

What happens to my comments?

Each comment received regarding environmental issues will be reviewed and responded to in the Final EIR/EIS document, anticipated for public release in early 2012. All formal public comments will be made public.

What role does the EIR/EIS play in the project decision-making?

Following the publication of the Final EIR/EIS, the Authority and FRA will select an alignment and stations, and approve the project. A preferred location for a possible heavy maintenance facility also may be selected. Once an alignment is selected and approved, a Record of Decision and Notice of Determination will be issued by the FRA and Authority, allowing the project to move forward.



770 L Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95814



For More Information

The California High-Speed Rail Authority is committed to updating and involving the public during the environmental review for the HST development. For more information, please visit www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/ or call **866-761-7755**.



Workshops:

Rosedale

August 23, 2011, 4-7 p.m.
Grace Baptist Church
2550 Jewetta Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93312

Wasco

August 24, 2011, 4-7 p.m.
Veterans Hall
1202 Poplar Avenue
Wasco, CA 93280

Corcoran

August 25, 2011, 4-7 p.m.
Technology Center
1101 Dairy Avenue
Corcoran, CA 93212

Fresno

August 30, 2011, 4-7 p.m.
Harvest of Harmony Church
1410 Kern St
Fresno, CA 93706
(Parking will be available at the Buddhist Temple on E St/Kern)

Public Hearings:

Fresno

September 20, 2011, 3-8 p.m.
Fresno Convention Center
848 M Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Hanford

September 21, 2011, 3-8 p.m.
Civic Auditorium
400 N. Douty Street
Hanford, CA 93230

Bakersfield

September 22, 2011, 3-8 p.m.
Beale Memorial Library
701 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities or who need assistance to participate.

Now Available for Public Comment: Draft EIR/EIS for Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the High-Speed Train Project

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) have released for public review and comment a joint Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIR/EIS) for the Fresno to Bakersfield section of the California High-Speed Train (HST) Project. The official public comment period begins August 15, 2011 and ends September 28, 2011.

About the Fresno to Bakersfield High-Speed Train Project

The California High-Speed Train System

The Authority is proposing to develop an 800-mile high-speed train system that would connect the San Francisco Bay Area to Sacramento in the north, through the Central Valley to Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Diego in the south.

A comprehensive program-level environmental study was conducted from 2005 through 2008 to determine general HST alignment and station locations. The November 2008 California voter-approved \$9.95 billion bond measure moved the program forward, and project-specific environmental studies are now underway.

The Fresno to Bakersfield section

The Fresno to Bakersfield section of the HST system is 113 miles long and travels through the San Joaquin Valley with stations proposed in the cities of Fresno and Bakersfield, with an additional station possible east of Hanford to serve the Kings-Tulare County region.



Where can I find the Fresno to Bakersfield Draft EIR/EIS?

The Draft EIR/EIS is available for public review in hard copy and/or on a CD-ROM at a number of publicly accessible locations. The document can also be viewed online at www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov and www.fra.dot.gov. In addition, the Executive Summary has been translated into Spanish. The Draft EIR/EIS is available for public review at the following locations:

| VENUE | ADDRESS |
|---|--|
| Fresno County Public Library, Central Branch | 2420 Mariposa Street, Fresno, CA |
| Fresno County Public Library, Clovis Regional Library | 1155 Fifth Street, Clovis, CA |
| Fresno County Public Library, Laton Branch | 6313 DeWoody Street, Laton, CA |
| Kern County Library, Beale Memorial Library | 701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA |
| Kern County Library, Delano Branch | 925 10th Avenue, Delano, CA |
| Kern County Library, Shafter Branch | 236 James Street, Shafter, CA |
| Kern County Library, Wasco Branch | 1102 7th Street, Wasco, CA |
| Kings County Library, Corcoran Branch | 1001 Chittenden Avenue, Corcoran, CA |
| Kings County Library, Hanford Branch | 401 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA 93230 |
| Kings County Library, Lemoore Branch | 457 C Street, Lemoore, CA |
| Tulare County Library, Visalia Branch | 200 West Oak Avenue, Visalia, CA |
| Tulare Public Library | 475 North M Street, Tulare, CA |
| Calwa Park | 4545 E. Church, Fresno, CA |
| Einstein Neighborhood Center | 3566 E. Dakota, Fresno, CA |
| F.I.R.M. | 2970 E. Weldon, Fresno, CA |
| Glen Agnes Senior Center | 603 W. Home, Fresno, CA |
| Highway City Neighborhood Center | 5140 N. State, Fresno, CA |
| Hinton Community Center | 2385 S. Fairview, Fresno, CA |
| Mary Ella Brown Community Center | 1350 E. Annadale, Fresno, CA |
| Las Casitas Residential Center | 156 S. Willow, Fresno, CA |
| Lafayette Neighborhood Center | 1516 E. Princeton, Fresno, CA |
| The Learning Center | 1240 Broadway Plaza, Fresno, CA |
| Mosqueda Community Center | 3670 E. Butler, Fresno, CA |
| Pinedale Community Center | 7170 N. San Pablo, Fresno, CA |
| Quigley Neighborhood Center | 808 W. Dakota, Fresno, CA |
| Romain Neighborhood Center | 745 N. First, Fresno, CA |
| Senior Citizens Village | 1917 S. Chestnut, Fresno, CA |
| Ted C. Wills Community Center | 770 N. San Pablo, Fresno, CA |
| Laton Community Services District | 6501 E Latonia Avenue, Fresno, CA |
| Veterans/Senior Center | 401 N. Irwin Street, Hanford, CA |
| Hanford Civic Auditorium | 400 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA |
| The Longfield Center | 560 S. Douty Street, Hanford, CA |
| Mission Community Day School | 1128 S Dairy Avenue, Corcoran, CA |
| Continuation School | 1128 S Dairy Avenue, Corcoran, CA |
| Corcoran Academy | 1128 S Dairy Avenue, Corcoran, CA |
| Lemoore Community Center | 501 E Bush Street, Lemoore, CA |
| Community Action Agency | 1222 W Lacey Boulevard, Hanford, CA |
| Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center | 1000 South Owens Street, Bakersfield, CA |
| Bakersfield Senior Center | 530 4th Street, Bakersfield, CA |
| The Rasmussen Center | 115 East Roberts Lane, Bakersfield, CA |
| Greenacres Community Center | 2014 Calloway Drive, Bakersfield, CA |

About the Environmental Review Process

Overview of the environmental process

Large projects like the California High-Speed Train System require extensive studies on potential positive and negative impacts that the project may have on the physical environment, and ways to reduce and/or eliminate any potential negative impacts. The environmental process for this project falls under the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). These statutes provide a standardized method of identifying, evaluating, and addressing the HST project impacts. Under CEQA, the HST project impacts are reported in the EIR. Under NEPA, the HST project impacts are reported in the EIS. For this project, the EIR/EIS has been combined into a "joint document" that fulfills federal and state requirements.

What is the purpose of this EIR/EIS?

The EIR/EIS serves several purposes. Required under United States environmental law, this joint document:

- Informs the public and agency decision-makers of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project
- Provides mitigation measures to avoid or significantly reduce potential negative environmental impacts
- Identifies and evaluates reasonable alternatives that could avoid or lessen potential negative environmental impacts
- Allows the public to formally provide comments on potential environmental impacts

Which agencies are responsible for creating the EIR/EIS?

The Authority is the agency responsible for upholding the state's CEQA requirements (EIR). The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is the agency responsible for upholding the federal NEPA requirements (EIS).

How can I comment on the Fresno to Bakersfield Draft EIR/EIS?

There is a 45-day public comment period during which comments on the document can be submitted. The comment period is August 15 - September 28, 2011. There are several ways that you can provide comments:

- Attend a public hearing on September 20, 21, or 22 and complete a comment form or have your comment transcribed by a court reporter. Public hearings will be held in three different communities that may be affected by the project.
- Anytime during the comment period, comments will be accepted via e-mail or standard mail.

Mail

Fresno to Bakersfield Draft EIR/EIS Comment
770 L Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95814

Online:

Visit the Authority's website:
www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov

E-mail:

Fresno_Bakersfield@hsr.ca.gov
Subject line: Draft EIR/EIS Comment

