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Diplomate • American Board of Orthodontics  
Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics

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California High Speed Rail Authority  
925 L Street, Suite 1425  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Rail Authority,

I write on behalf of the Merced County High Speed Rail committee to respectfully urge you to continue to include Merced as a rail stop and Castle Air Force base as a maintenance and construction hub.

PHM1-1

The Merced County High Speed Rail committee is made up of business people, educators, farmers and public sector employees. Our mission is to support the construction of a high-speed line which includes a stop in Merced County. We believe that this project will significantly improve the valleys air quality and transportation needs. Our committee endorses the former Castle Air Force Base as the perfect facility for the construction and maintenance hub of this statewide project.

PHM1-2

We have long supported construction of a high-speed line connecting Northern and Southern California. Building such a system would dramatically expand the travel options for California's growing population at half to one-third the cost to expand our airports and highways to provide a comparable level of service. It would significantly reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases, and, if done right, would give California an economic shot in the arm by helping to relieve the high home prices and rising traffic congestion that is slowly strangling California's economic centers.

PHM1-3

Lastly, we urge the Authority to continue their arduous task of completing the necessary studies for the state to consider entering into a public-private partnership to finance, build, maintain and/or operate the high-speed rail system.

PHM1-4

Sincerely,

Dr. Lee R. Boese Jr.  
Chairman Merced County High Speed Rail Committee

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