

High Speed Rail Public Workshop

May 12, 2010

City of Burlingame



Agenda



- Meeting Overview
- Presentation by City staff
- Presentation by Peninsula Rail Program representatives
 - Alternatives for Burlingame
 - Costs for each alternative
 - Walk through of right of way
 - Impacts such as noise, vibration and visual, etc
 - EIR Process and schedule
 - Road map for public input and project decision making
- Questions and Answers
- Breakout Groups
- Reporting
- Next Steps

Overview



Provide information relative to the High Speed Train (HST) Alternatives in Burlingame

Educate the community about the project

Purpose:

Listen and understand community's issues

Obtain input and feedback regarding concerns and impacts so that they are thoroughly studied, evaluated and addressed by the California High Speed Rail Authority



What is High Speed Rail Project?

A new High Speed Train (HST) system from San Francisco to Los Angeles (in approximately 2 hour and 40 minutes)

HST will be powered by electricity through overhead wires

Proposes to build a combined 4 track Caltrain and HST system between San Francisco and San Jose on the existing Caltrain railroad right of way

Proposes to electrify Caltrain and add grade separations for existing at-grade street crossings

How did we get here?



- Jul 2008 Program level EIR was approved
- Nov 2008 California voters approved bond for HST project
- Jan 2009 High Speed Rail Authority initiated CEQA process
- Apr 2009 Caltrain and CHSRA entered into a MOU
- Apr 2010 Preliminary Alternatives Analysis Report was issued
- Dec 2010 Draft Environmental Report to be released for public comments

City's Major Concerns



- An elevated High Speed Train will divide the community and is not acceptable to the City
- An underground tunnel is the preferred option for the City
- Noise and Vibration impacts during and after construction
- Potential loss of property values and right of way takes
- Financial impacts to businesses and downtown districts
- Preservation of historic resources including Burlingame Avenue train station, Broadway train station and eucalyptus groves
- Impacts to schools and other sensitive receptors
- Impacts to City utilities, drainage channels, and roads
- Maintain and enhance Quality of Life in Burlingame

City Goals



Ensure that High Speed Rail project has minimal impact to our community

Build community awareness and contacts to help influence the political process that results in the best outcome possible for Burlingame

What has the City done so far?



Jan
2009

- Sent letter to High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) raising concerns
- Attended High Speed Rail meeting to represent City concerns

Feb
2009

- High Speed Rail presentation to the City Council

Apr
2009

- Mayor's letter to CHSRA with City's concerns



May
2009

- Held public meeting and obtained input and feedback from residents

June
2009

- City Council and staff met with CHSRA to raise City concerns
- City joined Peninsula Cities Consortium



Jun
2009
present

- City staff and Council continues to attend technical and policy working group and PCC meetings to represent City concerns

What has the City done so far?



Aug
2009

- Developed a community education program and requested that CHSRA educate and obtain input from community members



Sep
2009

- Held a town hall meeting and invited experts to educate the community regarding the project issues and answered questions from the residents

Nov
2009

- Facilitated Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) meeting by CHSRA to obtain stakeholder input into the project
- Mayor's letter to CHSRA with continued City's concerns on the project



Jan
2010

- Held public meeting and obtained input and feedback from residents
- Mayor's letter with comments on CSS process and workshop results

Feb
2010

- Held Special City Council Study Session to develop High Speed Rail Action Plan



Mar
2010

- Performed our own analysis of possible alternatives and impacts and obtained input from the community





What has the City done so far?

Apr
2010

- City Council approved \$185,000 for engineering and CEQA review as well as public education efforts
- Mayor attended the CHSRA Board meeting and pleaded City concerns (AA released at the Board meeting)
- Held High Speed Rail workshop and made presentation to the City Council of the AA and received public input
- Sent City's letter with comments on the revised programmatic EIR to CHSRA
- Received over 60 letters with comments on revised EIR from individual residents and forwarded them to Peninsula Rail Program and State officials



Apr/May
2010

- Meetings and tour of the railroad corridor by Mayor and Vice Mayor with CHSRA Board member Rod Diridon



Apr 2009 –
present

- Working closely with cities of Millbrae and San Mateo to coordinate issues