SAN JOSE TO MERCED PROJECT SECTION

Community Working Groups
March 2020



AGENDA

SAN JOSE TO MERCED COMMUNITY WORKING GROUPS

- Introductions & Agenda Review
- Draft 2020 Business Plan
- Prepare for the Draft EIR/EIS
- Outreach Update
- Public Comment



MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Share highlights of the Draft 2020 Business Plan
- Prepare members for the release of the Draft EIR/EIS, including how to provide comment
- Provide an update on outreach activities

DRAFT 2020 BUSINESS PLAN



DRAFT 2020 BUSINESS PLAN

- Required by PUC Section 185033
- » Foundational document for implementing the program
- » Required every two years (even years)
- Represents the status of the program at the current point in time
- Summarizes the Authority's approach to implementation
- Includes:
- » Updated capital cost and other estimates
- » Updated ridership and revenue forecasts
- » Summary of progress over last two years
- » Review of current challenges and how to address them



LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABILITY

- California is the national leader on clean transportation in the era of climate change
- Meeting our mobility, economic, and environmental goals
- More than \$6.4 Billion has been invested in planning and building high-speed rail



A GOOD INVESTMENT

Cost of High-Speed Rail Phase 1 compared to cost of equivalent highway/air capacity



PROJECT PROGRESS

- Doubled rate of construction in the Central Valley
- 700 onsite construction workers per week
- NEPA assignment approved by FRA
- Preferred Alternatives identified for entire Phase 1 system
- Issued first Record of Decision in five years (Shafter to Bakersfield)
- Initiated procurement of track and systems with issuance of Request for Proposals



30 Active Construction Sites



3,500+ construction jobs generated



520+ small businesses engaged



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

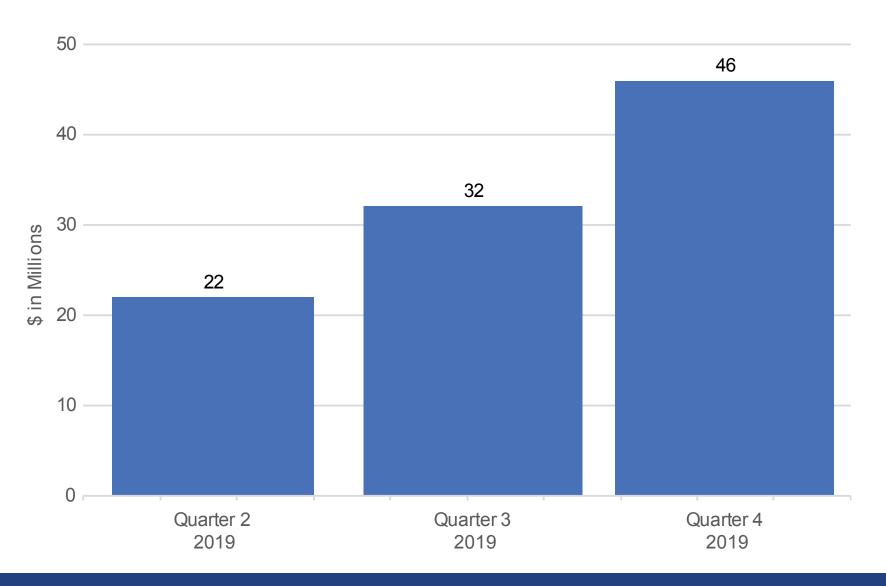


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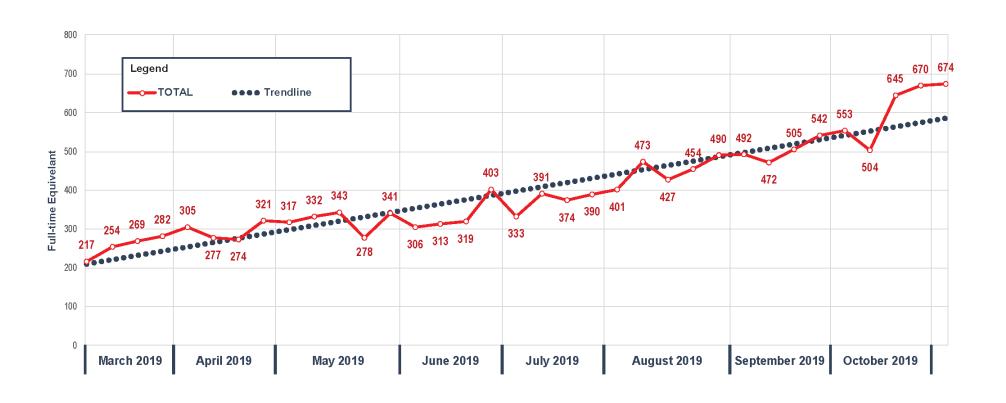
MOMENTUM PICKING UP IN THE FIELD

AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENDITURES BY QUARTER



MOMENTUM PICKING UP IN THE FIELD

WEEKLY AVERAGE WORKERS DISPATCHED



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WHERE WE ARE IN 2020

- 350 miles of electrified high-speed rail on the way to or under construction
- » 171 miles between Merced and Bakersfield
- » 51 miles of the Caltrain Corridor being electrified
- » 130 miles connecting Las Vegas to Southern California
- Remainder of Phase 1 (San Francisco to Los Angeles/Anaheim) environmental clearance underway
- » 5 Draft EIR/EIS documents planned in 2020



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022

- 350 miles of high-speed rail under construction
- » First high-speed trains under development
- Full Phase 1 environmental clearance complete
- » Advancing strategic investments
- » Pursuing additional funding



WHY EXTEND TO BAKERSFIELD AND MERCED

171-MILE INTERIM SERVICE

Best value

- » Expands train service
- » Reduces travel time
- » Increases ridership with lowered state operating costs

It's affordable

- » Cost of \$20.4 billion is within the \$20.6 billion and \$23.4 billion range budget
- It connects three of the fastest growing counties of the state
 - » Merced, Fresno and Bakersfield
- It provides for interim connection
- » North into Bay Area and Sacramento via the San Joaquin and ACE service
- » South into LA Basin via bus connection



COSTS AND FUNDING

- Proposing to use funds available through 2030 to deliver initial line between Merced and Bakersfield
- Cost estimates still within ranges from the 2018 Business Plan
- Projected \$20.6 to \$23.4 billion in total funding available through 2030, based on Cap-and-Trade estimates



350 miles under development/construction



Full Phase 1 environmental clearance in 18-24 months



Over \$8 billion in economic output from investment to date



HIGH-SPEED RAIL CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2020

Proposed legislation by Rep. Jim Costa:

- » Authorize \$32 billion through 2024 of federal funding to projects in designated high-speed rail corridors
 - » Reauthorize the High-Speed Rail Corridor Development Program
 - » Build upon the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
 - » Award grants to fund projects from the state rail plan
- » Provide funding to complete construction of the full Phase I high-speed rail system from San Francisco to Los Angeles



HIGH-SPEED RAIL IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA IN 2020

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT STAGES

Planning



Environmental



Pre-Construction



Construction



Operations





Diridon Integrated Station Concept



San Francisco to Merced Corridor



Downtown Extension (DTX)



Caltrain Electrification



Salesforce Transit Center

LOOKING AHEAD IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

NEXT STEPS AFTER ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE



HOW TO COMMENT ON THE DRAFT 2020 BUSINESS PLAN

- 60-day public comment period: February 12 through April 12
- Online at: www.hsr.ca.gov/about/business_plans/business_plan_2020_comment_form.aspx
- By phone: 916-384-9516
- By email: <u>DraftBP2020@hsr.ca.gov</u>
- By mail:
- » California High-Speed Rail Authority
- » Attn: Draft 2020 Business Plan
- » 770 L Street, Suite 620, MS-1
- » Sacramento, CA 95814
- In Person:
- » Authority Board Meetings:
- February 18, Sacramento, California Department of Food and Agriculture Headquarters
- March 17, Los Angeles, LA Metro Headquarters
- Board Adoption of Draft Business Plan
 - April 21, Fresno, Location TBD

PREPARE FOR THE DRAFT EIR/EIS



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE EIR/EIS?

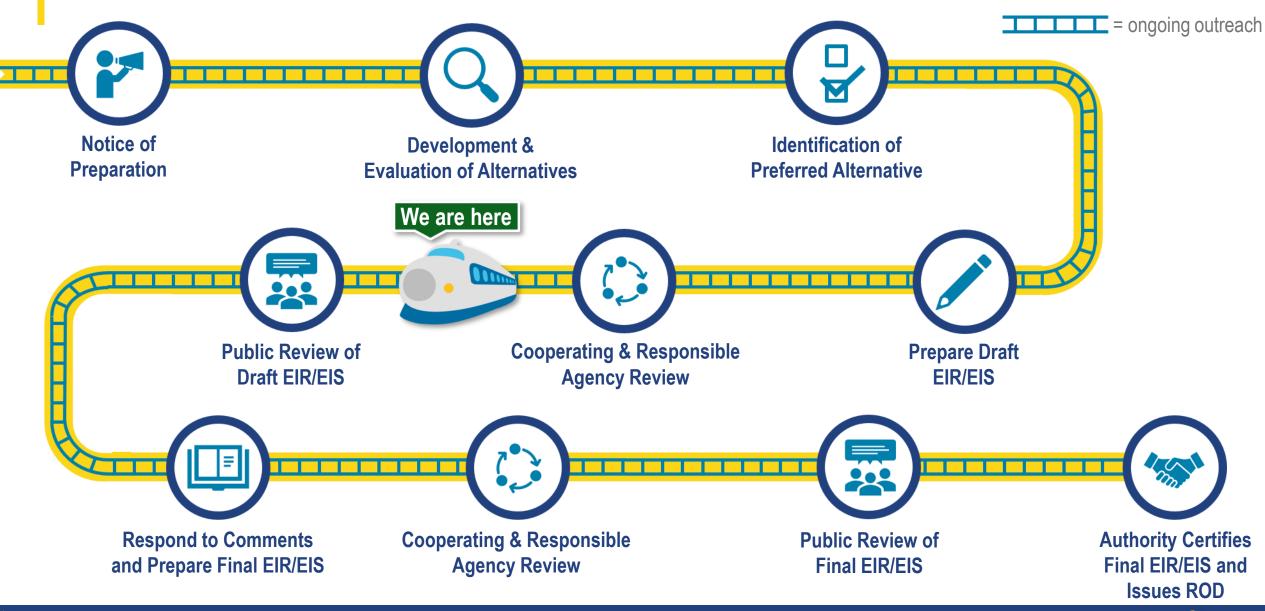
- Program EIR/EIS selected Bay Area to Central Valley corridor in 2008-2012
- Project Section EIR/EIS:
- » Includes the **analysis of alternatives** (based on preliminary design), associated **impacts**, and proposed **mitigations** (measures to reduce significant effects)
- » Intended to inform the public and agencies of potential consequences and the approach to mitigating consequences
- Final EIR/EIS enables the Authority to approve the project and proceed to final design and construction

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being or have been carried out by the State of California pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated July 23, 2019 and executed by the Federal Railroad Administration and the State of California.

CEQA VS. NEPA

CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act	NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act
Local or state agency involvement (approval, funding, and/or permits)	Federal action involved (approval, funding, and/or permits)
Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
Physical environmental <u>impacts</u> ; does not include economic or social effects	Environmental and socioeconomic <u>effects</u>
Mitigation measures, if feasible, must be adopted for significant adverse impacts	Mitigation measures must be considered but do not have to be adopted
Identifies significant impacts on impact-by-impact basis	Significant impact only considered on the basis of the entire project, not on an effect-by-effect basis
	 Unique Federal Requirements Environmental Justice Section 4(f)/6(f) evaluation re: park/open space and cultural resources

DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT



WHAT'S IN THE DRAFT EIR/EIS?

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Volume I: Executive Summary & Report/Statement

- » Executive Summary
- » Chapter 1: Project Purpose, Need, and Objectives
- » Chapter 2: Alternatives
- » Chapter 3: Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences, and Mitigation Measures
- » Chapter 4: Section 4(f)/6(f) Evaluation
- » Chapter 5: Environmental Justice
- » Chapter 6: Project Costs and Operations
- » Chapter 7: Other CEQA/NEPA Considerations
- » Chapter 8: Preferred Alternative
- » Chapter 9: Public and Agency Involvement
- » Supporting other Chapters
- Volume II: Technical Appendices
 - » Detailed data supporting environmental analysis
- Volume III: Preliminary Design
- » Preliminary engineering design plans



WHAT SUBJECTS ARE REVIEWED IN THE DRAFT EIR/EIS?

VOLUME I, CHAPTER 3-6 TOPICS

- Aesthetics & Visual Quality
- Agricultural Lands
- Air Quality & Greenhouse Gases
- Biological & Aquatic Resources
- Capital & Operating Costs
- Cultural Resources
- Cumulative Impacts
- Design Variants to Optimize Speeds

- Electromagnetic Fields & Electromagnetic Interference
- Environmental Justice
- Geology, Soils, Seismicity & Paleontological Resources
- Hazardous Materials& Waste
- Hydrology & Water Resources
- Noise & Vibration
- Parks, Recreation & Open Space

- Public Utilities & Energy
- Regional Growth
- Safety & Security
- Section 4(f)/6(f) Evaluation
- Socioeconomics & Communities
- Station Planning, Land Use & Development
- Transportation

WHAT'S IN THE DRAFT EIR/EIS?

SECTION OUTLINE

Section 3.X: Individual Resource Section

- » 3.X.1 Introduction
- » 3.X.2 Laws, Regulations, and Orders
- » 3.X.3 Consistency with Plans and Laws
- » 3.X.4 Methods for Evaluating Impacts
- » 3.X.5 Affected Environment
- » 3.X.6 Environmental Consequences
- » 3.X.7 Mitigation Measures
- » 3.X.8 Impact Summary for NEPA Comparison of Alternatives
- » 3.X.9 CEQA Significance Conclusions



HOW TO ACCESS THE DOCUMENT



- Printed copies will be available for review during regular business hours:
- » CHSRA Northern California Regional Office: 100 Paseo de San Antonio, Suite 300, San Jose, CA 95113
- » CHSRA Headquarters: 770 L Street, Suite 620, Sacramento, CA 95814
- The Draft EIR/EIS will be available on the Authority website (<u>hsr.ca.gov</u>) to view or download. Electronic copies of the Draft EIR/EIS and technical reports are available upon request.
- Copies will also be available at these locations:
 - » Santa Clara Library, Central Park Branch
 - » Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library (San Jose)
 - » Gilroy Library
 - » Merced County Library, Los Banos Branch

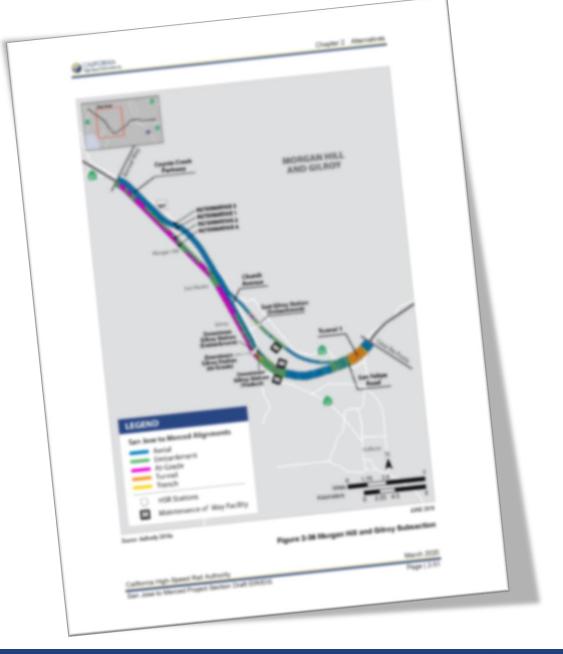
- » Merced County Library, Merced Branch
- » Morgan Hill Library
- » Merced County Clerk
- » San Benito County Recorder

- How do I find information about impacts to my community?
 - » Throughout Volume I, Chapter 3 of the document
 - » Impact analysis usually disclosed by the following project subsections:
 - San Jose Diridon Approach
 - Monterey Corridor
 - Morgan Hill to Gilroy
 - Pacheco Pass
 - San Joaquin Valley

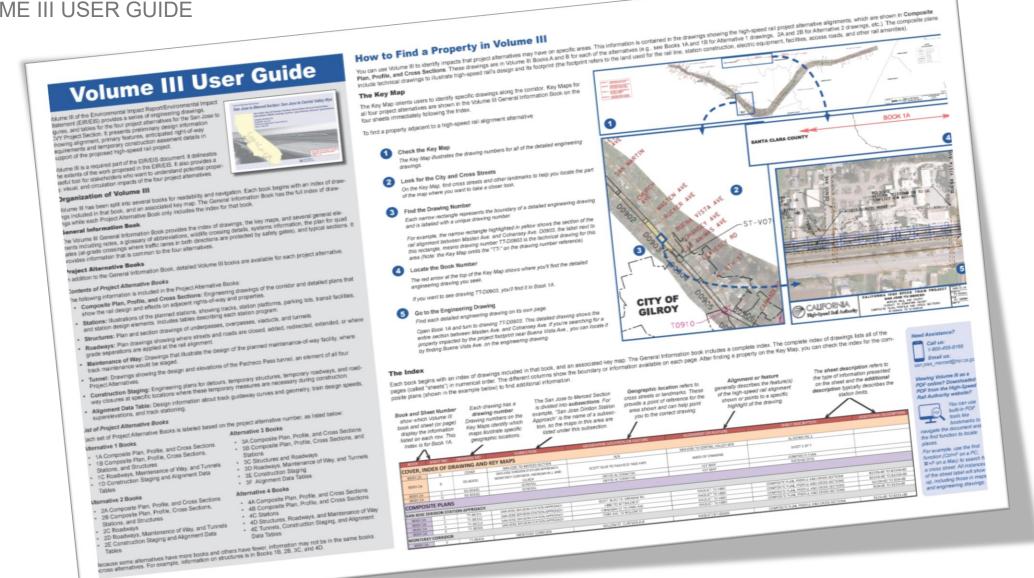


Where do I find maps of the alternatives?

- » Volume I, Chapter 2, Alternatives General Maps
- » Volume II, Appendix 3.01-A Maps of Affected Properties
- » Volume III Preliminary Engineering Design Plans



VOLUME III USER GUIDE



- Where do I find visual simulations of the alternatives?
- » Volume I, Chapter 3, Section 3.16, Aesthetics and Visual Quality



HOW TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE COMMENTS

- Comments will be accepted as follows:
- » Written comments will be accepted by email, mail, and submission at open houses, public hearing, and CHSRA offices
- » Verbal comments will be accepted at the public hearing
- Comments will be responded to in the Final EIR/EIS
- Include specific details about your concerns
- Numbering comments is helpful
- Submit individually or with a group



HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS



April 24, 2020 to June 8, 2020*



By Email

» san.jose_merced@hsr.ca.gov



By Mail

» Attn: San Jose to Merced Project Section: Draft EIR/EIS, 100 Paseo de San Antonio, Suite 300, San Jose, CA 95113



In Person

- » Open Houses in San Jose, Gilroy, and Los Banos Written comments or comment cards only
- » Public Hearing in San Jose –Verbal comments, written comments, or comment cards
- » Northern California Regional Office (9 am 4 pm) Written comments only



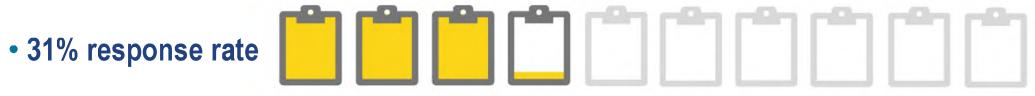
^{*}Dates are tentative and subject to change.

OUTREACH UPDATE



CWG SURVEY RESPONSES





• Average of 5.4 minutes



CWG SURVEY RESULTS



Community Meeting Preferences

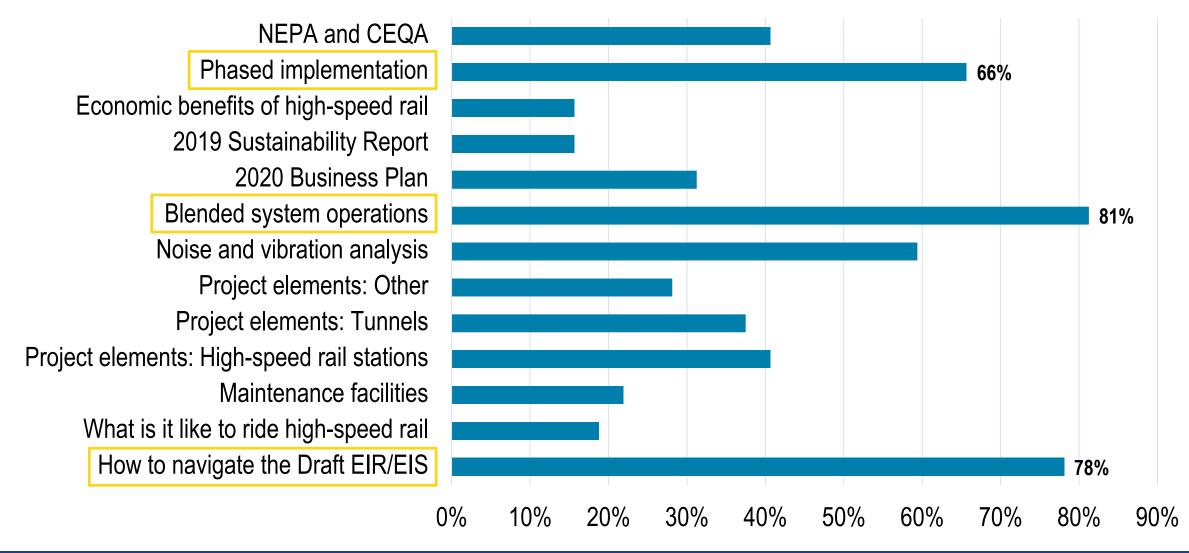
- » Format
- In-person Q&A panel at a local community meeting
- Small, informal gathering in my community
- » Weekday evenings



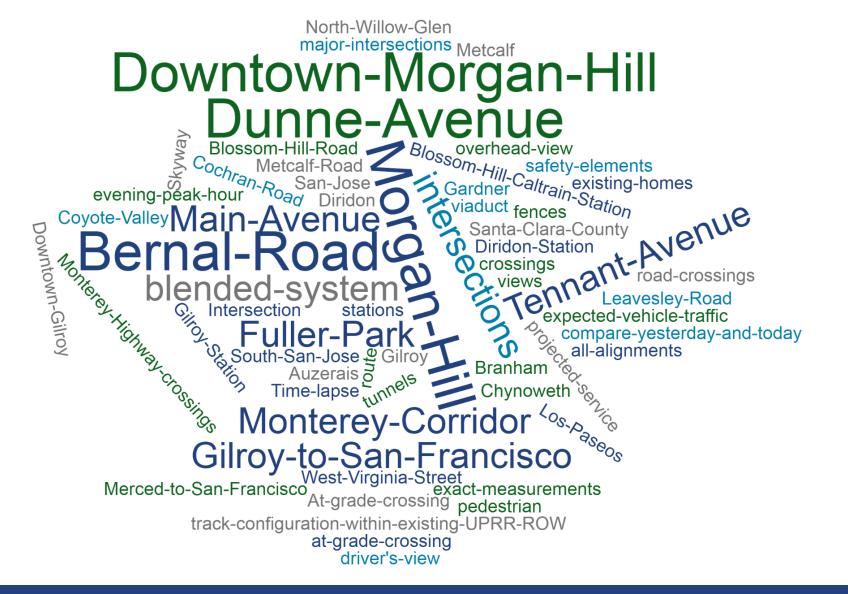
CWG Meetings

» Interest in CWG Q&A webinar during 45-day comment period

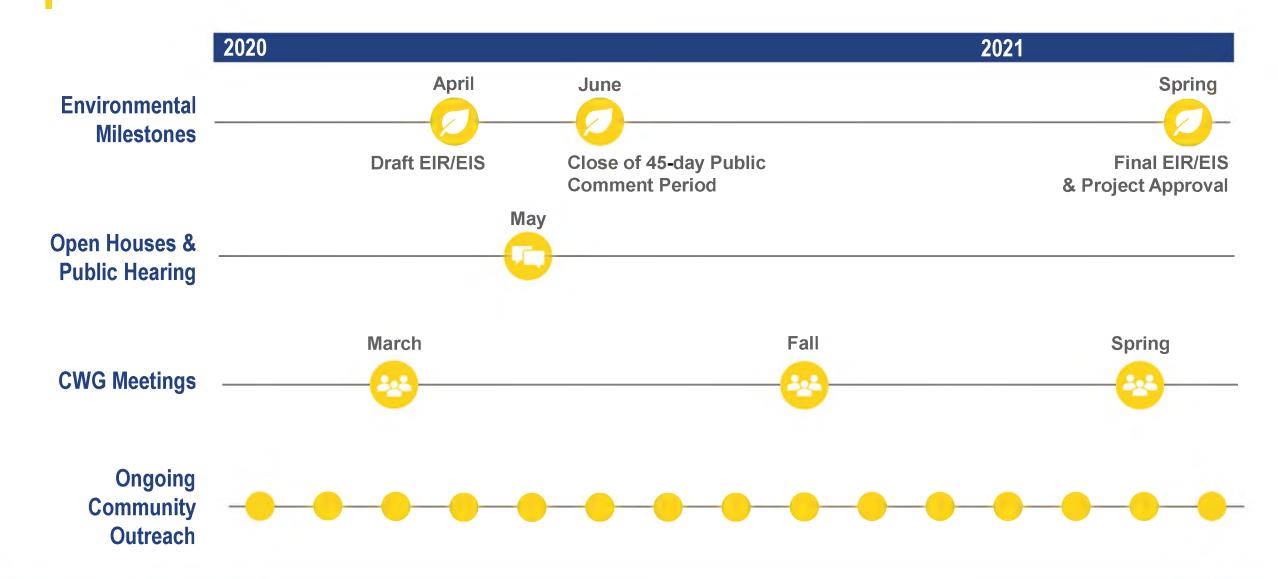
TOPICS OF INTEREST



SUGGESTIONS FOR VISUALIZATIONS



SAN JOSE TO MERCED OUTREACH



DRAFT EIR/EIS OPEN HOUSES, PUBLIC HEARING & OFFICE HOURS

TENTATIVE DATES

Open Houses

- San Jose
- » Monday, May 11, 2020
- » 4 − 7 pm
- » City Hall Rotunda
- Gilroy
- » Thursday, May 14, 2020
- » 4 − 7 pm
- » Veterans Memorial Hall
- Los Banos
- » Monday, May 18, 2020
- $^{>}$ 4 7 pm
- » Los Banos Community Center

Public Hearing

- San Jose
- » Wednesday, May 27, 2020
- » 3 − 8 pm
- » Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors' Chambers

Staff Office Hours

- Northern CA Regional Office
- » Monday, May 11, 2020, 12 3 pm
- wednesday, May 20, 2020, 12 − 3 pm
- ≫ Wednesday, May 27, 2020, 11 am 2 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD GUIDELINES

- Public comment is intended for the CWG members and staff to hear from the public
- Comments will be captured in meeting summaries
- 2-minute time limit
- Please be respectful and follow CWG meeting guidelines
- To be added to the queue:
- » "Raise your hand" in the webinar, or
- » Send a message via webinar chat
- Written comments may be submitted via webinar chat or via email after the webinar
 - » san.jose_merced@hsr.ca.gov



Headquarters

California High-Speed Rail Authority 770 L Street, Suite 800 Sacramento, CA 95814

www.hsr.ca.gov









Northern California Regional Office

California High-Speed Rail Authority 100 Paseo De San Antonio, Suite 300 San Jose, CA 95113