



**CALIFORNIA**  
High-Speed Rail Authority

# BAKERSFIELD TO PALMDALE PROJECT SECTION UPDATE

Community Open House Meeting Series

Fall 2015



# TODAY'S AGENDA

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- High-Speed Rail
- How We Work
- Where We Have Been
- Where We Are Today
- What We Are Doing Next



# HIGH-SPEED RAIL



# HIGH-SPEED RAIL: More Than A Transportation Program

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- California is 7th Largest Economy in the World and Needs a World-Class Transportation System
  - » This transformative investment will:
    - Connect all California population centers
    - Address 21<sup>st</sup> century mobility needs
    - Provide a strong foundation for the economy



# EXPANDING TRANSPORTATION CHOICES ADDRESSES KEY STATEWIDE CHALLENGES

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- California is One of Largest Economies in the World
- The Population is Growing
  - » 50 million by 2050
- Strengthens Our Transportation Choices
  - » HSR = New transportation mode
  - » HSR connects 8 of the 10 largest cities in CA
  - » Addresses congestion:
    - Highway: Six of top 30 congested urban areas in US in CA
    - Airways: LAX to SFO is the **busiest short-haul market** in US
    - Railways: Freight and passenger service share tracks
- A “Clean” Transportation Mode
  - » Meets goals of AB 32 / SB 375
  - » Electrically powered, 100% renewable energy commitment
- An Efficient and Less Expensive Alternative
  - » Best in class 100-600 miles
  - » HSR is 2-3 times less expensive



# CONNECTING CALIFORNIA



- **Phase 1**

- » 520 miles
- » San Francisco to Los Angeles/Anaheim

- **Phase 2**

- » Extends 300 miles
- » Connections to Sacramento & San Diego

# HOW WE WORK



# COLLABORATIVE APPROACH BALANCES MULTIPLE PRIORITIES



# CONNECTED SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

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- Balance Needs, Create Value
- Refine Route Concepts
  - » Address community concerns
  - » Explore potential benefits
- Strengthens Our Transportation Choices
  - » The environment
  - » Access and mobility
  - » The community
  - » Business, jobs, workforce development and education
  - » Stations



# THE ENVIRONMENT

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- Tree Planting
- Watershed Improvements
- Adaptive Reuse
- Resource Preservation
- Climate Adaptation
- Air Quality Improvements



# ACCESS & MOBILITY

- Better Connections between All Transportation Systems

- » Transit/Commuter rail
- » Intercity passenger rail
- » Regional rail
- » Bus
- » Rideshare
- » Pedestrian and bicycle connections



# THE COMMUNITY

- **Character**

- » Aesthetics
- » Broadband connectivity
- » Productivity and mobility

- **Safety**

- » Eliminate grade crossing
- » Earthquake early warning system
- » Restrict access to rail corridors

- **Health**

- » Air quality
- » Active transportation



# BUSINESS, JOBS, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

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- **Long-Term Business Opportunities**
  - » New, fast connections between regions
  - » More reliable transportation for workforce
  - » More options for leisure travel and tourism
- **Immediate Business Opportunities**
  - » Small Business Program
  - » Contracting



# BUSINESS, JOBS, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

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- Jobs
- Education
  - » Support generational shift in perspective
    - Elementary/Secondary STEM
    - Higher education
- Training
  - » Vocational
  - » Apprenticeships



# STATIONS: NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HEART OF CALIFORNIA'S CITIES

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- Improve Local, Regional, and Statewide Mobility and Connectivity
- Support Local and Regional Economic Opportunities
- Address Next Generation Preferences
- Facilitate Transit & Sustainable Infrastructure Investment



# WHERE WE HAVE BEEN



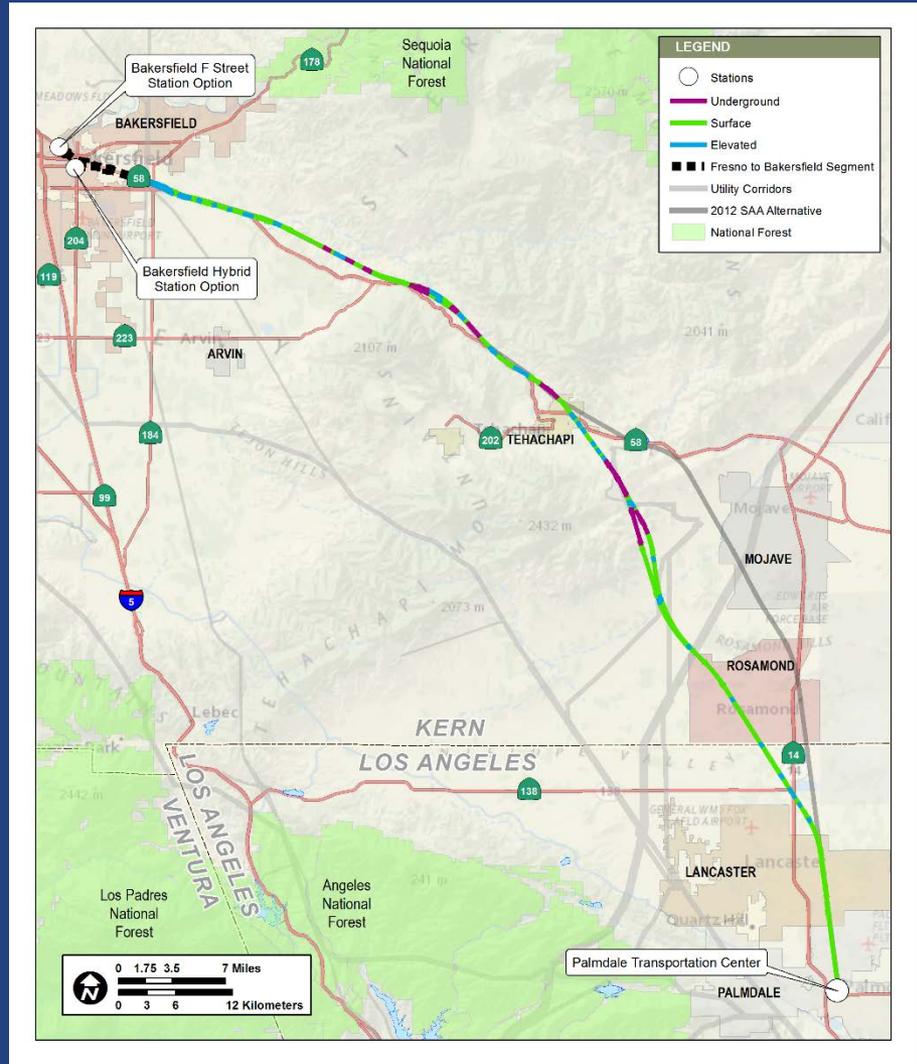


# WHERE WE ARE TODAY



# BAKERSFIELD TO PALMDALE PROJECT SECTION

- Close the Rail Gap between the Central Valley and Southern California
- Avoid Impacts to Communities and the Environment
  - » Downtown areas, schools
  - » Green energy generation
  - » Ranches and natural lands
  - » Agricultural activities and businesses
  - » Mining activities
- Improve Safety around Existing Rail Corridor
  - » Grade separations
  - » Earthquake early warning system
  - » Intrusion barriers
- Work Closely with Project Partners



\*Preliminary & Subject to Change

# WHERE WE ARE GOING



# COLLABORATIVE APPROACH ADVANCES MULTIPLE PROJECT OBJECTIVES AT THE SAME TIME





**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** 



# LEVELS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

## ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS



- Design Objectives
- Land Use
- Disruption to Communities
- Environmental Resources
- Agency and Public Input

## ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT



- Aesthetics & Visual Quality
- Agricultural, Farm & Forest Land
- Air Quality & Global Climate Change
- Biological Resources & Wetlands
- Cultural Resources
- Cumulative Impacts
- Electromagnetic Interference/Fields (EMI/EMF)

- Geology, Soils, Seismicity & Paleontology
- Hazardous Materials & Wastes
- Hydrology & Water Resources
- Station Planning, Land Use & Development
- Noise & Vibration
- Parks, Recreation & Open Space
- Public Utilities & Energy
- Regional Growth
- Safety & Security
- Socioeconomics & Communities
- Environmental Justice
- Transportation
- Section 4(f) & Section 6(f) Evaluations

# NEXT STEPS\*

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- Ongoing
  - One-on-One Stakeholder Meetings
  - Stakeholder Working Group Meetings
  - Community Open Houses
- Sept. 2015
  - Board Meeting to Review 2015 SAA
- Sept./Oct. 2015
  - Project-Level Draft Environmental Document
    - Detailed Technical Studies
    - Refined Alternatives
- Fall/Winter 2015/6
  - Draft Environmental Document
- 2015-2016
  - Final Environmental Document
- Spring 2017
- Winter 2017

\* Subject to Change

# STAY INVOLVED

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**Website:** [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)

**Hotline:** (866) 300-3044

**E-mail:** [bakersfield\\_palmdale@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:bakersfield_palmdale@hsr.ca.gov)

Southern California Office  
California High-Speed Rail Authority  
700 N. Alameda, Room 3-532  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
[www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)



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