

16 INTRODUCTION

This introduction explains the organization of Volume 4, Responses to Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement and Revised/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement, of the Final EIR/EIS. Volume 4 contains public comments received during the circulation periods for the *San Francisco to San Jose Project Section Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement* (Draft EIR/EIS) and the *San Francisco to San Jose Project Section Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS). Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority), as the lead agency, provided a 45-day comment period for the Draft EIR/EIS from July 10 to August 24, 2020. Due to the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Authority extended the comment period to end on September 9, 2020, making it a 60-day comment period. Pursuant to CEQA and NEPA, the Authority provided a minimum 45-day comment period for the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS from July 23 to September 8, 2021.

16.1 Standard Responses to Frequently Raised Comments

During the public review period for the Draft EIR/EIS, the Authority received a total of 151 comment submittals through a combination of letters, emails, and oral comments (court reporter) provided at the public hearing. These 151 submissions yielded a total of 2,121 discrete comments on the environmental documents and on the proposed project generally. There were 7 submissions received by the Authority following the close of the comment period. While these submissions were late, they were still considered and responded to in Volume 4 of this Final EIR/EIS. During the public review period for the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS, the Authority received a total of 25 comment submittals through a combination of letters and emails. These 25 submissions yielded a total of 136 discrete comments on the environmental documents and on the proposed project generally.

The Authority has prepared a chapter of standard responses to address the most frequently raised issues. The standard responses provide a comprehensive response to an issue so that multiple aspects of the issue are addressed in an organized manner in one location. This reduces repetition of responses. When an individual comment raises an issue discussed in a standard response, the response to the individual comment includes a cross-reference to the appropriate standard response. In Volume 4, the standard responses are provided in Chapter 17, Standard Responses. A translated summary of individual standard responses to comments may be provided upon request, to the extent practicable. Se puede facilitar un resumen traducido de las respuestas estándares individuales a los comentarios a quien lo solicite, en los casos en que sea factible. 在可行的范围内，可应要求提供对个别评论的标准回复的摘要翻译。 Một bản tóm tắt được dịch cho các phản hồi tiêu chuẩn cá nhân đối với nhận xét có thể được cung cấp khi được yêu cầu, đến mức độ có thể thực thi. Maaaring magbigay ng naisalin na buod ng mga indibidwal na karaniwang tugon sa mga komento kapag hiniling, hangga't maisasagawa ito.

16.2 Individual Responses to Written and Verbal Comments

Following the standard responses, the Authority provides responses to individual written and verbal comments on the Draft EIR/EIS (Part 1 of each chapter) and the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS (Part 2 of each chapter as applicable). The individual letters and comments included and addressed in Volume 4 are organized and numbered as follows:

- Chapter 18, Federal Agency Comments
- Chapter 19, State Agency Comments
- Chapter 20, Local Agency Comments
- Chapter 21, Elected Official Comments
- Chapter 22, Tribe Comments
- Chapter 23, Business and Organization Comments
- Chapter 24, Individual Comments

Each written submission and oral presentation can be found under the appropriate category by name or, if representing an organization, the name of the organization. If a commenter gave oral or written testimony at the public hearing, that person will find the comments in the appropriate chapter (i.e., comments by individuals in Chapter 24, comments by businesses and organizations in Chapter 23, and so forth).

Each submission the Authority received was assigned a number starting with “FJ”, which corresponds to this document’s title of the San Francisco to San Jose Project Section EIR/EIS. Individual comments within each submission were assigned a secondary number.

Each comment letter and public hearing transcript has brackets in the left-hand margin with identification numbers for each comment. Some letters or oral statements have been treated as a single comment, whereas in other submissions, multiple comments have been identified, which have been numbered and responded to individually. Responses to the comment or comments are located at the end of each letter or transcript. Each response is labeled with the submission identifier and comment number that refers back to that particular bracketed comment.

A number of written comment submissions in Volume 4 included lengthy attachments to the comment letters or web links to supporting materials. In preparing the Final EIR/EIS and responses to comments, every attachment provided with comment submissions or identified by a web link was reviewed and evaluated. In those cases where attachments included additional comments on the EIR/EIS, the comments were bracketed and responded to. In those cases where attachments or web links contained information or studies in support of the written comment submission, the material was considered in developing the response.

The table of contents for Volume 4, provided in the following section, includes a listing of each commenter, submission number, and the page number where it can be found.

16.3 Contents by Order of Appearance in Document

Table 16-1 Standard Responses

Chapter 17, Standard Responses (English)	
FJ-Response-GEN-1	General Opposition to the Project and the California High-Speed Rail System
FJ-Response-GEN-2	General Support of the Project and the California High-Speed Rail System
FJ-Response-GEN-3	Consideration of Plans and Projects
FJ-Response-GEN-4	Consideration of the 2040 Caltrain Service Vision and Caltrain Business Plan
FJ-Response-GEN-5	Impact Avoidance and Minimization Features
FJ-Response-GEN-6	Level of Detail in Analysis and Mitigation
FJ-Response-GEN-7	Effects of COVID-19 on HSR Ridership
FJ-Response-ALT-1	Alternatives Selection and Evaluation Process
FJ-Response-ALT-2	Millbrae Station Alternatives Considerations
FJ-Response-ALT-3	Light Maintenance Facility Alternatives Consideration
FJ-Response-GS-1	Requests for Grade Separations
FJ-Response-TR-1	Site-Specific Mitigation for Traffic Impacts
FJ-Response-TR-2	Construction Traffic and Parking Management
FJ-Response-TR-3	Gate-Down Time Calculation Details
FJ-Response-TR-4	Project Impacts on Freight
FJ-Response-PUE-1	Major and High-Risk Utilities/Utility Infrastructure

Chapter 17, Standard Responses (English)	
FJ-Response-PUE-2	Coordination with Local Government Entities and Utility Owners
FJ-Response-HYD-1	Sea Level Rise and Climate Change Adaptation
FJ-Response-SS-1	At-Grade Crossing Safety
FJ-Response-SS-2	Emergency Vehicle Response Times
FJ-Response-SS-3	Brisbane Fire Station and Emergency Access
FJ-Response-CUL-1	Baseline for Identification of Historic Properties
FJ-Response-CUL-2	Changes to the Archeological Survey Report
FJ-Response-CUL-3	Changes to the Historic Architectural Survey Report
FJ-Response-CUL-4	Continued Tribal Consultation
FJ-Response-CUL-5	Archaeological Treatment Plan
FJ-Response-OUT-1	Public Involvement Process
FJ-Response-OUT-2	Consultation with Local Agencies and Consistency with Local Regulations
FJ-Response-OUT-3	Local Government Permits

Table 16-2 Federal Agency Comments

Chapter 18, Federal Agency Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Part 1: Federal Agency Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS		
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District, James Mazza	1157	18-1
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Connell Dunning	1159	18-4
Part 2: Federal Agency Comments on the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS		
Federal Aviation Administration, Raquel Girvin	1235	18-9
NOAA Fisheries – NMFS, Katherine Schmidt	1232	18-19
United States Army Corps of Engineers, James C. Mazza	1233	18-22
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Jean Prijatel	1231	18-25

Table 16-3 State Agency Comments

Chapter 19, State Agency Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Part 1: State Agency Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS		
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Greg Erickson	1116	19-1
California Public Utilities Commission, Felix Ko	1160	19-5
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, Rebecca Coates-Maloon	1085	19-14
Part 2: State Agency Comments on the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS		
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Stephanie Fong	1229	19-21

Table 16-4 Local Agency Comments

Chapter 20, Local Agency Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Part 1: Local Agency Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS		
Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Greg Nudd	1173	20-1
Brisbane Sanitary District, Thomas Yeager	1038	20-5
City and County of San Francisco, Anna Harvey	1139	20-9
City of Belmont, Carlos de Melo	1145	20-36
City of Brisbane (Part 1 of 6), Cheron McAleece	1132	20-44
City of Brisbane (Part 2 of 6), Thomas McMorro	1163	20-46
City of Brisbane (Part 3 of 6), Margaret Sohagi	1164	20-57
City of Brisbane (Part 4 of 6), Lloyd Zola	1165	20-298
City of Brisbane (Part 5 of 6), Elizabeth Macias	1166	20-649
City of Brisbane (Part 6 of 6), Todd Johnson	1167	20-651
City of Burlingame, Syed Murtuza	1108	20-654
City of Menlo Park, Cecilia Taylor	1122	20-670
City of Millbrae, Christine Crowl	1073	20-679
City of Mountain View, Dawn Cameron	1141	20-697
City of Palo Alto, Ed Shikada	1118	20-700
City of San Bruno, Jimmy Tan	1152	20-723
City of San Jose Airport Department, Cary Greene	1072	20-729
City of San Mateo, Brad Underwood	1158	20-734
City of Santa Clara, Andrew Crabtree	1113	20-745
City of Sunnyvale, Andrew Miner	1131	20-778
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, Sean Charpentier	1096	20-797
County of San Mateo, Steve Monowitz	1140	20-812
Port of Redwood City, Kristine Zortman	1153	20-840
Port of San Francisco, Andre Coleman	1134	20-844
SamTrans / Caltrain / TA, Jim Hartnett	1138	20-846
San Francisco Bay Area Rail Transit District, Val Menotti	1174	20-866
San Francisco International Airport, Ivar Satero	1067	20-872
San Francisco Planning Department, Anna Harvey	1171	20-876
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Steven Ritchie	1146	20-880
San Jose Arena Authority, Chris Morrisey	1047	20-893
San Mateo County Transit District, Carter Mau	1147	20-897
San Mateo County Transportation Authority, April Chan	1150	20-902

Chapter 20, Local Agency Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Santa Clara Valley Water District, Yvonne Arroyo	1130	20-905
Town of Atherton, Rick DeGolia	1098	20-917
Transbay Joint Powers Authority, Skip Sowko	1066	20-937
Part 2: Local Agency Comments on the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS		
Bay Area Rapid Transit, Val Menotti	1217	20-945
City of Brisbane, Margaret Sohagi	1220	20-948
City of Burlingame, Andrew Wong	1209	20-956
City of Millbrae, Thomas Williams	1213	20-959
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, Sean Charpentier	1228	20-968
San Francisco International Airport, Ivar C. Satero	1212	20-970
Santa Clara Valley Water District, Kevin Thai	1225	20-973

Table 16-5 Elected Official Comments

Chapter 21, Elected Official Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Part 1: Elected Official Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS		
City of Brisbane Mayor Terry O’Connell	971	21-1
City of Millbrae Mayor Reuben Holober	972	21-4
Part 2: Elected Official Comments on the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS		
City of Millbrae, Gina Papan	1223	21-7

Table 16-6 Tribe Comments

Chapter 22, Tribe Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Part 1: Tribe Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS		
Amah Mutsun Tribal	1051	22-1

Table 16-7 Business and/or Organization Comments

Chapter 23, Business and/or Organization Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Part 1: Business and/or Organization Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS		
Bay Area Transportation Working Group, Gerald Cauthen	1037	23-1
Brisbane Baylands Community Advisory Group, Clara Johnson	1154	23-3
California Rail/ECDC, Zachary Johnson	1137	23-21
Committee for Renewable Energy in the Baylands, Anja Miller	1097	23-23
Community Coalition on High-Speed Rail, Kathy Hamilton	1105	23-25

Chapter 23, Business and/or Organization Comments	Submission Number	Page Number
Community Coalition on High-Speed Rail, Gary Patton	1121	23-45
Crown Sheet Metal and Skylights Inc., Donald Dennehy	1036	23-69
Darling Ingredients Inc., Barry Shotts	1149	23-71
Calvano Development, Steve Vettel, Farella Braun + Martel LLP	1111	23-77
Garden Alameda Village Association, Tessa Woodmansee	1082	23-81
Garden Alameda Village Association, Tessa Woodmansee	1127	23-83
Graniterock, Barry Shotts	1114	23-87
Greater East San Carlos Neighborhood Association, Scot Marsters	1117	23-95
Baylands Development, Inc., Jennifer Hernandez	1115	23-99
Millbrae Serra Station, LLC, Peggy O' Laughlin	1092	23-118
Millbrae Historical Society	1168	23-131
Peninsula Freight Rail Users Group, Greg Greenway	945	23-135
Peninsula Freight Rail Users Group, Greg Greenway	1148	23-137
San Bruno Mountain Watch, Tera Freedman	1017	23-153
Seaport Industrial Association, Jill Rodby	1135	23-155
Shasta/Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association, Edward Saum	1144	23-158
Stanford University, Lesley Lowe	1112	23-163
Strada E.C., LLC, Shararaeh Tavafrashti	920	23-166
Union Pacific Railroad Company, Peggy Harris	1179	23-168
Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo, Sheila Sandow	994	23-173
University of California, San Francisco, Kevin Beauchamp	1103	23-175
XR San Francisco Bay Scientists, Greg Spooner	1095	23-180
Part 2: Business and/or Organization Comments on the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS		
Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, Evelyn Stivers	1230	23-183
Millbrae Serra Station Project, Janet Fogarty	1215	23-185

Table 16-8 Individual Comments

Chapter 24, Individual Comments			
Last Name	First Name	Submission Number	Page Number
Part 1: Individual Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS			
Allen	Nathaniel	923	24-1
Ball-Jones	Nicolas	912	24-4
Bittlestone	Mathew	970	24-6
Borkovsky	Arkady	998	24-8
Brandt	Adrian	1078	24-10
Brousseau	Chris	1142	24-12
Burkley-Molina	Jean	936	24-16
Burns	Susan	933	24-18
Chan	Nathan	1100	24-20
Chau	Alex	925	24-22
Coanda	John	944	24-25
Coleman	Seitu	1063	24-27
Davis	Janet	921	24-29
Del Dillworth	Dana	1155	24-35
DelloRusso	James	1002	24-41
Dewing	Christopher	1044	24-43
Ellis	Steven	930	24-45
Ellis	Vickii	929	24-47
Evans	Michael	999	24-49
Fogarty	Janet	1074	24-51
Gilbert	Andrew	913	24-57
Goforth	Kathleen	974	24-59
Gomery	Jane	1070	24-61
Gutierrez	Nelson	1129	24-63
Hess	Valee	1162	24-69
Christie	James	1046	24-71
Johnston	Mark	1061	24-73
Katz	Isaac	910	24-75
Knight	Curtis	927	24-77
Kuang	Peifeng	941	24-79
Lacsamana	Nancy	1015	24-81
Leanse	Lloyd	997	24-83

Chapter 24, Individual Comments			
Last Name	First Name	Submission Number	Page Number
Leanse	Lloyd	1080	24-85
Lease	Tom	942	24-87
Leben	Will	924	24-89
Lebrun	Roland	1104	24-91
Lempert	Susan	931	24-103
Lew	Melodie	940	24-105
Lofstrom	Ivan	1000	24-107
Lyon	Bill	993	24-109
Mauro	Jacqueline	914	24-111
McPherson	Michael	1050	24-113
Miller	Raymond	1088	24-115
Milton	David	916	24-119
Mooney	Christopher	995	24-121
Morgan	Garth	1045	24-123
Morgan	Sally	1048	24-125
Morine	Russel	1125	24-127
Morris	Don	922	24-132
Myers	Bry	935	24-134
Obrien	Darvi	1062	24-136
Perry	Jean	1084	24-138
Phelps	Ben	911	24-140
Porter	DeeDee	980	24-142
Ramirez	Josue	1081	24-144
Rodriguez	Francisco	917	24-146
Rooney	Michael	908	24-148
Rosenblum	Stephen	1064	24-150
Sandmeyer	Jennifer	934	24-152
Schembari	Del	1126	24-154
Schneider	Jaqueline	1136	24-157
Schofield	Ryan	1069	24-173
Schonberg	Daniel	939	24-176
Schumacher	Daniel	943	24-178
Selgrath	Jennifer	1049	24-180
Selin	John	915	24-182

Chapter 24, Individual Comments			
Last Name	First Name	Submission Number	Page Number
Shah	Minesh	1003	24-184
Spicer	Scott	1014	24-186
St. Clair	Clinton	1083	24-188
Storm	Anne	937	24-190
Taylor	Jeremy	1076	24-192
Tillier	Clem	1106	24-194
Twu	Alfred	909	24-197
Urschel	Fred	1079	24-199
Weitsman	Chris	1075	24-201
Westcoat	Jacqueline	1039	24-203
Woehl	Jerome	1001	24-206
Wenting	Yao	1058	24-208
Yeh	David	1077	24-210
Zhong	David	1101	24-212
Zhou	Victor	918	24-214
Part 2: Individual Comments on the Revised/Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS			
Aresco	Sal	1204	24-217
Aubertin Doute	Lysianne	1205	24-219
Basu	Amit	1207	24-221
Bazeley	Roger	1206	24-223
Chan	Nathan	1222	24-264
Hom	Steve	1224	24-267
Katerina Soldatos	Angelina	1226	24-272
Lo	Jonathan	1221	24-277
Ng	Isaac	1208	24-280
Vandellos	Dmitri	1211	24-282