



San Jose to San Francisco High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS

Participating Agency Technical Working Group

June 2009





Agenda

1. Introductions/review project process
2. Technical Working Group overview
3. Scoping process overview
4. Alternatives identified through scoping process
5. Environmental methods review/Alternatives Analysis
6. Schedule update
7. Next steps/next meeting





Statewide Program EIR/EIS

- 800 miles
- Connects Northern and Southern California
 - Service to:
 - Los Angeles
 - Orange County
 - Inland Empire
 - San Diego
 - Central Valley
 - San Francisco Bay Area
 - Sacramento
- SF to LA: less than 2 hrs. 40 min.





San Jose to San Francisco Study Area & Express Travel Times



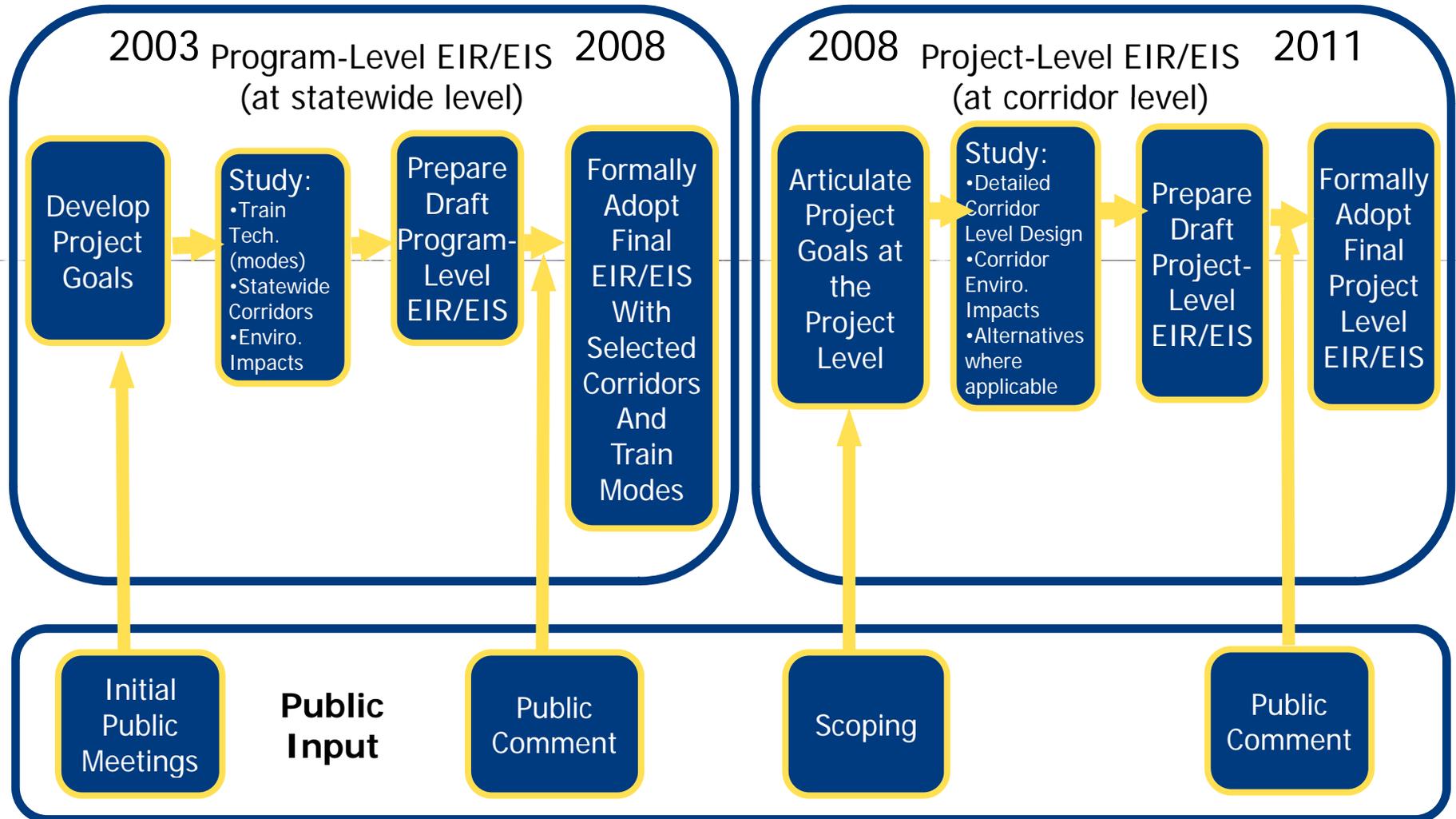
**San Jose
to
San Francisco**

30 minutes





Project Process





Environmental Process

1. Initial Outreach	NOP/NOI	Scoping Meetings	Scoping Summary Report	Agency Outreach Plan
2. Project Definition	Initial Project Alternatives	Alternatives Screening	Alternatives Analysis Reports	Project Description
3. Draft EIR/EIS	Technical Reports	Draft EIR/EIS	Public Circulation of Draft EIR/EIS	Public Hearings
4. Final EIR/EIS	Selection of Preferred Alternative	Responses to Comments	Final EIR/EIS	ROD/NOD

Public Document	Technical Report	Outreach Activity
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Lead Agencies

STATE

California High-Speed Rail Authority

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Lead Agency

FEDERAL

Federal Railroad Administration

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Lead Agency





Technical Working Group

- Participating Agency involvement
- Roles/responsibilities
- Technical Working Group meeting schedule





Purpose of Participating Agency Involvement

- To share information with cities, transportation and resource agencies about the HST project
- To inform agency representatives about the HST environmental process, its documents and solicit input





Participating Agencies Roles and Responsibilities

- To share information with HST team and feedback relevant information to key city/county/agency counterparts

- To provide early and timely input to the HST project and the environmental document
- To identify a representative (alternate) to attend scheduled meetings between June 2009 – December of 2011





2009-2010 TWG meeting schedule

June 2009 – TWG Meeting #1

- Scoping Report Briefings
- Initial Identification of Alternatives/Design Options
- Schedule Update
- Environmental Methods

September 2009 - TWG Meeting #2

- Station Design Criteria
- Purpose and Need
- Conceptual Design and Analysis of Alternatives/Design Options
- Station Needs Assessment

January 2010 – TWG Meeting #3

- Alternatives Analysis (AA) Draft Report





Agency Coordination

- Regional, county and city planning agencies
 - Transportation agencies
-
- Local, regional, state and federal resource agencies





Cities and Counties

San Francisco County

- City and County

San Mateo County

- 11 cities and the County

Santa Clara County

- 5 cities and the County





City and County Contacts

San Francisco County

- City and County of San Francisco
-





City and County Contacts

San Mateo County

- Brisbane
- Belmont
- South San Francisco
- San Carlos
- San Bruno
- Redwood City
- Millbrae
- Atherton
- Burlingame
- Menlo Park
- San Mateo
- County of San Mateo





City and County Contacts

Santa Clara County

- Palo Alto
- Mountain View
- Sunnyvale
- Santa Clara
- San Jose
- County of Santa Clara





Operating Partners on Caltrain Corridor

- Caltrain
- Altamont Commuter Express (ACE)

- Amtrak
- BNSF Railway
- Capitol Corridor
- Union Pacific Railroad





Transportation Agencies

- PCJPB/Caltrain/SamTrans
- BART
- Caltrans – District 4
- Port of San Francisco
- Port of Redwood City
- San Mateo County Transportation Authority
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
- San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
- San Francisco County Transportation Authority
- San Francisco International Airport
- San Jose International Airport
- Water Emergency Transit Authority (WETA)





Transportation Agencies

- AC Transit
- Caltrans Division of Rail
- San Francisco Municipal Railway
- San Francisco Transbay Joint Powers Authority
- Stanford University Parking & Transportation Services (Marguerite Shuttle)





State and Local Resource Agencies

STATE AGENCIES

- Air Resources Board
- Coastal Commission
- Department of Conservation
- Department of Fish and Game, Region 3
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- Department of Toxic Substances
- Department of Transportation – District 4
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Geologic Survey
- Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- Native American Heritage Commission
- Public Utilities Commission
- State Historic Preservation Office
- State Water Quality Control Board - San Francisco Bay Region 2
- Transportation Commission





State and Local Resource Agencies

LOCAL AGENCIES

- Association of Bay Area Governments
- City and County Association of Governments (C/CAG)
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission
- Mid-peninsula Regional Open Space District
- Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance
- SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- San Francisco Redevelopment Agency
- San Mateo Countywide TDM Agency





Federal Resource Agencies

- Army Corps of Engineers
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Highway Administration
- Transit Administration
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Forest Service
- National Park Service





Additional Outreach Mechanisms

- Existing forums
 - City staff and council meetings
 - Transit Agency Boards/Committees
- Ad hoc forums
 - Civic Organizations
 - Neighborhood associations
- Traditional media
 - Local media outreach
 - Collateral material
 - CHSRA Website
 - Email blasts





County Liaisons Contact Information

San Francisco County

Gia Daniller

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Santa Clara County

Don Cecil/Muffie Meier

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San Mateo County

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garveycgs@yahoo.com

Project Information Line

(510) 587-8640





Environmental Process

Overview of Scoping Process





Scoping Activities Overview

Scoping Meetings

- 3 County Meetings – January 2009
San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara
 - 382 Total Attendees
-
- 3 Project Information Meetings – Feb/March 2009
Millbrae, Palo Alto, Redwood City
 - 351 Total Attendees
 - Over 950 pieces of correspondence submitted





Scoping Comments

Ten Major Issues Raised During Scoping

Topic 1: Protection of the Environment

- Community Impacts (community character/quality of life/community separation)
- Noise and Vibration
- Safety and Security

Topic 2: Alignment and Station Alternatives

- Consider various vertical alignments
- Consider station locations and design

Topic 3: Connectivity and Coordination with Other Transportation Facilities

- Multi-modal service/transfers between systems
- Grade separations
- Freight operations
- Coordination with Agencies





Scoping Comments

Ten Major Issues Raised During Scoping

Topic 4: Alternative Technologies/Systems

- Type of train service (HST vs Caltrain)
- Use of existing transit systems (BART, buses)

Topic 5: Project Funding/Cost

- Cost (construction)
- Sources of Funding
- Cost (social cost/non-monetary)

Topic 6: Land Use and Property Acquisition

- Property Values
- Identify additional Right-of-Way needed
- Eminent Domain policy





Scoping Comments

Ten Major Issues Raised During Scoping

Topic 7: Public Outreach

- Transparent decision-making process
- Ample public involvement

Topic 8: Support for the Project

- Construction of a HST system long overdue
- Agency and organization support of the general concept of HST
- Organizations and individual support of specific aspects of the project, including undergrounding of tracks in residential neighborhoods or through historic downtown areas





Scoping Comments

Ten Major Issues Raised During Scoping

Topic 9: Opposition to the Project

- Questioning need of statewide HST
- HST alignment along the Peninsula
- The environmental costs of a HST system on the Peninsula would outweigh the benefits

Topic 10: Project Description

- Investigate and coordinate construction phasing
- Explore opportunities to operate on only two tracks in the right-of-way
- Accommodate bicycles and freight on the HST system





Initial Alternatives Identified in Scoping Comments

Caltrain Corridor

- Elevated Rail (viaduct or embankment)

- At-Grade Rail (local roads under or over)
- Below-Grade Rail (trench-type structure)
- Deep Tunnel (bored)





Grade Separations



Before
Typical Underpass
After



Before
Typical Overpass/Trench
After





Initial Alternatives Identified in Scoping Comments

Other Alternatives

- No Build/No Project
- US 101 Corridor
- I-280 Corridor
- Others





Environmental Methodologies

1. Overall Goals
2. Origins of the methodologies
3. Methodology content
4. Available for review on the Authority's website: www.cahighspeedrail.com





Environmental Methodologies

1. Overall Goals

- Conduct the environmental analyses that will satisfy environmental laws:
 - California Environmental Quality Act
 - National Environmental Policy Act
 - Related environmental regulations





Environmental Methodologies

2. Origins of the Methodologies

- Tiers from the program-level EIR/EIS
- Refined to reflect more project-specific information and need for project-level assessment
- Utilizing expertise from the Authority (Attorney General's Office), FRA, Program Management Team, and various consultant teams





Environmental Methodologies

3. Methodology Content

- Regulatory Setting
 - Applicable federal and state regulations
 - Local and regional ordinances, plans, policies
- Baseline/Affected Environment
 - Topic areas
 - Relevant study area
 - Key information and available data source
- Environmental Impact Analysis
 - Standards/significance criteria
 - For each topic area, issues to evaluate
 - Guidelines for conducting the analysis
 - Potential mitigation measures
 - Mitigation strategies outlined in the Program EIR/EIS
 - Project-specific, location-specific recommendations





Alternatives Analysis

1. Identify Initial Alternatives and PMT/Authority/FRA/AG Review
2. Agency & Public Outreach
3. Adjust Initial Alternatives, as necessary
4. Project Alternatives Workshop
5. Draft Alternatives Analysis Report
6. PMT/Authority/FRA/AG Review
7. CHSRA Board Presentation
8. Agency & Public Outreach
9. Final Alternatives Analysis Report
10. Draft Project Definition





Draft Schedule Update

Task List	2009				2010				2011				2012			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Task : Project Management	[Blue bar spanning all quarters from 2009 Q1 to 2012 Q4]															
Task : Public Participation Program	[Blue bar spanning all quarters from 2009 Q1 to 2012 Q4]															
Task : Project Definition Alternative/Analysis	[Empty]															
Sub-Task : NOP/NOI	[Blue bar]															
Sub-Task : Project Scoping	[Blue bar]															
Sub-Task : Alternative Analysis			[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]												
Task : Preliminary Engineering	[Empty]															
Sub-Task : 15% Preliminary Engineering			[Blue bar]													
Sub-Task : 30% Preliminary Engineering									[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]				
Task : EIR/EIS Analysis	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]				
Task : Draft/Final EIR/EIS	[Empty]															
Sub-Task : Prepare Administrative Draft EIR/EIS		[Blue bar]														
Sub-Task : Prepare Draft EIR/EIS									[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]						
Sub-Task : Prepare Draft Final EIR/EIS									[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]	[Blue bar]				
Sub-Task : Prepare Final EIR/EIS													[Blue bar]			
Task : EIR/EIS Certification & ROD																[Red diamond]





Next Steps

- Next Steps – Organization of technical working groups
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- Next Meeting

