

Appendix C:

Scoping Meeting Announcements

- Newspaper display advertisement
- Legal Advertisement
- Letter to elected officials
- Media advisory
- Scoping meeting postcard

Interested in the California High-Speed Train System?

Attend public scoping meetings to start the environmental review of the San Jose to Merced section of the proposed California High-Speed Train system.

Merced	San Jose	Gilroy
March 18	March 25	March 26
3:00-7:00 p.m.	3:00-7:00 p.m.	3:00-7:00 p.m.
Merced Community Senior Center	Roosevelt Community Center,	Gilroy Hilton Garden Inn
755 W. 15th Street	Community Room B	Ballroom A
<i>(joint scoping meeting with Bakersfield to Merced Section)</i>	901 E. Santa Clara Street	6070 Monterey Road

Drop by any time during meeting hours to get information and give input on the scope of the environmental study.

Comments accepted via mail to Mr. Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director, ATTN. San Jose to Merced, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814, or via e-mail with subject line "San Jose to Merced HST" to comments@hsr.ca.gov through close of business April 10, 2009. For more information: www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov or (415) 613-3612.



CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS
SAN JOSE TO MERCED SECTION OF THE PROPOSED
HIGH-SPEED TRAIN SYSTEM**

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority), as the Lead Agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process for a proposed California High-Speed Train (HST) system, is issuing a Notice of Preparation of a Project Level Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the San Jose to Merced section of the proposed HST system. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), an operating administration with the United States Department of Transportation, will serve as federal lead agency for the federal environmental review process complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The San Jose to Merced Project Level HST EIR/EIS will examine a range of project alternatives for portions of the proposed HST system within corridors selected in the Bay Area to Central Valley Final Program EIR/EIS, as well as a no action alternative.

The Authority and the FRA completed a Final Statewide Program EIR/EIS in August 2005 as the first-phase of a tiered environmental review process for the proposed California HST system. Following certification of the Statewide Program EIR/EIS, the Authority directed staff to prepare a separate program-level EIR/EIS to identify a preferred alignment for the Bay Area to Central Valley section. In compliance with CEQA and NEPA, the Bay Area to Central Valley HST Program EIR/EIS was completed in May 2008 and approved in July 2008. The Bay Area to Central Valley HST Program EIR/EIS identified a preferred alignment that generally follows the Caltrain/Union Pacific Railroad corridor from San Jose to Gilroy. From Gilroy, the corridor extends east through the Pacheco Pass, generally following State Route 152, and then along Henry Miller Road to connect with the Bakersfield to Merced section of the HST system. For the Project Level EIR/EIS that will now be prepared, the technical studies, impact analysis, and mitigation measures described in the Program Level EIR/EIS will be reviewed and impacts will be analyzed at a more detailed level of analysis appropriate to a 15 percent design.

To ensure that the issues most important to the public and public agencies are addressed in the San Jose to Merced Project Level HST EIR/EIS process, the Authority is inviting your participation in several scoping meetings, which have been scheduled to collect public input. Comments will be accepted throughout the scoping meetings and through close of business on Friday, April 10, 2009. The meetings will be held on the following dates and locations:

Public Scoping Meetings

Merced	San Jose	Gilroy
March 18, 3:00-7:00 p.m.	March 25, 3:00-7:00 p.m.	March 26, 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Merced Community Senior Center 755 W. 15th Street <i>(joint scoping meeting with Bakersfield to Merced Section)</i>	Roosevelt Community Center Community Room B 901 E. Santa Clara Street	Gilroy Hilton Garden Inn Ballroom A 6070 Monterey Road

**Scoping meetings are open house format. People can drop by at any time to get information and provide input. Team members will be available throughout the session to respond to your questions.*

The Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the San Jose to Merced Project Level HST EIR/EIS and additional information about the meetings are available at www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov. The FRA has published the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register. Copies of the NOP also will be available at the scoping meetings.

All written comments on the scope of the San Jose to Merced Project Level HST EIR/EIS should be sent to Mr. Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director, ATTN. San Jose to Merced, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814, or via e-mail with subject line "San Jose to Merced HST" to comments@hsr.ca.gov through close of business on April 10, 2009. Comments may also be provided verbally or in writing at the scoping meetings.

QUESTIONS?

(415) 613-3612

VISIT OUR WEB SITE:

www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov



CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

DATE

Name

Title

City

Address

City, State, Zip

Dear Mr./Ms. Last name of Elected Official:

As you may know, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) is preparing an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the San Jose to Merced section of the proposed statewide High Speed Train (HST) system. The proposed alignment for the San Jose to Merced project generally follows the Caltrain/Union Pacific Railroad corridor from San Jose to Gilroy. From Gilroy, the corridor extends east through the Pacheco Pass, generally following State Route 152, and then along Henry Miller Road to Chowchilla to connect with the Bakersfield to Merced section of the HST system. Stations are proposed in San Jose (Diridon Station), Gilroy, and downtown Merced. The preferred station location in the city of Gilroy is the current Caltrain Station.

As an elected official of a community near the proposed route, we wanted to inform you that we will be hosting public scoping meetings in March 2009 at the following locations:

Merced	San Jose	Gilroy
March 18, 3:00-7:00 p.m.	March 25, 3:00-7:00 p.m.	March 26, 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Merced Community Senior Center 755 W. 15th Street	Roosevelt Community Center Community Room B 901 E. Santa Clara Street	Gilroy Hilton Garden Inn Ballroom A 6070 Monterey Road
<i>(joint scoping meeting with Bakersfield to Merced Section)</i>		

Scoping meetings are open house format. People can drop by at any time to get information and provide input. Team members will be available throughout the session to respond to questions.

The scoping meetings are the first step of the environmental review process and will be an opportunity for you and your constituents to comment on the project's potential environmental effects that should be included in the EIR/EIS. Comments will be accepted throughout the scoping meetings and through close of business on Friday, April 10, 2009 via e-mail with subject Line "San Jose to Merced HST" to comments@hsr.ca.gov, or mail to Mr. Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director, ATTN. San Jose to Merced, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814.

It is important to us that as many stakeholders as possible participate in the project's scoping process, so please feel free to distribute information about the upcoming scoping meetings and the project to your constituents. Additionally, we encourage posting the enclosed information on your Web site or in a newsletter (we'd be happy to provide electronic versions of project information materials upon request).



CALIFORNIA
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AUTHORITY

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We believe strongly that the California HST project will be a success if we develop solid partnerships with the communities along the route. As we move forward with the environmental review process, we hope that a working relationship will be further developed in your area and that we can continue to foster an open dialogue.

If you would like more information, we would be happy to arrange for a briefing for you or your staff. Please contact Ben Strumwasser, public participation manager for the San Jose to Merced section at the contact information below to schedule a meeting or request additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Strumwasser".

Ben Strumwasser
San Jose to Merced Section
Public Participation Manager
(415) 227-1100, ext 115
b.strumwasser@circlepoint.com



MEDIA ALERT MEDIA ALERT MEDIA ALERT MEDIA ALERT

Public Input Sought at March 18, 25 and 26 Scoping Meetings in Merced, San Jose and Gilroy on Proposed California High-Speed Train System

WHAT: The California High-Speed Rail Authority is holding scoping meetings in Merced, San Jose, Gilroy to support the project environmental review process for the San Jose to Merced section of the high-speed train (HST) system. Scoping meetings are open house format. People can drop by at any time to get information, ask questions and provide input. Team members will be available throughout the session to respond to questions, and a variety of maps and exhibits will be available for review.

WHEN & WHERE: **Merced**
March 18, 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Merced Community Senior Center
755 W. 15th Street
(Joint scoping meeting with the Bakersfield to Merced Section)

San Jose
March 25, 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Roosevelt Community Center, Community Room B
901 E. Santa Clara Street

Gilroy
March 26, 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Gilroy Hilton Garden Inn
Ballroom A
6070 Monterey Road

WHY: A project Environmental Impact Report/Statement (EIR/EIS) is being prepared to assess the technical studies, impact analysis and mitigation measures described in the Bay Area to Central Valley program EIR/EIS (approved in July 2008) and provide the more detailed level of analysis required before construction can begin. Planned scoping meetings along the proposed corridor will give members of the public and public agencies an opportunity to learn more about the project, ask questions and provide input.

ABOUT THE SAN JOSE TO MERCED SECTION: The proposed alignment for the San Jose to Merced project generally follows the Caltrain/Union Pacific Railroad corridor from San Jose to Gilroy. From Gilroy, the corridor extends east through the Pacheco Pass, generally following State Route 152, and then along Henry Miller Road to Chowchilla to connect with the Bakersfield to Merced section of the HST system. Stations are proposed in San Jose (Diridon Station), Gilroy, and downtown Merced. The preferred station location in the city of Gilroy is the current Caltrain Station.

BACKGROUND: The California High-Speed Rail Authority is responsible for building the proposed high-speed train service that would cover 800 miles and reach speeds up to 220 m.p.h. With the passage of Proposition 1A in the November 2008 ballot, California voters approved funding for the nation's first high-speed train system. By linking major cities in California with a new transportation option, a high-speed train system would increase mobility while cutting air pollution and reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming. For more information, visit www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov.

CONTACT/ INFORMATION: Ben Strumwasser
(415) 227-1100 ext.115
www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov

SAN JOSE TO MERCED SECTION HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT LEVEL EIR/EIS SCOPING MEETINGS

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority), as the lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act process, and the Federal Railroad Administration, as the lead agency for the National Environmental Policy Act process, are issuing a Notice of Preparation of a Project Level Environmental Impact Report/Statement (EIR/EIS) for the San Jose to Merced section of the proposed High-Speed Train system.

To ensure that the issues most important to residents, public agencies and other involved parties are addressed, the Authority is inviting you to participate in scoping meetings to collect public input.

The Notice of Preparation, meeting dates and locations are available at www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov. You also can provide comments at www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov, via mail to Mr. Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director, ATTN. San Jose to Merced, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814, or via e-mail with subject line "San Jose to Merced HST" to comments@hsr.ca.gov through close of business April 10, 2009.

For more information:
(415) 613-3612

Para solicitar este aviso en español,
llame (Autoridad): (415) 613-3612

如需索取本通知中文版,

請電詢加州高速鐵路局:

(415) 613-3612

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xin gọi: (415) 613-3612



www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov



U.S. Department of
Transportation
**Federal Railroad
Administration**



**San Jose to Merced Section
High-Speed Train
Project Level Environmental Impact Report/
Statement Scoping Meetings**

Merced

March 18, 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Merced Community Senior Center

755 W. 15th Street

*(joint scoping meeting with Bakersfield
to Merced Section)*

San Jose

March 25, 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Roosevelt Community Center, Community Room B

901 E. Santa Clara Street

Gilroy

March 26, 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Gilroy Hilton Garden Inn, Ballroom A

6070 Monterey Road

Scoping meetings are open house format. People can drop by at any time to get information and provide input. Team members will be available throughout the session to respond to your questions.



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