



**CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY**

Weekly Executive Director's Report, October 6-12, 2009

FROM: Mehdi Morshed
TO: Authority Board Members

TOPIC / UPDATE	LINE SECTION	AUTHORITY STAFF	RELEVANT DATE	NEXT STEP / ACTION NEEDED
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TOP ISSUES

Atherton Lawsuit

The Authority prevailed Friday, Oct. 9, in Sacramento Superior Court when Judge Kenny affirmed his tentative ruling denying the petitioners' request for a stay of all project-level environmental work between Merced and San Francisco.

- The court's tentative ruling, which was made final, can be read here:
<http://tr.saccourt.com/courtrooms/trulings/dept31/town%20of%20atherton%20v%20california%20high%20speed%20rail%20authority%20--%20case%20no.%2034-2008-8000022.doc>

All

Christine Sproul

10/9/2009

The petitioners must decide this week whether to appeal the decision.
The Authority's legal team is working on the next steps to finalize the writ of mandate in the case, and the case is scheduled to be discussed in closed session at the Nov. 5 Board meeting.

ARRA Support

Support for California's application for high-speed rail stimulus funding continues to build.

- 24 members of California's congressional delegation, including Senators Feinstein and Boxer as well as Speaker Pelosi, sent a letter of support to Secretary LaHood.
http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20091009132434_FSU10909PressRelease.pdf
- A coalition of the California Chamber of Commerce, California Labor Federation, and Sierra Club California will jointly send a letter of support to Sec. LaHood.

All

Mark Kadesh, Jeff Barker

10/9 and 10/12/2009

POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

None to report this period

ENGINEERING/ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

Nothing significant to report this period

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Bills - SB 783 Signed by the Governor

Senate Bill 783 by Sen. Roy Ashburn was signed by the Governor at the very end of the bill signing period, on Oct. 11. This bill requires the High-Speed Rail Authority to prepare, publish, and adopt a business plan by January 1, 2012 and every two years thereafter.

Program

Steve Schnaidt

10/11/2009

- Information about the bill can be viewed here: http://leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill_number=sb_783&sess=CUR&house=B&author=ashburn

Bills - AB 733 Vetoed by the Governor

Assembly Bill 733 by Asm. Cathleen Galgiani was vetoed by the Governor at the very end of the bill signing period, on Oct. 11. The bill would have authorized the Authority to consider job creation in the state as a criteria when awarding major contracts or making large procurements related to the high-speed rail project.

Program

Steve Schnaidt

10/11/2009

- Information about the bill can be viewed here: http://leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill_number=ab_733&sess=CUR&house=B&author=galgiani
- The Governor's veto message is here: http://leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/asm/ab_0701-0750/ab_733_vt_20091012.htm

OUTREACH EFFORT HIGHLIGHTS

Alternatives Analysis City Meetings

Regional project management and outreach completed meetings with city staff from San Jose, Burlingame, South San Francisco, Sunnyvale, Belmont and San Carlos to discuss the alternatives analysis process and solicit comments and questions.

San Jose - San
Francisco

Robert Doty,
Dominic Spaethling

9/28/2009 -
10/8/2009

More information is here:
http://cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20090917112045_AAPublicOpenHouseMeetingsInvitationLetter.pdf

Merced Supporters

The Central Valley outreach team met with the Merced High-Speed Train Supporters group on Oct. 6 to explain the alternatives analysis process ahead of public meetings in the Merced - San Jose section.

Merced - San
Jose

Jeff Barker, Carrie
Bowen

10/6/2009

MEDIA

Atherton Case Court Ruling

The ruling the Atherton court case received significant media coverage in the Bay Area.

Bay Area

Jeff Barker

LA-San Diego Scoping Meetings

Southern California outreach team continues to garner media coverage of the just-starting scoping meetings in order to build public participation in the scoping process. Board member Lynn Schenk has conducted interviews, including with the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, to assist in the effort.

Southern
California

Jeff Barker

10/13/2009 -
11/3/2009

Heavy Maintenance Facility

Press attention in the Central Valley continues to focus on the planned Heavy Maintenance Facility and competition among cities to win the facility.

Central Valley

Jeff Barker, John
Harrison, Carrie
Bowen

11/5/2009

A public notification regarding the Authority's planned maintenance facilities will be brought before Board members at the Nov. 5 Board meeting.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Alternatives Analysis Public Meetings

A series of open house-style public meetings were held within the section to discuss alternative alignments. The dates, locations were as follows: San Jose, 10/6; Merced, 10/8; Gilroy, 10/12.

Merced - San
Jose

Jeff Barker, Dave
Mansen

10/6-12/2009

More information is here:
http://cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20090921153657_PostcardNoticeforOct2009AltAnalysisPublicMeetings.pdf

Scoping Meetings

Public, open house-style scoping meetings are beginning within the section this week.

Scoping meetings:

10/13/2009-La Jolla;

10/14/2009-San Diego;

10/15/2009-Escondido;

10/19/2009-Murrieta; 10/20/2009-Corona;

10/21/2009-Monterey Park;

10/22/2009-Riverside

10/26/2009-West Covina;

10/28/2009-El Monte;

10/29/2009-Pomona;

11/2/2009-Ontario;

11/3/2009-San Bernardino

Los Angeles -
San Diego via
the Inland
Empire

Dan Leavitt, Jose
Martinez

10/13/2009 -
11/3/2009

OTHER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

Vision California

The Authority's Vision California project has been recommended by the state's Strategic Growth Council for a \$1.5 million award of Prop. 84 funds. Vision California is a land-use planning effort to show how infrastructure investments can assist the state in its greenhouse gas reduction goals and related objectives.

Program

Dan Leavitt

10/13/2009

Final decision on award will be made by the Strategic Growth Council on Oct. 13.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Board Members' Trip to D.C.

Chairman Pringle and Board member Katz will travel to D.C. October 20-21 to meet with members of California's congressional delegation and others in support of California's ARRA application for high-speed rail funding. They will be joined by representatives of the Authority's regional transportation agency partners, LA Metro, OCTA, and SamTrans.

All	Carrie Pourvahidi	10/20-21/2009
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