San Mateo Replacement Parking Track

Neighborhood Enhancements Update

Thank you to the Hayward Park neighbors who participated in the Parking Track Enhancements Virtual Community Meeting on July 13, 2020. Comments and questions on the draft enhancement design were received during the meeting and are currently under review. A recording of the meeting and the presentation have been posted to the project webpage. During the meeting, our facilitator also asked the audience’s opinion and those poll results are here.

As a refresher, on February 18, 2020, San Mateo City Council received an update on the months-long feasibility assessment process and endorsed the proposal to proceed with the parking track replacement project in Hayward Park between 10th and 14th Avenues, with neighborhood enhancements.

In March and April 2020, Caltrain and City staff launched an online survey and poll to identify the neighborhood’s enhancement preferences. For the segment of Railroad Avenue parallel to the parking track between 10th and 14th Avenues, the community preferred a 12’ block sound wall with creeping fig vegetation.

In May 2020, the draft design and renderings were posted online, beginning a month-long comment period that ended on June 19, 2020. Additional resources such as an enhancement FAQ and the results of the survey and poll are available at www.caltrain.com/SMParkingTrack.

Background Information

The parking track project will replace the formerly existing San Mateo parking track which was removed to facilitate the construction of the 25th Avenue Grade Separation Project. A parking track is a temporary storage space for train equipment that allows for efficient use of limited work windows to keep the railroad functioning properly. The anticipated use of the San Mateo parking track is approximately once a month.

The previous San Mateo Parking Track was in existence prior to Caltrain becoming the operator of passenger service. Located in the Bay Meadows area, it was used by Caltrain for 25 years until the grade separation project necessitated its removal. There are over a dozen parking tracks distributed in residential and commercial areas along the corridor. There is only one maintenance yard, which is a large 20 acre multi-acre complex operation and facility that is located in San Jose.

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