

RESOLUTION #HSRA 18-20

**State's Preferred Alternative for the
Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact
Statement**

Whereas, the California High Speed Rail Authority (Authority) has conducted preliminary engineering and environmental analysis to a level sufficient to describe the comparative benefits and challenges of the High-Speed Rail Project Alternative for the Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section;

Whereas, the Authority has briefed the regulatory agencies and conducted stakeholder working groups and open houses in the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Los Angeles to seek input, which was carefully considered;

Whereas, the preliminary analyses indicate that the High-Speed Rail Project Alternative best meets project objectives while also incorporating stakeholder input and minimizing effects to environmental and community resources;

Whereas, the Board has delegated to staff the authority to develop the Draft EIR/EIS;

Whereas, the Board has retained authority to identify a preferred alternative in the Draft EIR/EIS;

Whereas, staff has identified the public transparency benefits of identifying the State's Preferred Alternative in the forthcoming Burbank to Los Angeles Draft EIR/EIS;

Whereas, the identification of the State's Preferred Alternative at this time is not a final decision by the Board and allows for full consideration of all the effects of the alternatives considered in the still-ongoing environmental process, and,

Whereas, the Authority recognizes the function of the forthcoming Burbank to Los Angeles Draft EIR/EIS is to elicit public comments prior to the Authority making any final decision regarding any alternative.

Therefore, it is resolved:

The Authority Board concurs with the staff recommendation that the High-Speed Rail Project Alternative shall be identified as the State's Preferred Alternative in the forthcoming Burbank to Los Angeles Draft EIR/EIS.

The Authority Board directs staff to work with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to obtain FRA's concurrence that the High-Speed Rail Project Alternative is the FRA's NEPA Preferred Alternative.

The Authority Board further directs staff to continue to engage local stakeholders to address comments about high-speed rail within their communities.

Vote:
Yes:
No:
Absent:
Date:

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