



*Press Release*

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## California High-Speed Rail Authority Awards Station-Area Planning Funds to the City of Gilroy

GILROY, Calif. – The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) and the City of Gilroy announced today that they have entered into a station-area funding agreement that will allow the city and the Authority to initiate the planning process for a potential high-speed rail station in the downtown area of the city.

Gilroy Mayor Don Gage commended both the Authority and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) for their commitments to assisting Gilroy undertake this serious and important planning effort. “The high-speed rail station will change the landscape of our downtown, just like the railroad did in the late 1800’s,” Gage said. “We are very pleased to receive the financial and technical support of the California High-Speed Rail Authority and VTA to properly design, plan and implement a station area that complements and enhances our downtown.”

The City of Gilroy is located in the San Jose-to-Merced project section. The Authority is engaged in advanced planning and outreach in support of future environmental clearance in the corridor between Gilroy and Merced. The downtown site is one of two locations under consideration for a Gilroy high-speed rail station.

As part of the agreement with the Authority, the city of Gilroy will receive \$750,000 in grants to explore options and seek public input for the design and development of a potential station in its downtown corridor. The Authority will provide \$600,000 and the VTA will allocate an additional \$150,000 to support the city’s station-area planning efforts. The city of Gilroy will contribute \$80,000 to the station-area planning fund.

The Authority provides station-area funds to help partner cities initiate planning efforts for high-speed rail stations in their communities. Other partner cities that have entered into similar agreements with the Authority include Fresno and Merced.

“The Authority is excited to enter into this agreement with the city of Gilroy,” said Dan Richard, Chair of the Authority Board of Directors. “We are looking forward to working with the city to create a vision for a future high-speed rail station that meets the needs of residents and stakeholders, and to ensure that the future high-speed rail station will serve as an economic catalyst for the city.”

The station-area planning grant will provide funding as the city of Gilroy works to identify potential sites and develops conceptual designs for a high-speed station. The grant will also be used to support the city’s efforts to identify alternatives for station-area development, promote connectivity to regional transportation systems and conduct cost-analysis and evaluate financing options for a station.

The station-area planning funds, as outlined in the agreement between Gilroy and the Authority, also ensure that members of the community and interested stakeholders are engaged in the planning, conceptual design, and environmental analysis of a high-speed station in the city.

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### ***About the High-Speed Rail Authority***

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for planning, designing, building and operation of the first high-speed rail system in the nation. By 2029, the system will run from San Francisco to the Los Angeles basin in under three hours at speeds capable of over 200 miles per hour. The system will eventually extend to Sacramento and San Diego, totaling 800 miles with up to 24 stations. In addition, the Authority is working with regional partners to implement a statewide rail modernization plan that will invest billions of dollars in local and regional rail lines to meet the state’s 21st century transportation needs. To learn more visit the Authority’s website at [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov) and join us on [facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail) and follow us at [twitter.com/cahsra](https://twitter.com/cahsra).