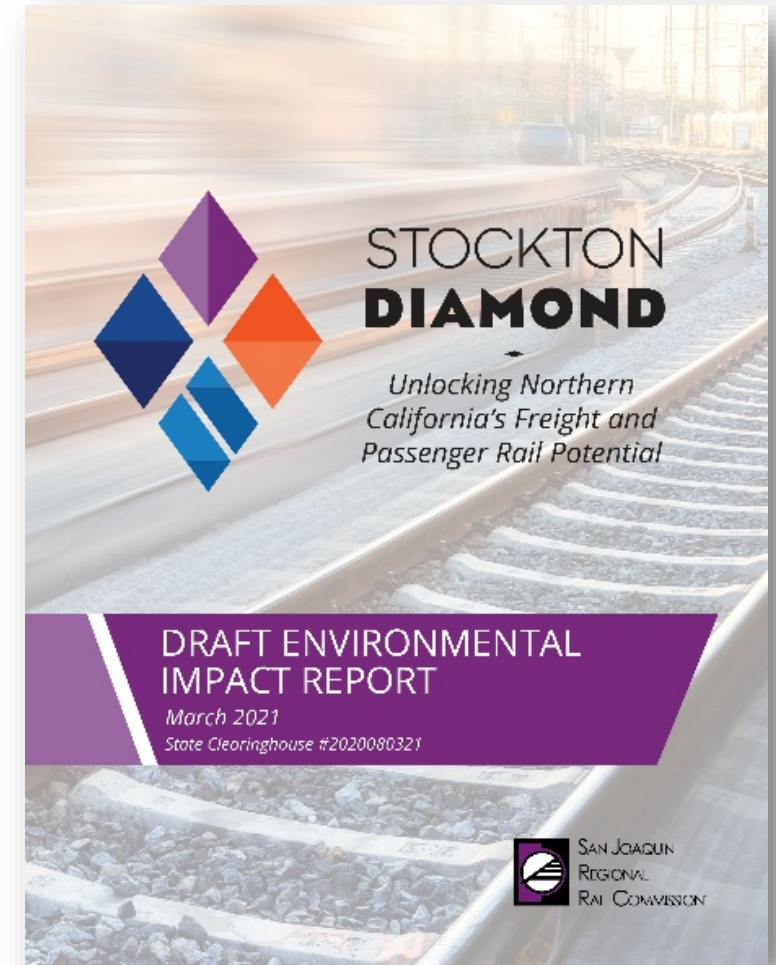
# DEIR Findings: Visual Impacts

- Project results in visual benefits due to removal of railroad and industrial artifacts along rail corridor that currently degrade visual quality of the area.
- Construction of UP flyover would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings.



# Availability of Draft EIR for Review & Comment

- Project website: [stocktondiamond.com/resources](https://stocktondiamond.com/resources)
- Hardcopy available at Stockton locations during normal working hours until **April 29, 2021**:
  - San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission
  - California High Speed Rail Authority
  - Stockton City Hall
  - San Joaquin County
  - Restoration for Life Ministries
  - Catholic Charities Diocese of Stockton
  - Café Coop
  - El Concilio



# How You Can Provide Input

Comments concerning the Draft EIR should be submitted via:



[stocktondiamond.com](http://stocktondiamond.com)



[info@stocktondiamond.com](mailto:info@stocktondiamond.com)



**(209) 235-0133**



**c/o Public Outreach  
2379 Gateway Oaks Dr., Ste. 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833**

**Suggestions & comments accepted from all interested parties until 5 p.m. on April 29**



- Bilingual Mailer - **5,465 contacts**
- Bilingual Poster - **16 locations**
- Bilingual Citizen's Guide - **16 locations**



- Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) Coordination
  - Meetings
  - Social media, websites
  - E-mails



- Publication Advertisements
  - Stockton Record & Vida en el Valle - **circulation 171,424**
  - Latino Times eblast - **100,000 readers**
- News release distribution - **284 contacts**
- Bilingual social media posts (weekly) - **7 scheduled posts**
- E-blast distributions (weekly) - **500 contacts + ACE ridership**





# Citizen's Guide Brochure

- Project website: [stocktondiamond.com/resources](https://stocktondiamond.com/resources)

- Hardcopy available at Stockton locations:

- San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission
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- Stockton City Hall
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- Restoration for Life Ministries
- Catholic Charities Diocese of Stockton
- Café Coop
- El Concilio
- Fair Oaks Library
- Cesar Chavez Central Library
- Troke Library
- Weston Ranch Branch Library
- Maya Angelou Branch Library
- In-Season Market
- Community Partnership for Families (CPFSJ):  
Dorothy L. Jones/CUFF Family Resource Center
- Huddle Cowork by Launch Pad



# Proactive Public Engagement



Contact Database



Speakers Bureau,  
Stakeholder Working Group &  
Public Meetings (virtual & in-person)



Website, Mailers  
E-blasts & Hotline



Media Coordination  
& Social Media









Stakeholder Coordination  
& Information Sharing





# ◆ PRESENTATION CLARIFICATION

## RAISE & LOWER HAND TO SPEAK





1. Select “Raise Hand” icon
  - **Internet Browser:** select , then “ Raise Hand”
  - **Webex Software:** select , then 
  - **Mobile App:** select , then 
2. Moderator will call your name
3. Select “Lower Hand” after speaking

## DIALED-IN BY PHONE

1. Press \*3 to “Raise/Lower Hand”

**TIME LIMIT:** 2 MINS.

## SUBMIT QUESTION

1. Select icon
  - **Internet Browser:** select 
  - **Webex Software:** select “ Q&A”
  - **Mobile App:** select , then 
2. Type question/comment into Q&A box
3. Moderator will read question aloud for panelists’ response







Questions during this clarification session will not be included in the formal record





# ◆ FORMAL COMMENT SESSION

## RAISE & LOWER HAND TO SPEAK





1. Select “Raise Hand” icon
  - **Internet Browser:** select , then “ Raise Hand”
  - **Webex Software:** select , then 
  - **Mobile App:** select , then 
2. Moderator will call your name
3. Clearly state your **name & email** (or type into Q&A box)
4. Select “Lower Hand” after speaking

## DIALED-IN BY PHONE

1. Press \*3 to “Raise/Lower Hand”

**TIME LIMIT:** 2 MINS.

## SUBMIT COMMENT IN WRITING VIA Q&A BOX

1. Select icon
  - **Internet Browser:** select 
  - **Webex Software:** select “Q&A”
  - **Mobile App:** select , then 
2. Type **name & email** into Q&A box with question/comment
3. Moderator will read question aloud for panelists’ response

**Comments submitted at this time are part of the formal record and will be addressed in the Final EIR**





**stocktondiamond.com**  
*(Sign-up to receive electronic updates)*



**(209) 235-0133**



**info@stocktondiamond.com**

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**@ACE\_train**



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# ◆ POCKET SLIDES



# Unhoused Encampment Concerns





# Encampment Outside of Work Area





# Project-Specific Measures for Homeless Impacts

- SJRRC will continue active coordination with City of Stockton & San Joaquin County to prepare and implement targeted **Mormon Slough area Outreach and Engagement Plan**
- Plan will include goals and strategies consistent with County's Community Response to Homelessness Strategic Plan and focus on **proactive response for temporary and permanent relocation assistance**



## San Joaquin County – Community Response to Homelessness Strategic Plan

*Goal 2: Increase Access and Reduce Barriers to Homeless Crisis Response Services*

<http://www.sanjoaquinoc.org/resources/homeless-services-map/>

- Current estimated project cost = **\$237 million**
- Project awarded funding from local, state & federal sources
  - **\$100M Awarded Dec. 2020** (*Trade Corridor Enhancement Program through CA SB 1*)
  - **\$20M Awarded Sept. 2020** (*Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary Grants Program*)
- SB 132 & Interregional Transportation Improvement Program funding already secured to match project funds

