



**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**  
**City of Fresno**  
**Fulton Mall Reconstruction Project**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City of Fresno (City) has completed an assessment of the possible environmental effects of the following-described project and has determined that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is appropriate. This determination has been made according to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the City of Fresno's regulations and procedures for implementing CEQA.

The Draft EIR has identified the following significant and unavoidable effects for the project options: Aesthetics – Short-term Visual Character, and Historic Resources. The Draft EIR also identified the following significant effects prior to mitigation, but less than significant after mitigation: Biological Resources (Nesting Birds and Roosting Bats), Cultural Resources (discovery of unknown archaeological, paleontological, and human remains), Hazards and Hazardous Materials (unanticipated soil contamination), Hydrology and Water Quality (accidental contaminate spills during construction), Land Use (inconsistency with the 2025 General Plan Level of Service D Policy for roadways under cumulative conditions), and Transportation/Traffic (inconsistency with the 2025 General Plan Level of Service D Policy for roadways under cumulative conditions, and inadequate emergency access under cumulative conditions). The project site is not designated on the hazardous materials list that has been compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Copies of the Draft EIR and all related documents are on file and available to the public through the City of Fresno, **City Clerk's Office**, located at 2600 Fresno Street, 2nd Floor, Fresno, CA 93721; the **Fresno Central Library** located at 2420 Mariposa Street, Fresno, CA 93721; and the **Downtown Fresno Partnership**, 845 Fulton Mall, Fresno, CA 93721. The Draft EIR is also available on the City's Website at: [www.fresno.gov/fultonmall](http://www.fresno.gov/fultonmall)

If your property is rented or leased, we request that you provide your tenant(s) with this notice.

1. **Project Name:** Fulton Mall Reconstruction Project
2. **Project Location:** The proposed Fulton Mall Reconstruction project is located in Downtown Fresno. Fulton Mall consists of six blocks bounded by Van Ness Avenue to the east, Inyo Street to the south, Broadway/H Street to the west, and Tuolumne Street to the north. Tulare Street and Fresno Street divide the Mall into three equal portions. The project site includes the existing 80-foot rights-of-way within Fulton Mall including Fulton between Inyo Street to Tulare Street, Tulare Street and Fresno Street, and Fresno Street and Tuolumne Street. The project also includes the existing 80-foot rights-of-way along (1) Kern between Van Ness Avenue and Home Run Alley, (2) Mariposa between Van Ness Avenue and Broadway, and (3) Merced between Van Ness Avenue and Congo Alley. In addition to the Mall, there are areas adjacent to the new streets within the Mall that would allow transitional streetscape to accommodate the project. Furthermore, the project includes a parcel at the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission campus near the intersection of Mariposa and Congo Alley for the proposed tot lot.
3. **Project Description:** The City proposes to reconstruct Fulton Mall as a complete street by reintroducing vehicle traffic lanes to the existing pedestrian mall. The Mall consists of six linear blocks that were open to traffic prior to 1964 but now do not allow public vehicle access. The total length of the proposed roadways would be approximately 0.67 mile; a total of 0.74 mile existing Fulton Mall right-of-way would be affected.

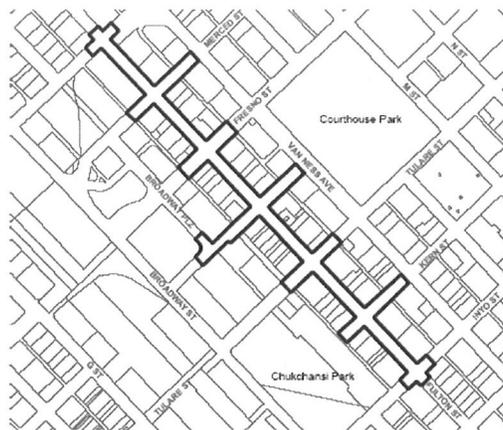
The City of Fresno is proposing the following two build options for the Fulton Mall Reconstruction Project.

## Project Option 1

Option 1 consists of reopening the Fulton Mall with two-way streets, with one lane of vehicular traffic in each direction alongside bicycle, pedestrian, and potentially other travel modes, along the length of the Fulton Mall and three cross streets: Merced between Congo Alley and Federal Alley, Mariposa between Broadway Plaza and Federal Alley, and Kern between Fulton and Federal Alley. On-street vehicle parking spaces would be reintroduced along the length of the Fulton Mall (including cross streets), mid-block pedestrian crossings would be provided, and construction of streetscape improvements would optimize the streets for the new blend of travel modes. This Option would feature artworks, water features, seating, and trees and would allow for walking and pedestrian-only seating, landscaping, and lighting. There are existing street rights-of-way adjacent to the new streets within the Mall that would include minor public infrastructure improvements such as new curb locations, traffic signal improvements, and lane striping. These improvements would provide transitional streetscape to accommodate the project. Under Option 1, the two tot lots present, one located near the corner of Merced and Fulton, and the other located near the corner of Kern and Fulton, would be consolidated into one larger tot lot at the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission campus near the intersection of Mariposa and Congo Alley.

## Project Option 2

Option 2 consists of reconnecting the street grid similar to Option 1, but would include rebuilding distinctive elements of the Fulton Mall in five to six specific locations, known as “vignettes,” in their exact current size and configuration. The vignettes are intended to preserve existing shade trees and features of the historic Eckbo design, and would include many of the existing elements (sculptures, fountains, pavement pattern, trees, and so on). There are existing street rights-of-way adjacent to the new streets within the Mall that would include minor public infrastructure improvements such as new curb locations, traffic signal improvements, and lane striping. These improvements would provide transitional streetscape to accommodate the project. Under Option 2, the two tot lots present, one located near the corner of Merced and Fulton, and the other located near the corner of Kern and Fulton, would be consolidated into one larger tot lot at the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission campus near the intersection of Mariposa and Congo Alley.



4. **Project Applicant/CEQA Lead Agency:** The City of Fresno
5. **Contact Person:** Elliott Balch, Downtown Revitalization Manager, 2600 Fresno Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Fresno, CA 93721; 559.621.8366; E-mail; [Elliott.Balch@fresno.gov](mailto:Elliott.Balch@fresno.gov)

**Public Comment** regarding the proposed project and/or adequacy of the EIR will be accepted in writing on or before January 13, 2014. Comments should be submitted to Downtown Revitalization Manager Elliott Balch at the mailing address or email address provided above. The period for public review during which the City will receive comments on the Draft EIR will begin on November 27, 2013 and end on January 13, 2014. When a date and time for deliberation is known, the City will notice the meeting in accordance with City regulations.