



San Jose to Merced High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS

Alignment Alternatives Public Meeting

October 2009





Purpose of Meeting

- Inform and update you on status of the San Jose to Merced section Project EIR/EIS
- Highlight what we heard during scoping
- Get your input on potential additional alternatives under consideration





Agenda

- 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. Open House
- 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Presentation and Q&A
- 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. Continuation of Open House

Meeting Guidelines:

- Hold questions until Q&A
- Speak one at a time
- Raise hand and moderator will call upon you
- Use comment cards for longer comments
- Talk to staff directly during open house for issues specific to your location/situation





Lead Agencies

STATE

California High-Speed Rail Authority

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
Lead Agency

FEDERAL

Federal Railroad Administration

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
Lead Agency





Statewide Program EIR/EIS

- 800-mile system with stations built to allow for express service
- Service linking Southern California, Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area
- Grade-separated from vehicles, pedestrians and other rail traffic
- Steel wheel-on-steel rail with 100% clean electric power





San Jose to Merced Program Corridor



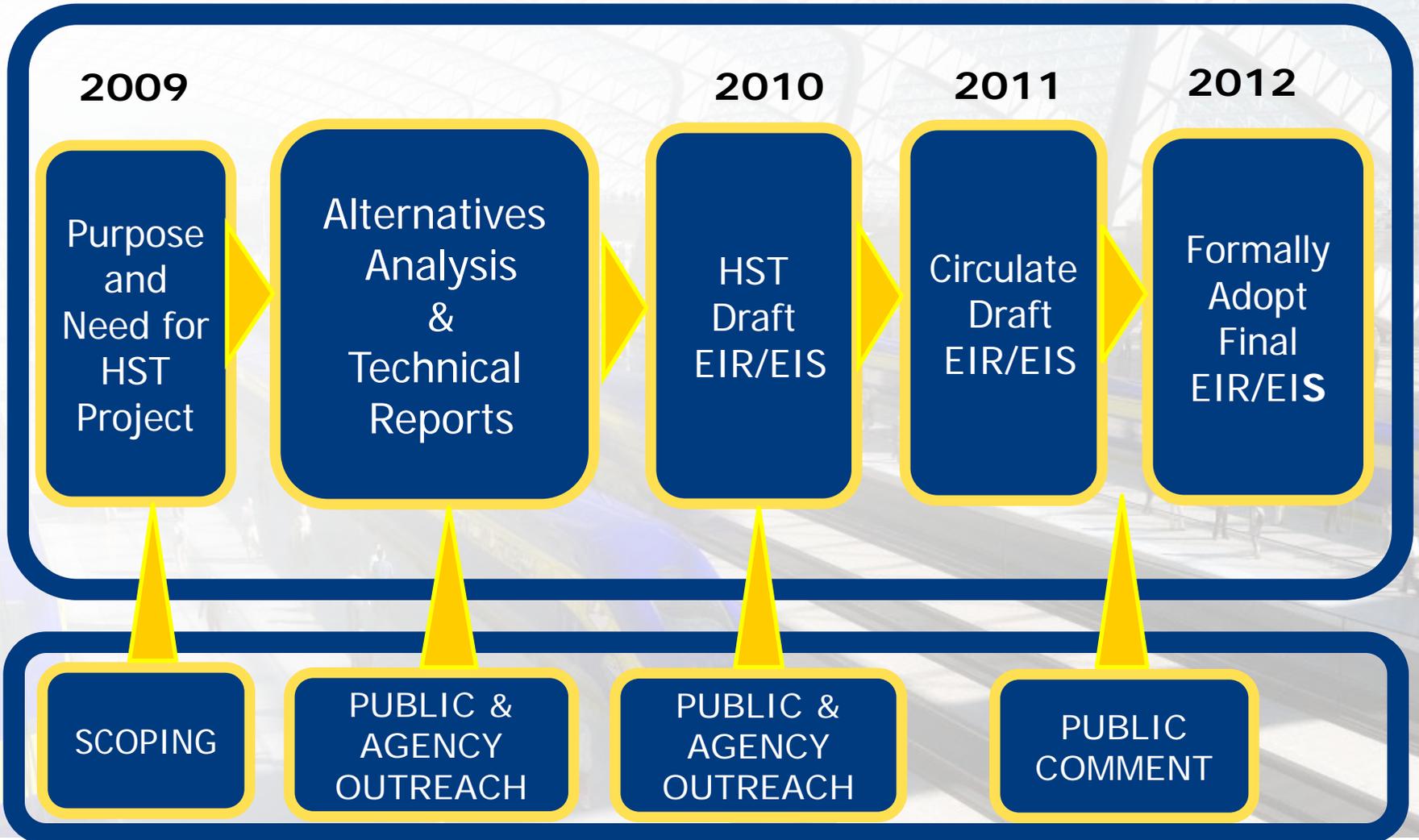
San Francisco to
Los Angeles:
2 hrs. 40 min.

San Jose to
Merced:
45 minutes





Environmental Review Schedule





Alternatives Analysis Process





Alternative Analysis Design Objectives

Objective	Criteria
Maximize ridership/revenue potential Maximize connectivity and accessibility	Travel time Route length Intermodal connections
Minimize operating and capital costs	Operations and maintenance issues and costs





AA Evaluation Measures

- Land use
- Construction feasibility
- Minimize disruption to neighborhoods & communities
- Minimize impacts to environmental resources
- Minimize impacts to natural resources





Public Outreach Activities

- Public meetings at milestones
- Briefings and presentations
- Communications tools and materials:
 - Fact sheet, e-blasts, newsletters
 - Media outreach
 - Web site updates





Public Scoping

- March 2009 Meetings in San Jose, Gilroy Merced
- Over 300 participants
- 141 commentors: 49 letters, 43 emails, 49 comment cards
- 27 verbal comments recorded at meetings
- 500 distinct comments on different topics





Key Themes from Scoping

- Protection of environment
 - Noise and vibration
 - Historic resources
 - Wetlands and biological
 - Traffic
 - Agriculture
- Construction methods
- Alignment alternatives
- Public and agency involvement





Alignment Alternatives

San Jose Near Station

Monterey Highway

Morgan Hill

Pacheco Pass

San Joaquin Valley Crossing

Wye to Merced



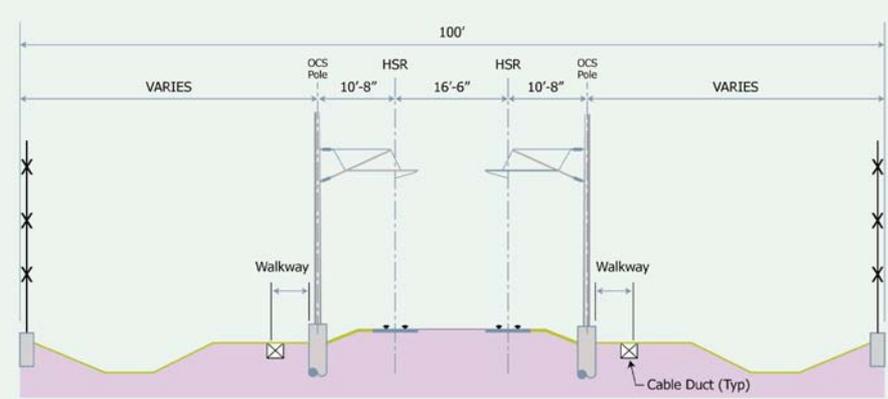


At-Grade Examples

At-Grade



COURTESY: RAIL EUROPE



At-Grade On Embankment

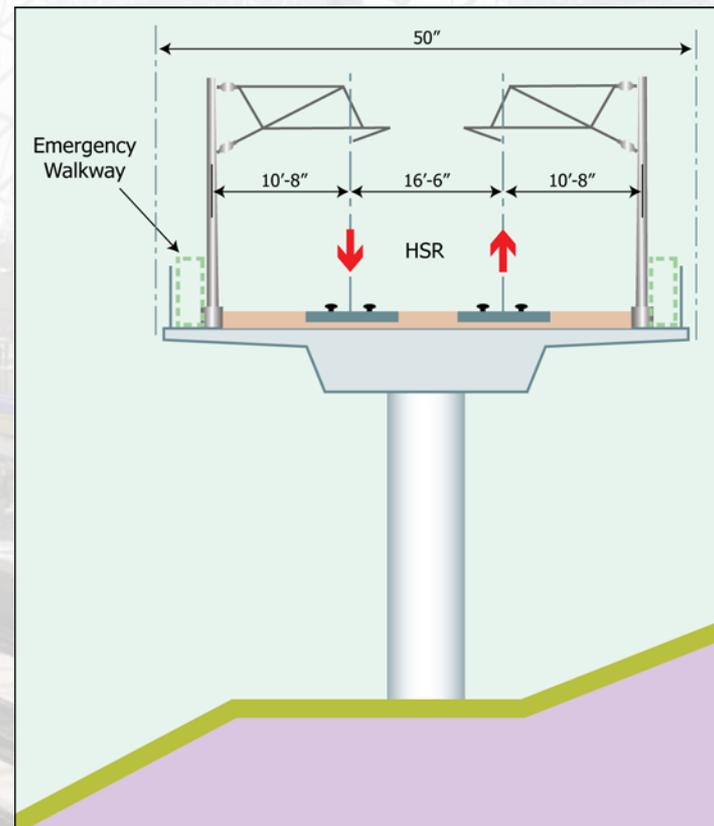


At-Grade In-Cut



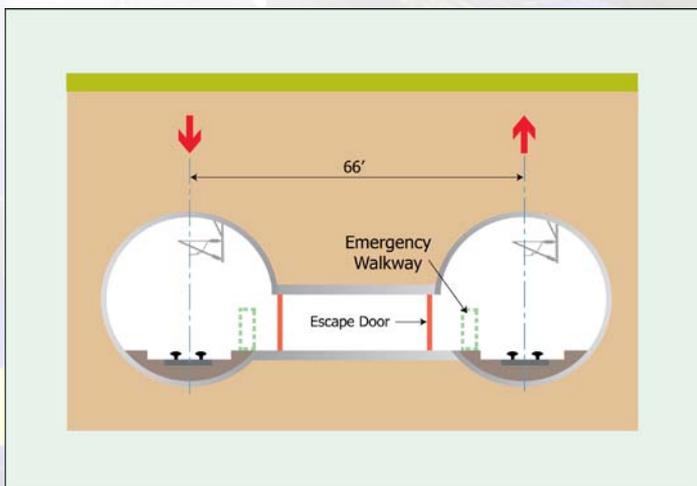
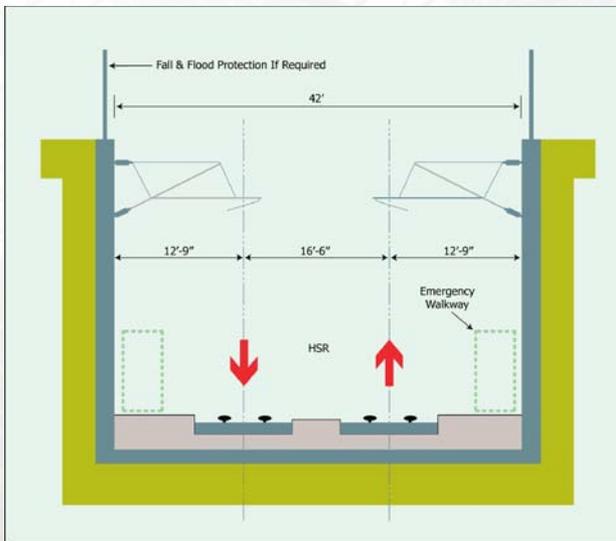
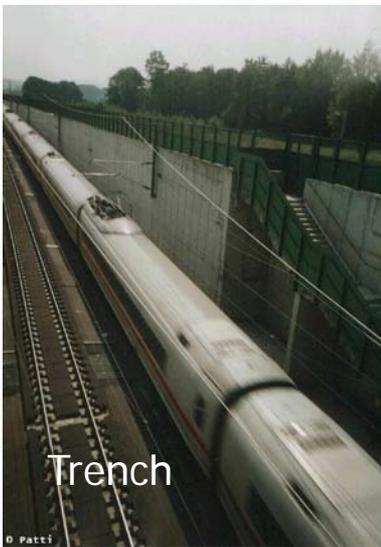


Aerial Examples



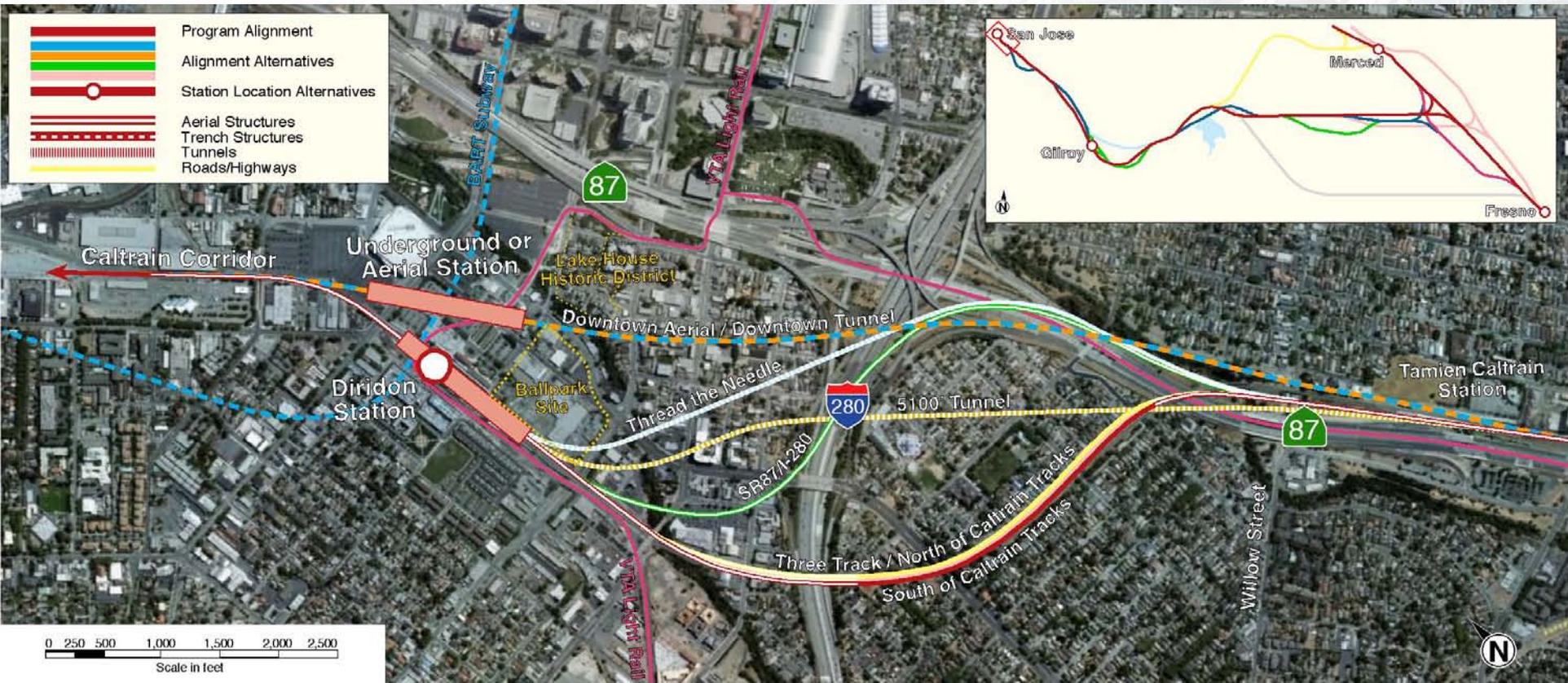


Tunnel & Trench Examples





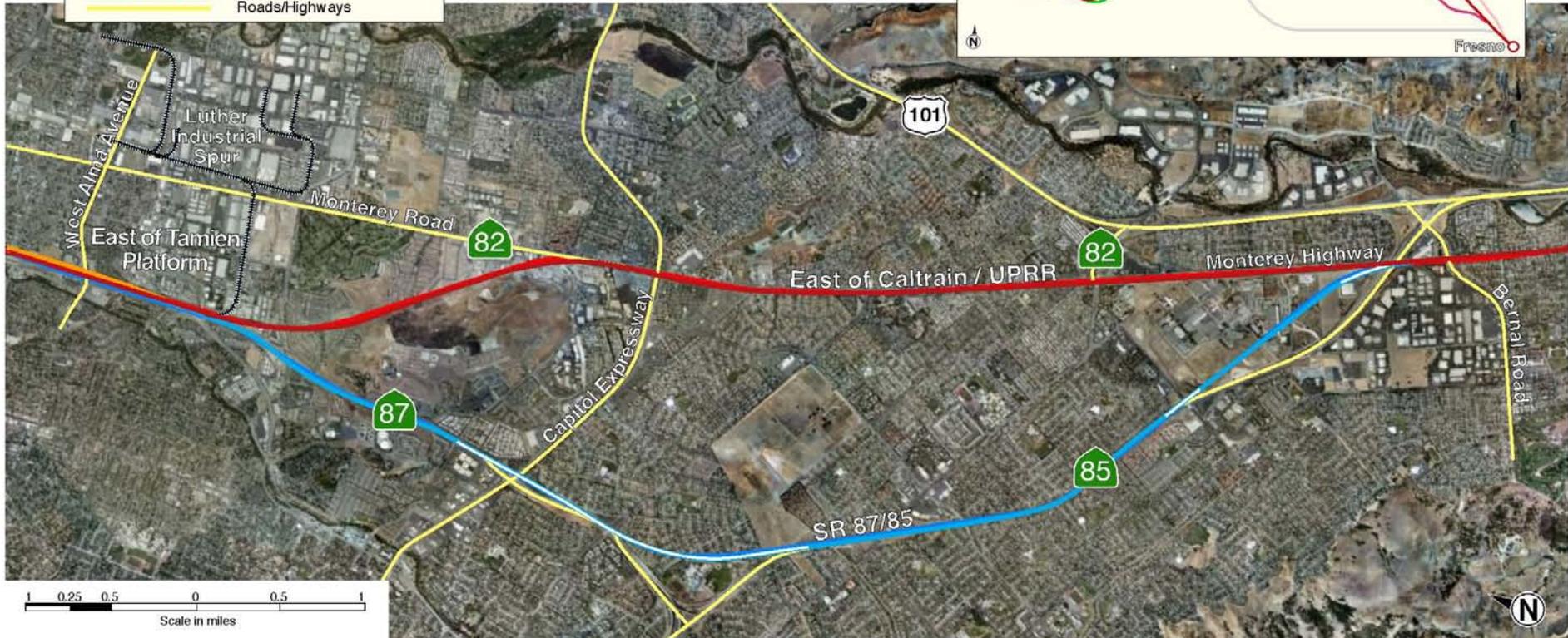
San Jose Near Station Alignments





Monterey Highway Alignments

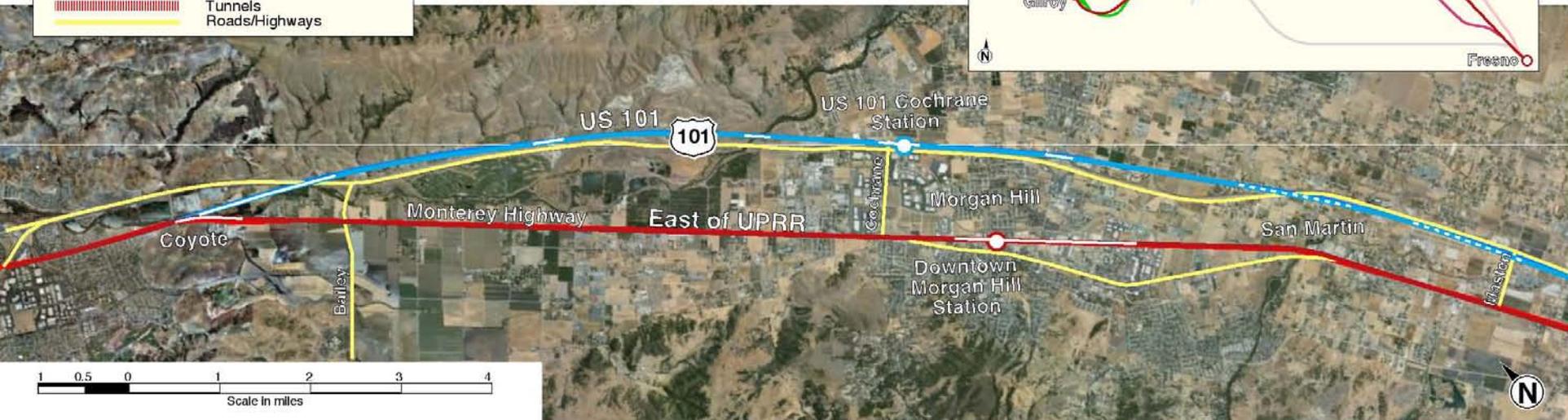
- Program Alignment
- Alignment Alternatives
- Station Location Alternatives
- Aerial Structures
- Trench Structures
- Tunnels
- Roads/Highways





Morgan Hill Alignments

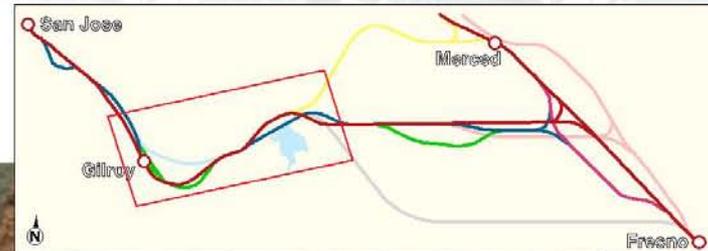
-  Program Alignment
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-  Tunnels
-  Roads/Highways





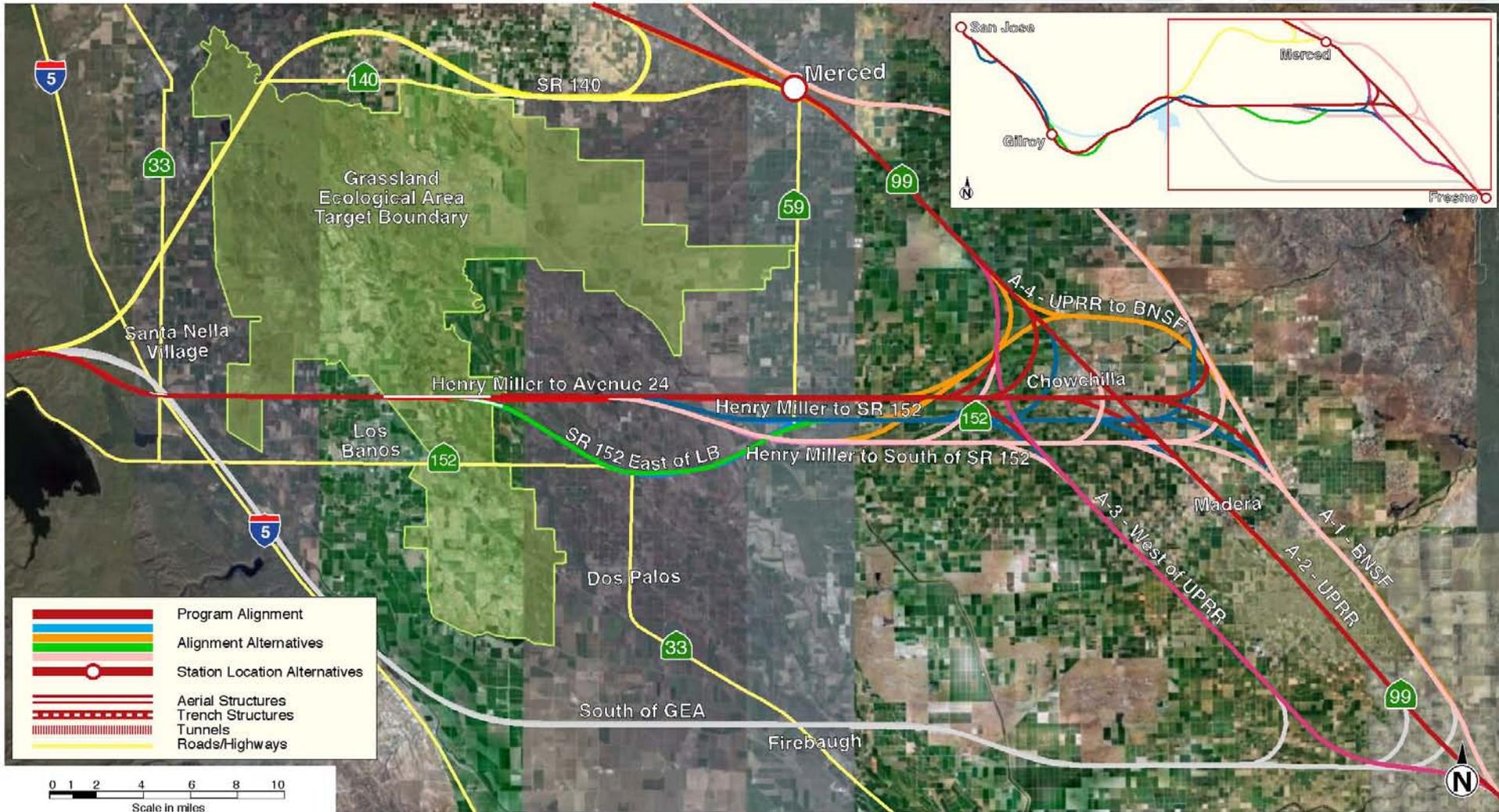
Pacheco Pass Alignments

-  Program Alignment
-  Alignment Alternatives
-  Station Location Alternatives
-  Aerial Structures
-  Trench Structures
-  Tunnels
-  Roads/Highways





San Joaquin Valley Crossing Alignments





Discussion Guidelines

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For More Information

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