



## Notice of Availability of a Finding of No Significant Impact

**DATE:** April 24, 2025

**TO:** Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Members of the Public

**PROJECT:** Ontario International Airport (ONT) Connector Project

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The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as the federal lead agency for the proposed Ontario International Airport Connector Project (Build Alternative), in coordination with the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA). Separately, but in parallel with the preparation of the FONSI, a Final Environmental Impact Report was prepared by SBCTA as the lead agency to comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**Project Location:** The Build Alternative is located in the City of Rancho Cucamonga and in the City of Ontario within San Bernardino County. The Build Alternative alignment is a reversed L-shaped alignment consisting of Cucamonga Metrolink Station, Milliken Avenue, East Airport Drive, and ONT. Cucamonga Metrolink Station is located at 11208 Azusa Court in the City of Rancho Cucamonga and serves the Metrolink San Bernardino Line commuter rail. ONT is located at 1923 East Avion Street in the City of Ontario and provides international airport service with over 10 different airline partners.

**Project Background:** SBCTA and other agencies have assessed several transit concepts that could connect to ONT since 2008. In a 2014 study, the then-San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), now SBCTA, identified the need for a direct rail-to-airport connection to ONT to support its projected growth. In 2018, two studies identified a connecting shuttle-style rail service with a transfer to the Cucamonga Metrolink Station that would result in the fastest travel times and support the project objectives.

### **Project Purpose and Need:**

The purpose of the Build Alternative is as follows:

- Expand access options to ONT by providing a convenient and direct transit connection between ONT and the Cucamonga Metrolink Station;
- Reduce roadway congestion by encouraging a mode shift to transit from single-occupancy vehicles and provide reliable trips to and from ONT; and
- Support the use of clean emerging technology opportunities between the Cucamonga Metrolink Station and ONT.

The need of the Build Alternative is as follows:

- Lack of direct transit connection coinciding with Metrolink trains and peak airport arrival and departure schedules.
- Roadway congestion affecting trip reliability and causing traffic delays.

- High number of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) resulting from ONT travelers and lack of a direct transit connection.
- Increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions within the communities surrounding ONT from vehicle travel to and from ONT.

**Project Description:** SBCTA proposes to construct a 4.2-mile-long transit service tunnel directly connecting the SCRRA Cucamonga Metrolink Station with ONT. The Build Alternative proposes to expand access options to ONT by providing a direct transportation connection from Cucamonga Metrolink Station to ONT. The Build Alternative would provide a direct airport connection to ONT from Cucamonga Metrolink Station to support ONT's projected growth. Transit facilities would be constructed, including stations to serve Cucamonga Metrolink Station, ONT Terminal 2, and ONT Terminal 4; a maintenance and storage facility (MSF) to store and maintain vehicles; and an emergency access and ventilation (vent) shaft to provide a means of emergency passenger egress and first responder access. This new connection would increase mobility and connectivity for transit patrons; improve access to existing transportation services; provide a connection to future Brightline West service to/from ONT; and support the use of clean, emerging technology for transit opportunities between Cucamonga Metrolink Station and ONT.

**Summary of Environmental Impacts:** The EA identified effects associated with the Build Alternative for the following environmental topics: Geology, Soils, Seismicity, and Paleontological Resources; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Transportation and Traffic and Hydrology, Water Quality, Water Resources, and Floodplain. As described in the EA, the Build Alternative would result in no adverse effect with the implementation of mitigation measures.

**Public Comments:** The FONSI, along with other Project information, is available for review and download online at the SBCTA website at: <https://www.gosbcta.com/ontconnector/>. For additional information, please contact:

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