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# SAN FRANCISCO TO SAN JOSE SECTION

## Public Participation Plan

### **WHY:**

- Input makes the project better;
- Community expects and deserves clear, concise information ensuring a collaborative multi-year process;
- State and Federal law mandates outreach for the environmental document;
- The California High-Speed Rail Authority and Caltrain have formed the Peninsula Rail Program to ensure coordination and construction of high-speed rail;
- The Peninsula Rail Program seeks to be a statewide leader in working with communities exploring what is feasible with design options and engineering, working towards what is achievable with regulations, funding and the environment.

### **COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH:**

- Communicates with public frequently and clearly;
- Tailors public involvement to the context and project phase;
- Clearly defines the decision-making process;
- Tracks and honors commitments;
- Involves a full range of stakeholders (including transportation officials) in all phases;
- Clearly defines the purpose and need of the project.

### **SIX COMMITMENTS:**

1. Establish a Policymaker Working Group (PWG) for elected officials along the Corridor similar to the existing advisory Technical Working Group (TWG) for staff;
2. Regular updates regarding project details through use of Cable TV, newsletters and websites;
3. Provide Design Workshops throughout the Corridor at key milestones starting with Alternatives Development Workshops this Fall;
4. Incorporate Context Sensitive Design Principles into project planning and outreach;
5. Direct outreach to key community groups such as home owner associations, business, labor, civic and environmental organizations, etc;
6. Direct opportunities for the community to provide input and get their questions answered through staffing community events such as farmer's markets, public events and a Public Information Office located in the mid-Peninsula Corridor.

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## **HOW WE DEVELOPED THE PLAN:**

- HSR Team members contacted each City and County along the corridor;
- Each jurisdiction offered a menu of outreach tools (meetings, web tools, etc.) and also given an opportunity to add their own suggestions;
- Asked to provide input as to how to customize the outreach mechanisms to be most effective in their specific community.

## **COMMUNICATION OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Media outreach including City Cable TV/Peninsula TV;
- Outreach flyers, mailings multi-lingual in multi-formats;
- Web-based tools;
- HSR Hosted Workshops;
- Technical Working Group;
- Policymaker Working Group;
- Targeted civic and community group outreach – homeowners groups, business organizations, etc.;
- Regular updates to Councils and Transportation Authorities;
- Attendance at festivals and community events.

# Public Participation Schedule

## **PROJECT SCOPING**

- Complete: *January to March 2009*

## **ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS -**

- Workshops on Alternatives Development: *October to November 2009*
  - Looking for input on Alternatives Analysis: *October 2009 to February 2010*
  - Draft Alternatives Analysis: *December 2010*
  - Final Alternatives Analysis: *February 2011*
- Workshops for Proposed Stations: *Early 2010*

## **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/STATEMENT**

- Released: *December 2010*
- 45 Day Comment Period: *December 2010 to February 2011*

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**Questions?** For more information call the Project Information Line: (510) 587- 8640 or visit the CHSRA website at: [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov).