

San Martin Community Meeting
High Speed Rail
February 2, 2017

At the Community Outreach meeting of February 2, 2017, the County of Santa Clara, Department of Planning and Development, Planning Manager Rob Eastwood, provided opening remarks for the San Martin Community meeting for High Speed Rail (HSR). He noted the purpose of the meeting was to hear from the Community regarding the HSR and that those comments would be summarized and presented to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors at the proposed target meeting date of March 28, 2017, with a preferred alternative announced in mid-April.

Planning Manager Eastwood introduced Kirk Girard, Director, Department of Planning and Development, Dawn Cameron, Deputy Director, Roads and Airports, and John Litzinger, High Speed Rail.

Planning Manager Eastwood provided a brief overview of a PowerPoint presentation related to the HSR and discussed the four options between Gilroy and San Jose.

Next, Deputy Director Cameron spoke to alternative alignments under consideration and to be evaluated by Roads and Airports technical consultants.

Planning Manager Eastwood opened the public comment portion of the meeting.

Swanee Edwards spoke in opposition of the high speed rail alignments through South County and expressed concern for farmland, wineries, number of proposed trains per hour, the anticipated increase to local traffic, deficiency in the Monterey Road alignment, and an increase to the number of large trucks on city streets.

Connie Ludewig spoke in opposition of the high speed rail alignments through South County and expressed concern for the lack of available funding, proposed train routes from San Francisco to Los Angeles, lack of statistics prepared in relationship to ridership, and the proximity of the proposed track in relation to Morgan Hill and San Martin residents homes. She expressed support for the Altamont Pass alignment and requested

Santa Clara County support San Martin and Morgan Hill residents by keeping the HSR out of South County.

Linda Cambaresi, spoke in opposition of the high speed rail alignments through South County. She noted a lawsuit filed by CC-HSR.org and the town of Atherton to stop the High Speed Rail and requested that the County Board of Supervisors review the lawsuit and consider joining the lawsuit in an effort to stop HSR.

Stephen McHenry requested individuals in the audience raise their hands in a show of support for the High Speed Rail project and, then, noted that two hands were raised out of approximately 100 meeting participants

Norman Collier spoke in favor of High Speed Rail, but in opposition of a proposed viaduct at Cottle Road. He spoke in favor of an alignment south of Gilroy to Diridon Station with tunneling to begin at Capitol Avenue. He expressed support for HSR running east of Highway 101.

Issa spoke in opposition of the high speed rail alignments through South County. He expressed concern with various issues related to the project such as costs, tunneling, and timing and requested that the County partner with surrounding Cities to share resources and costs.

Linda Sotelo, spoke in opposition of the HSR and questioned proposed ridership, eminent domain, and the increase in bonds involved in implementing the HSR. She states funding could be put to better use.

Trina Hineser expressed appreciation to the County Planning Department, staff, and Supervisor Wasserman for hosting the HSR community meeting for the San Martin community. She suggested the County partner with the Open Space Authority, the Sierra Club, the California Native Plant Society, and Committee for Green Foothills so that if it becomes necessary to recreate the town of San Martin, the County would have resources and a starting point to model the recreation from. Lastly, she extended an invitation to community members to attend the February 9, 2017 South County Joint Planning Advisory Committee (SCJPAC) to further discuss the issue.

John Saunders suggested review of impacts on schools, land use plans, and significant construction impacts including roads and infrastructure. He

requested that the County develop their own alternative and plan for the worse-case scenario. He encouraged the County to be more involved in the process and take a more active role in proposed project. Additionally, he encouraged the community to express their concerns to the County now so that if the project does proceed at some point, all concerns and comments will have been made available.

Mark Peoples spoke in opposition of the HSR and expressed concern that the maps provided for the community meeting were not accurate. He noted that the HSR had communicated to him that the relocation of the Cal Train and Monterey Highway and the resulting relocation of the downtown area of San Martin further west was a source of confusion for him as Rocca's and other stores in downtown San Martin would be destroyed.

Kim Hayes spoke in opposition of the HSR. She expressed concern for the proposed alignments and spoke in favor of underground construction, including in adjacent neighborhoods (San Jose, Morgan Hill, etc.). She would like the alignment farther east away from Monterey Highway, and east of 101, with commuter feeder lines to allow communities to commute to San Jose and San Francisco. No viaducts or at grade. Finally, she stated that the State should spend its money for water storage and management, education, etc.

Elise Brentnall expressed concerned regarding utilities, specifically point to point wireless for data and internet voice services. She stated that this will block many people's views and questioned if HSR would work with residents to ensure no loss of service.

Shani Kleinhaus, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, spoke regarding infrastructure, powerlines, and landscape. She expressed concern that she could not decipher the maps provided and that there were no handouts to take away. She stated that it showed disrespect from HSR to the County and to the resident.

Roland Lebrun expressed support for the proposed High Speed Rail (HSR) project and advised that he would work independently to create an alternate alignment.

Holly Willent, expressed concern for the proposed tracks, alignments, 30-50 foot concrete walls, and eminent domain. She inquired regarding the ridership, design and look of the train, and populace to be serve. She

recommended further review of incentives, programs, and impacts on health and noise prior to the proposed project approval

Lorin Weyland spoke in opposition to the HSR and suggested that the tracks run between north and south 101 or tunnel underground between north and south 101.

Diana Tong, spoke in opposition to the HSR. She expressed concern that she has not been provided a map of proposed alignments although she has requested one on several occasions. She expressed concern for the possible decline in her property value, loss of revenue in County taxes, and a negative impact to the turkey vulture population with the approval of the HSR. She expressed her support for the tunneling of tracks from Diridon to San Martin for 10 miles, or an alternative alignment east of 101 from Blossom Hill or Highway 85. And, finally, she requested further information on the responsible party for sending notices that an alignment has been chosen.

Paul Harris spoke in opposition to the HSR. He expressed appreciation to the County Planning Department and staff for hosting the HSR community meeting for the San Martin community. He expressed concern for the hours of operation for the proposed HSR train, and questioned if the train will benefit the town of San Martin.

Maryann Rowan, representing Councilmember Deb Davis, District 6, City of San Jose, and resident of San Martin. She inquired as to the estimate budget amount for HSR, reimbursement to the County, and the reimbursement agreement.

Joe Cambarger, spoke in opposition to the HSR and recommended that the issue needs to go back before the voters.

Diane Ictedi spoke in opposition to the HSR, however, spoke in support of tunneling and putting the HSR tracks underground. If not an option, then she spoke in support of the East 101.

Marc Rauser, San Martin resident, expressed appreciation to staff and the Department of Planning and Development for hosting the community meeting. He expressed support for HSR underground and east of 101. He encourages community members to submit their comments regarding alignment as soon as possible.

Jorge Tong submitted written comments only and expressed his preference that the alignment be placed east of 101 and underground.

Tabby Vaidyanath submitted written comments only and expressed opposition to the HSR stating reasons regarding a lack of information, misinformation provided by the representative to residents being affected, and mismanagement of the funds and the project.

Greg and Mary Tomlinson submitted written comments only and expressed opposition to the HSR stating that the maps and alignments are worthless in detail to who is affected. How will property devaluation be handled?

Planning Manager Eastwood closed the public meeting at 8 p.m.