



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www.CityofSacramento.org

DISCUSSION CALENDAR
August 10, 2010

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

**Title: Merced-Sacramento High-Speed Train and Altamont Corridor Rail Project
Updates**

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Fedolia "Sparky" Harris, Senior Planner, (916) 808-2996

Presenters: Dan Leavitt, California High-Speed Rail Authority; Brent Ogden, Merced-Sacramento Project Manager; Stacey Mortensen, Executive Director, ACE Rail

Department: Transportation

Division: Office of the Director

Organization No: 15001041

Description/Analysis

Issue: The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an update on progress of the Merced–Sacramento Section of the California High-Speed Train (HST) Project and next steps in the planning process. The Merced to Sacramento section is approximately 110 miles long, extending north from the Merced Station to the planned Intermodal Facility at the Railyards. Intermediate HST Station stops are proposed to be located in Stockton and the Modesto area.

The Altamont Corridor Rail Project is being planned to connect to the Merced–Sacramento Section in the vicinity of Lathrop/Manteca. This would allow regional trains compatible with the HST system to operate between the Bay Area (via Tracy) and points north as far as Sacramento and south as far as Merced and vice versa when the Altamont Corridor is constructed to HST standards. Therefore, planning activities between these two corridors are being closely coordinated.

In addition, the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRRC), which operates the Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) rail services, is interested in providing regional service in this section. SJRRRC hopes to take advantage of the capacity available on the HST mainline north of Merced to operate intercity and commuter trains serving regional stops that would be developed in addition to the four identified HST stops (Sacramento, Stockton, Modesto and Merced).

The SJRRRC has established the Central Valley Rail Working Group to further investigate and plan the regional rail service and provide input on the Merced-Sacramento Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). Members of the City Council and City staff have participated actively in this process, which also includes representatives from the following jurisdictions and agencies:

- Sacramento Regional Transit District
- Caltrans Division of Rail
- California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
- City of Elk Grove
- City of Galt
- City of Lodi
- City of Modesto
- City of Turlock
- City of Merced
- Merced County
- Merced County Association of Governments
- Sacramento County
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments
- San Joaquin County Council of Governments
- Stanislaus County
- Stanislaus Council of Governments

The Merced-Sacramento and Altamont projects are in the early phases of development of their respective environmental impact reports and environmental impact statements. The City and High-Speed Rail Authority in August 2009 entered into a memorandum of understanding to help guide future cooperation between the agencies, ensuring that both parties will have a role in the planning of high-speed train service in the City.

Policy Considerations: The City shall consider a variety of transit types including high speed rail, inter-city rail, regional rail, light rail transit, bus rapid transit, trolleys (streetcars), enhanced buses, express buses, local buses, neighborhood shuttles, pedicabs, and jitneys to meet the needs of residents, workers, and visitors. (Sacramento 2030 General Plan Policy M 3.1.3)

The City shall encourage and promote passenger rail service to and through the Sacramento area. (Sacramento 2030 General Plan Policy M 3.2.1)

The City shall support and advocate extension of High Speed Rail service to Sacramento. (Sacramento 2030 General Plan Policy M 3.2.5)

Environmental Considerations: Under the California Environmental Quality

Act (CEQA) guidelines, Section 15378(b)(2), continuing administrative activities do not constitute a project and are therefore exempt from review.

Sustainability Considerations: Not applicable

Other: None

Commission/Committee Action: None

Rationale for Recommendation: Information only

Financial Considerations: None

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Not applicable

Respectfully Submitted by: Francesca L. Halbakken
Francesca L. Halbakken
Operations Manager

Approved by: Jerry Way
Jerry Way
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:

Gus Vina
Gus Vina
Interim City Manager

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California High-Speed Train

Merced to Sacramento Section

Project Update / Initial Alternatives


Sacramento City Council

August 10, 2010



FLY CALIFORNIA

1 California High-Speed Train Project 

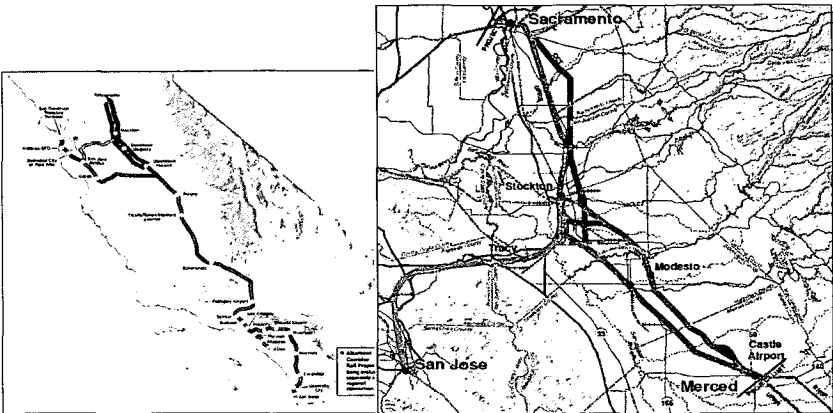


Today's Presentation

- I. **Project Update**
 - Section Location & Program Alignments
 - Regional Partner
 - Working Group
 - Scoping Process
 - Identification of Initial Alternatives
- II. **Development of Alternatives**
 - Program Alternatives
 - Initial Alternatives
- III. **Next Steps**


2 California High-Speed Train Project 

Location / Program Alignments



3 California High-Speed Train Project

Regional Partner




**SAN JOAQUIN
REGIONAL
RAIL COMMISSION**

- ❖ Operates Altamont Commuter Express (ACE)
- ✓ Signed MOU to partner with Authority
- ✓ Wants regional service
- ✓ Will provide local funds





ACE
ALTAMONT COMMUTER EXPRESS






4 California High-Speed Train Project












Central Valley Rail Policy Working Group






- ❖ Partners with the Authority
- ❖ Provides guidance on local issues














Altamont Commuter Express – California Partnership for San Joaquin Valley – Caltrans Division of Rail – City of Elk Grove
 City of Galt – City of Lodi – City of Merced – City of Modesto – City of Sacramento – City of Turlock – Merced County
 Merced County Association of Governments – Sacramento Area Council of Governments – Sacramento County
 Sacramento Regional Transit District – San Joaquin County Council of Governments – San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission
 Stanislaus Council of Governments – Stanislaus County

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California High-Speed Train Project 



Scoping Meetings

Meetings


- City of Stockton – January 20, 2010
- City of Merced – January 21, 2010
- City of Sacramento – January 27, 2010
- City of Modesto – January 28, 2010


Participation

- More than 350 participants
- More than 150 written comments


Summary of Comments Received


- ✓ Many comments in favor of project
- ✓ Some requested project be “fast-tracked”
- ✓ Program alignments generally confirmed
- ✓ Some requests for “loops” around smaller cities
- ✓ Many inputs received on station locations including regional stops

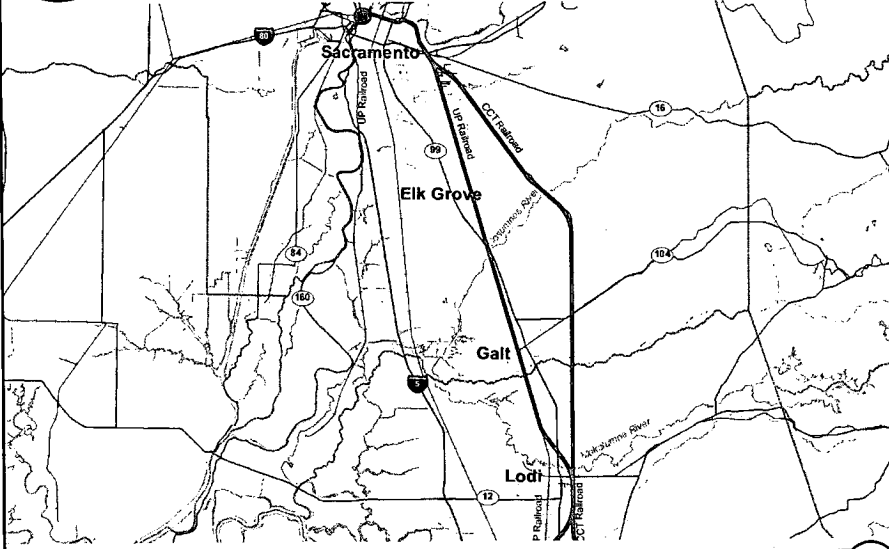
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California High-Speed Train Project 


 **Identification of Initial Alternatives**

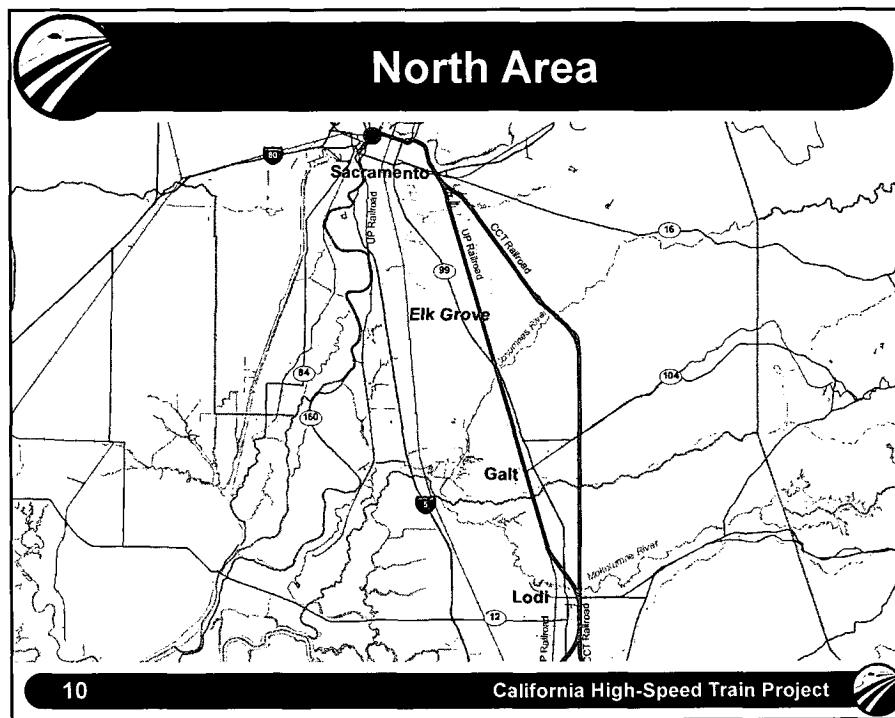
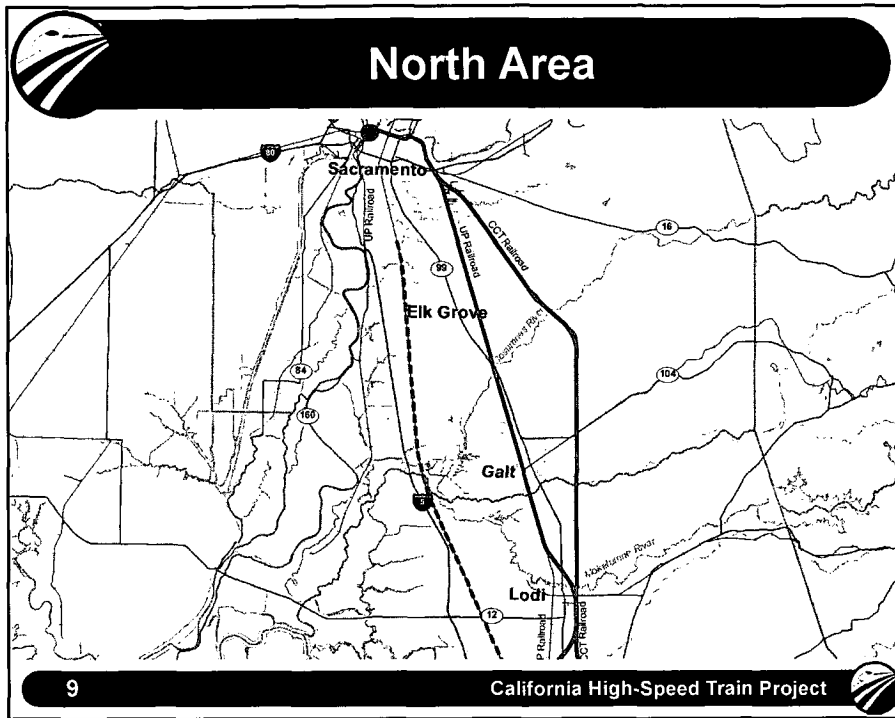
- Project Team prepared Draft Scoping Report
- Project Team identified alignments and stations by area (North / Central / South)
- Options reviewed with City/County reps in March
- Initial Alternatives presented to Working Group in April

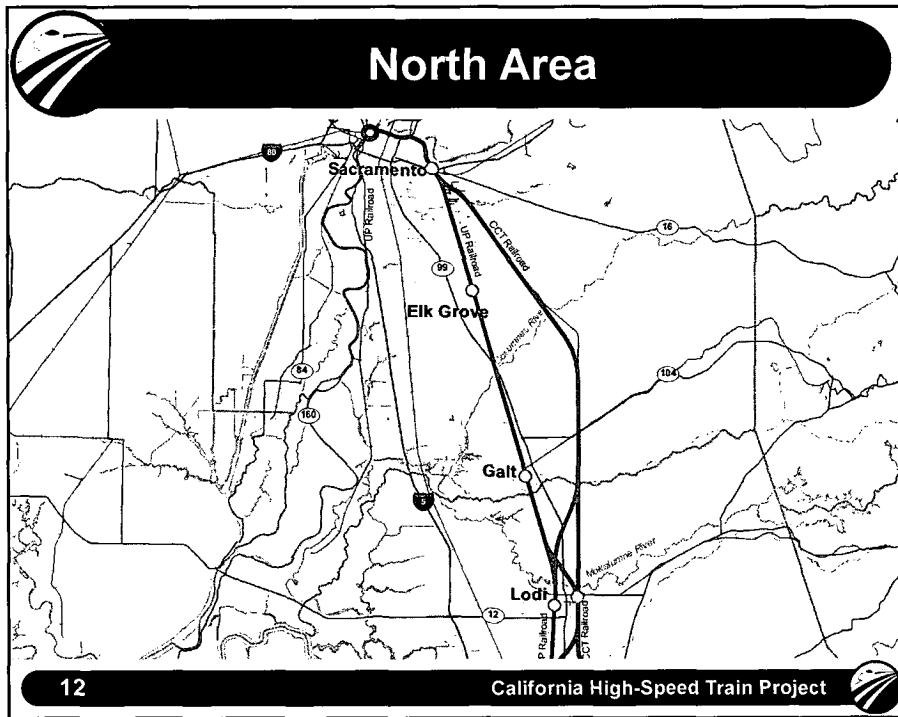
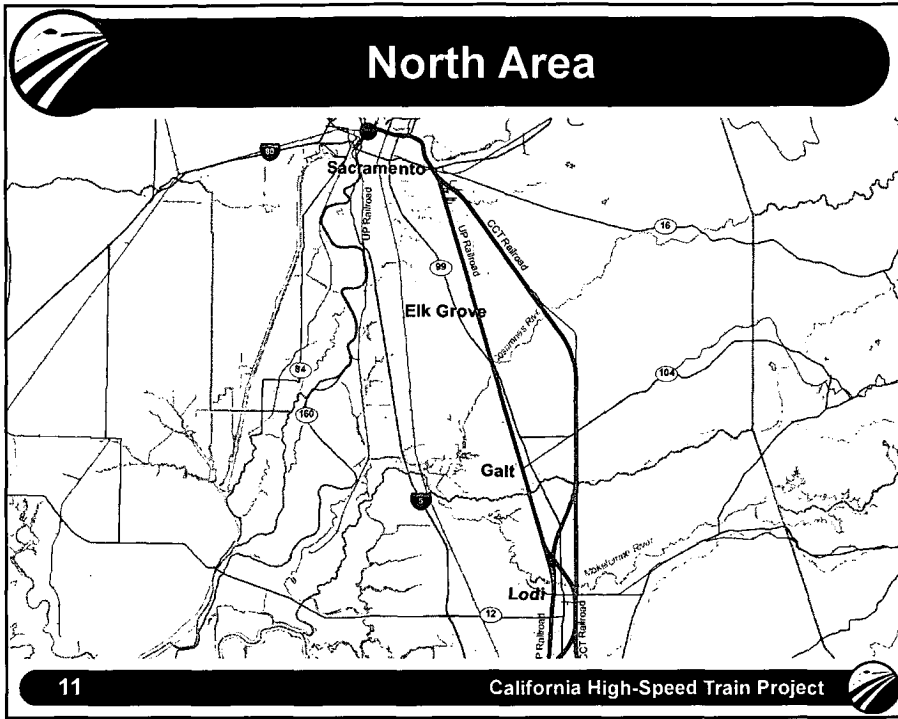
7 **California High-Speed Train Project** 

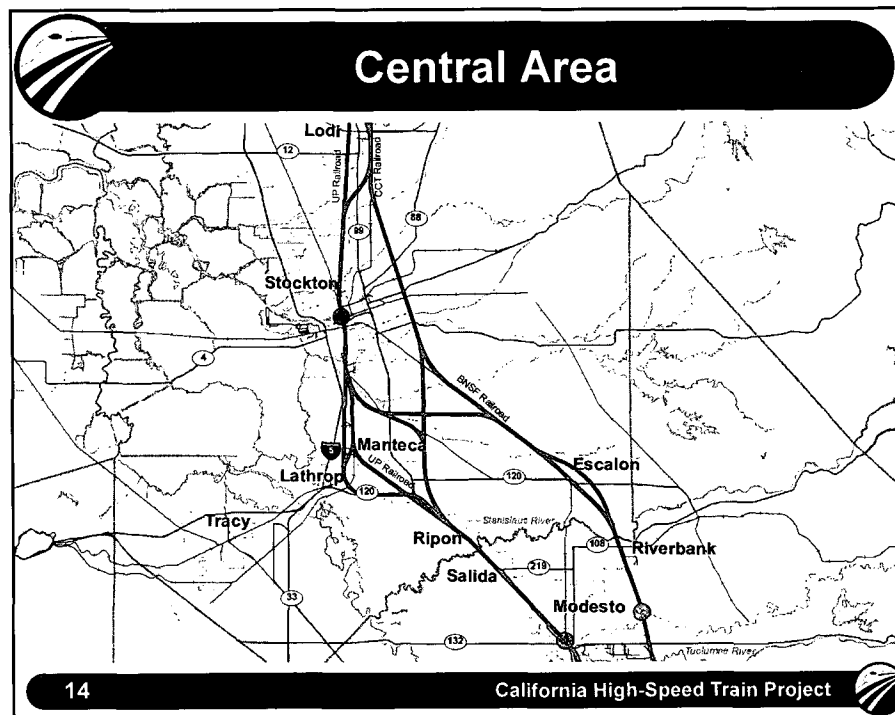
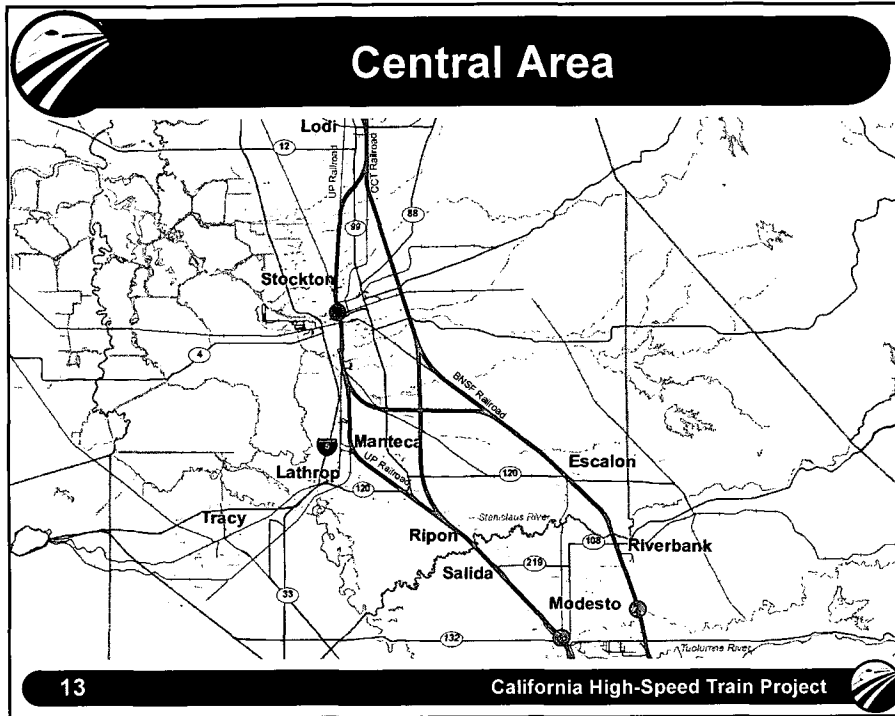
 **North Area**

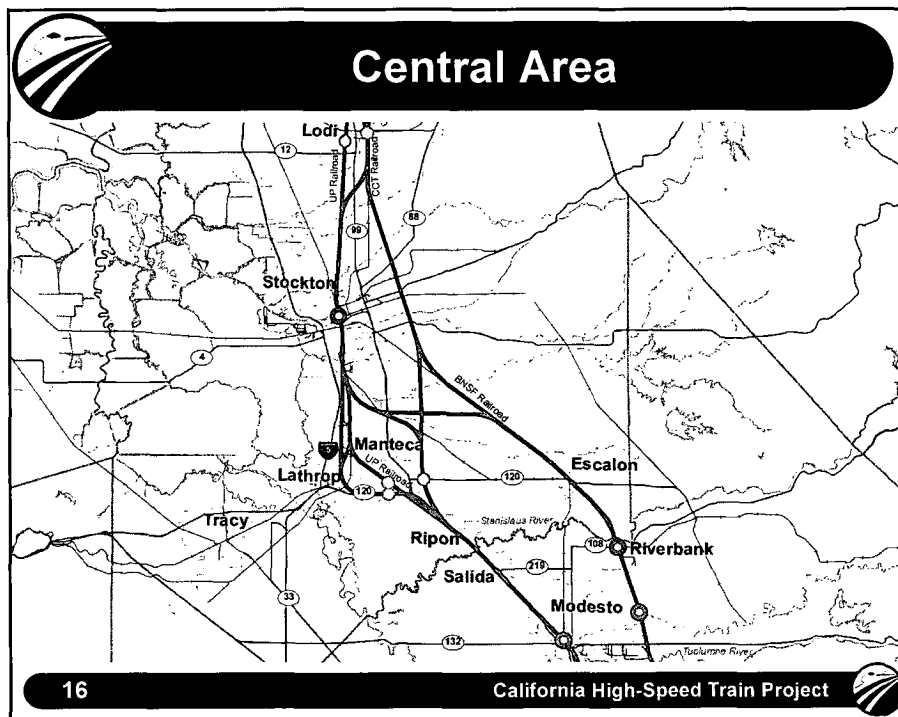
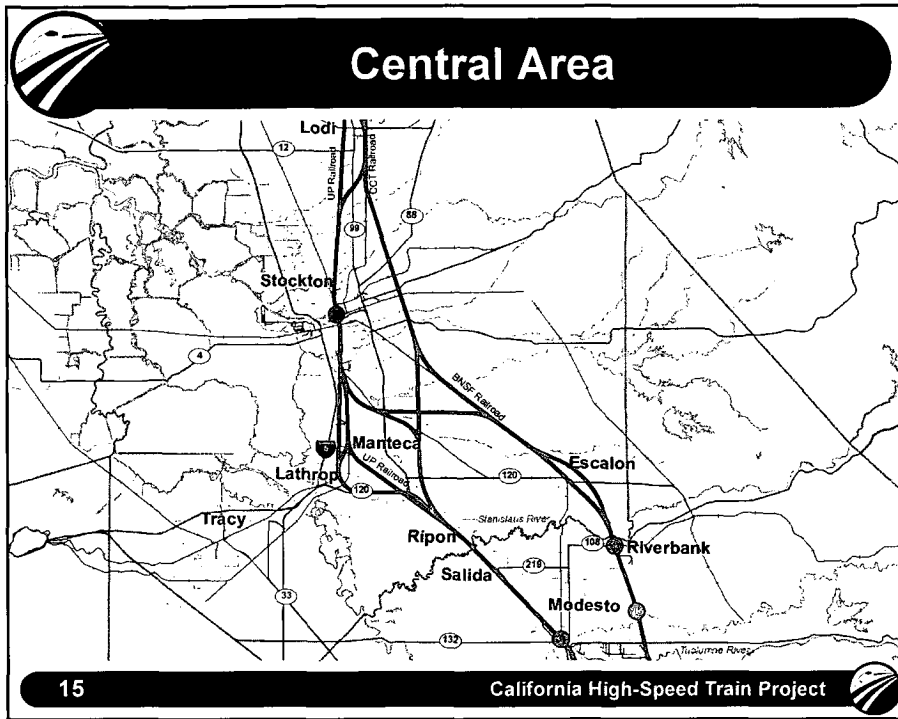


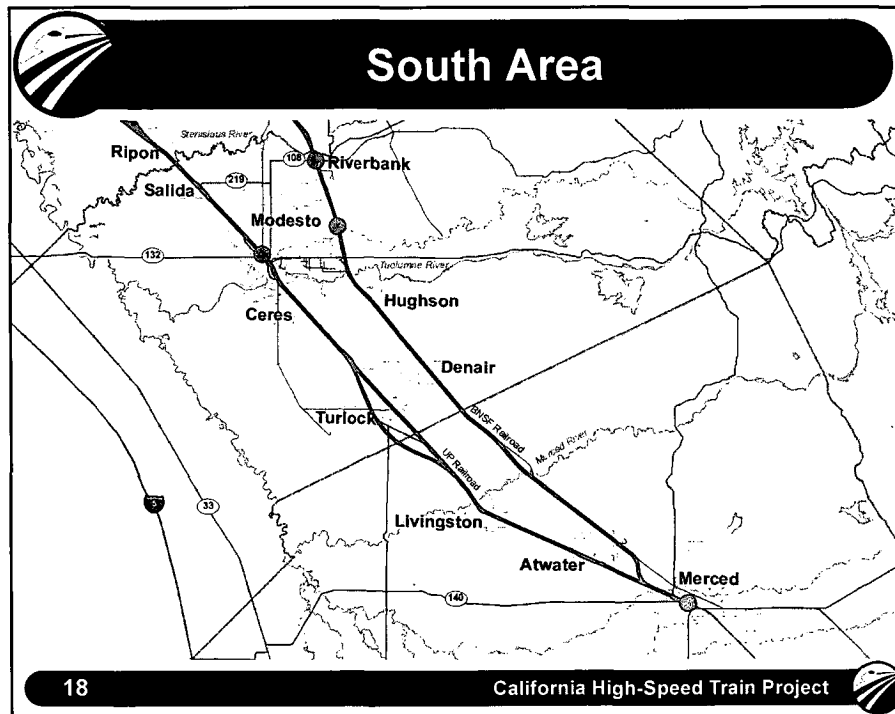
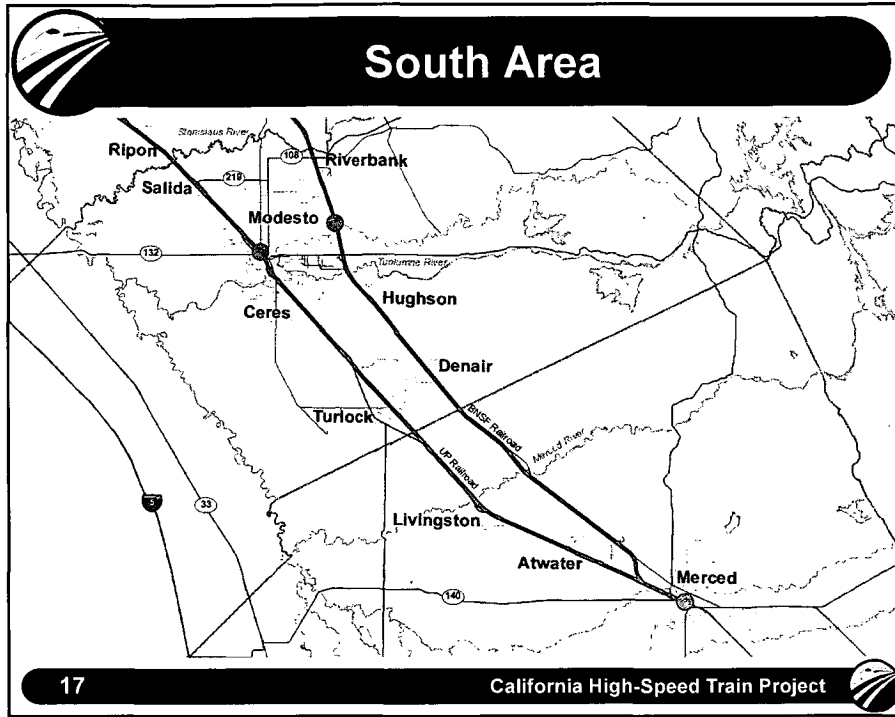
8 **California High-Speed Train Project** 

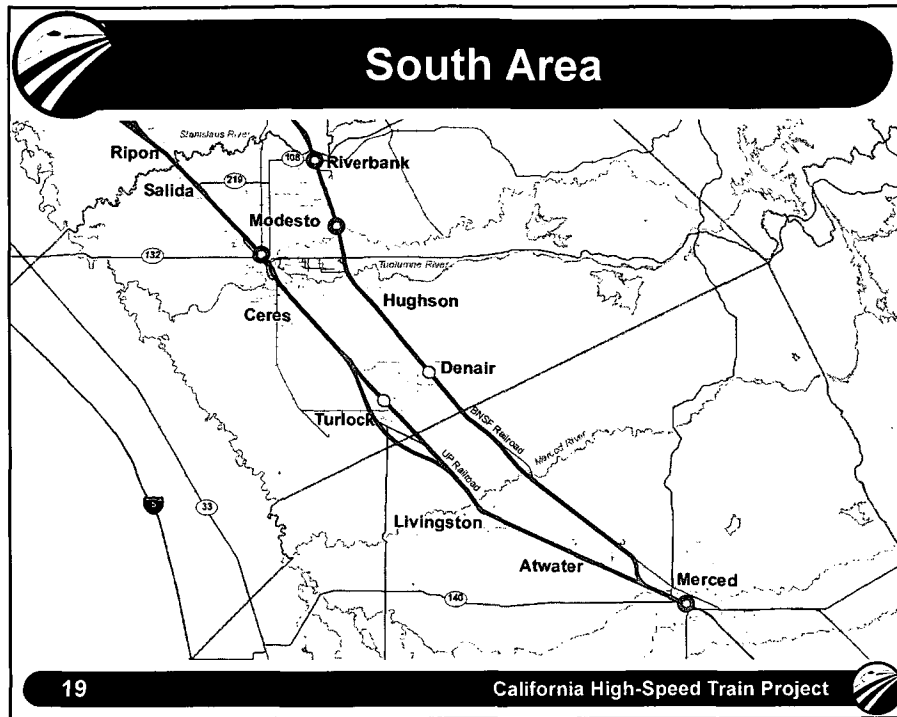









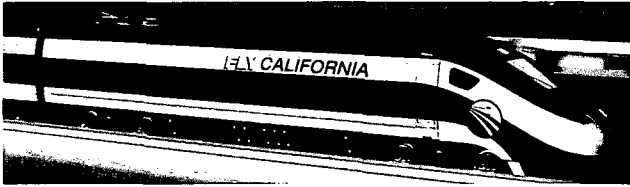





- ### Next Steps (Next 6 Months)
- ❖ Commence Alternatives Analysis
 - ❖ Meet with Resource Agencies
 - ❖ Work with Caltrans on Highway 99 Interface
 - ❖ Work with Cities & Counties on Alignment & Station Locations
 - ❖ Prepare Preliminary Alternatives Analysis
- 20 California High-Speed Train Project




Questions & Answers




21 California High-Speed Train Project 

The slide features a black header bar with the California High-Speed Rail logo on the left. The main content area contains the title "Questions & Answers" in a bold, italicized font. Below the title is a photograph of a high-speed train with "CALIFORNIA" written on its side. The footer consists of a black bar containing the number "21", the text "California High-Speed Train Project", and the logo on the right.



Back up material for Q/A

- EXTRA SLIDES

22 California High-Speed Train Project 

The slide features a black header bar with the California High-Speed Rail logo on the left. The main content area contains the title "Back up material for Q/A" in a bold font, followed by a bulleted list item "EXTRA SLIDES". The footer consists of a black bar containing the number "22", the text "California High-Speed Train Project", and the logo on the right.

Typical Sections Along Alignment

At-Grade Section

Shared Highway Corridor

Aerial Structure

Twin Single Track Tunnels

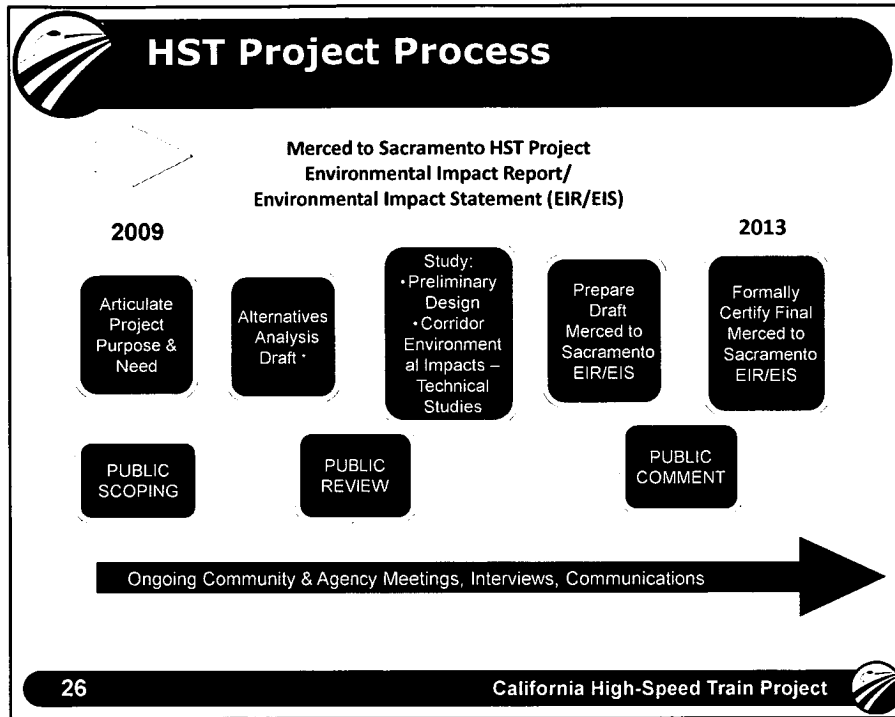
- Portions of the alignment will need special structures to fit into built environment
- Structures could include:
 - Aerial Structures (bridges)
 - Embankments
 - At grade
 - Tunnels

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Potential Stockton HST Station Location

Stockton Station (ACE Station)

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Contact Information

California High-Speed Rail Authority
916-324-1541
www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov

Dan Levitt, Deputy Director
Brent Ogden, Project Manager
510-622-6604

Beverly Mason
Public Outreach Team, 916-414-1582
Beverly.Mason@aecom.com

Gene Endicott
Public Outreach Team, 916-719-7214
gene@endicottcommunications.com

Multi-Lingual Project Information Line
800-881-5799

California High-Speed Rail Authority

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration

Altamont Corridor Partnership Working Group

Activities

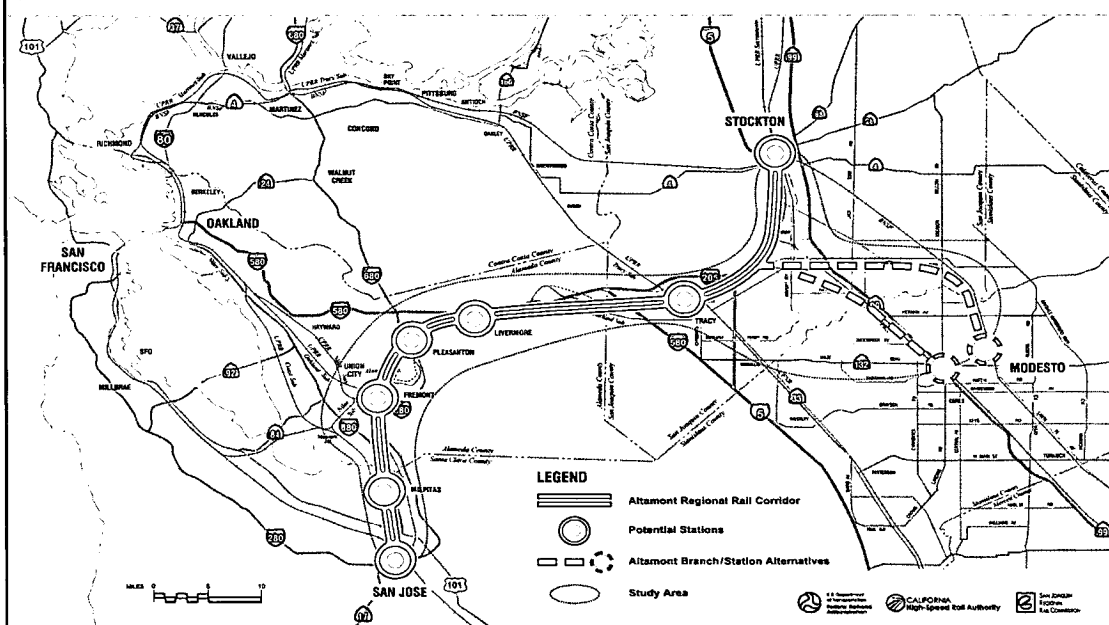
- Partners with the Authority throughout the project development process
- Guidance on local issues, development plans, and policies
- Assist in developing and evaluating alternatives
- Develop consensus regarding project goals, objectives and major elements
- Participation in public involvement activities and events
- Liaisons to local communities

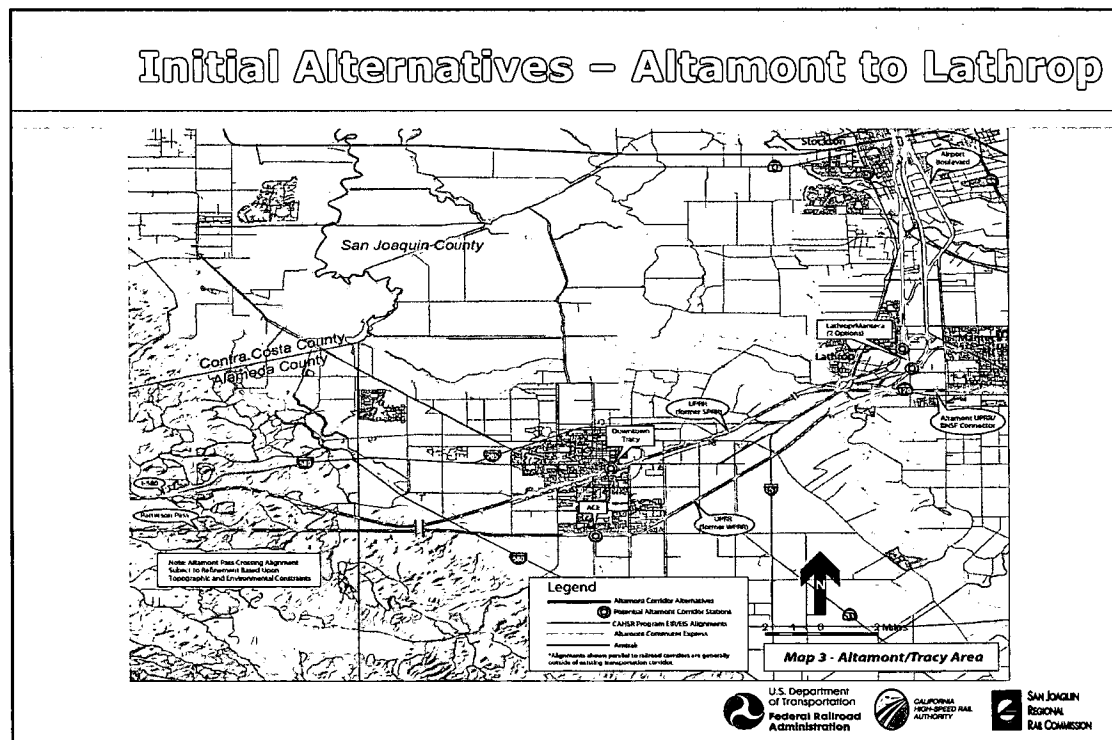
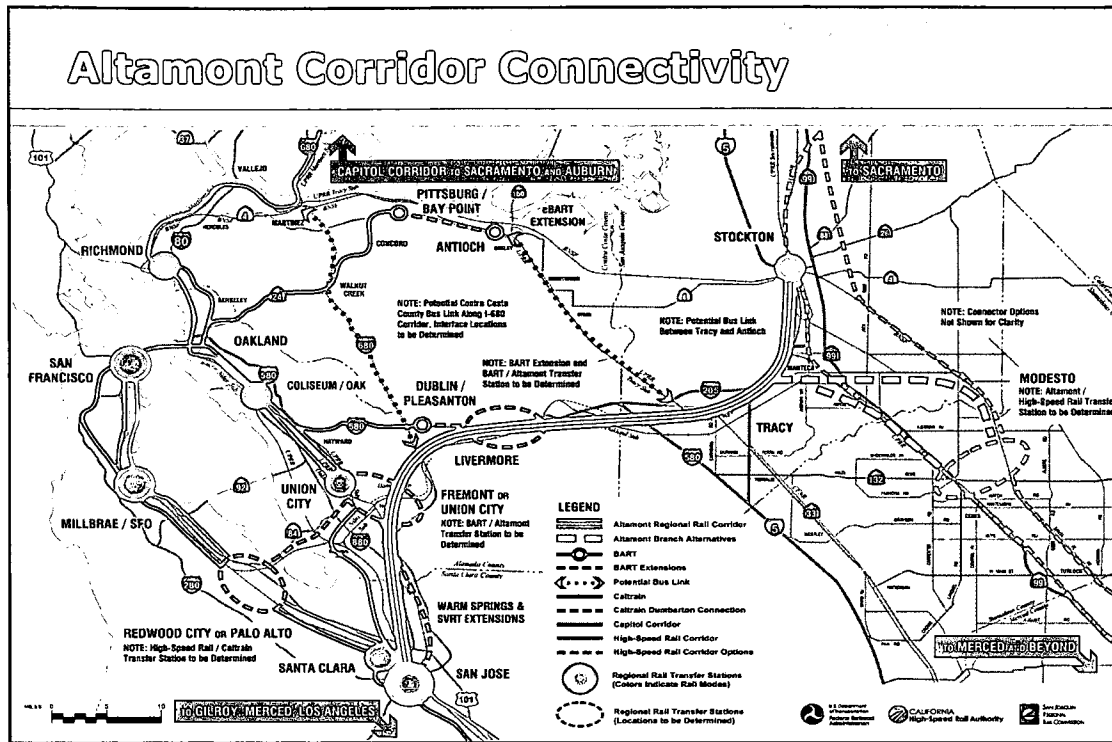


San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission / Altamont Commuter Express – Bay Area Rapid Transit District / BART
 Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority – San Mateo County Transit District / Caltrain
 Alameda County Congestion Management Agency – California Partnership for San Joaquin Valley
 Metropolitan Transportation Commission – Sacramento Area Council of Governments
 Stanislaus Council of Governments – Tri Valley Policy Advisory Committee

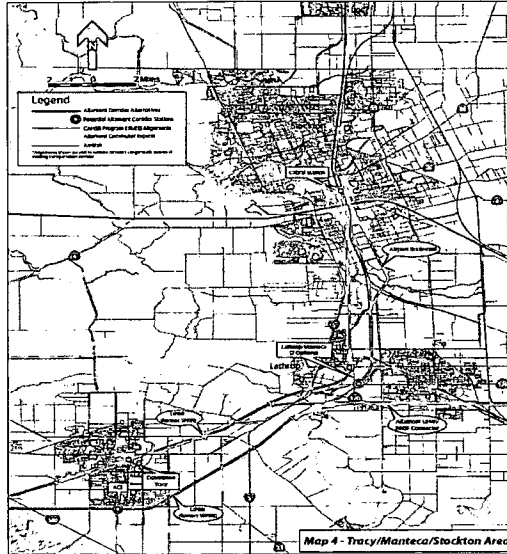


Project Corridor





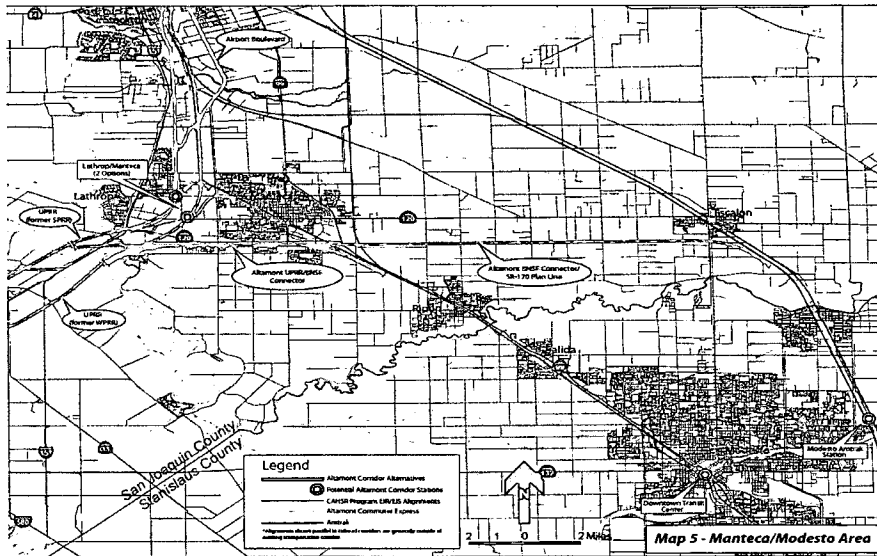
Initial Alternatives – Tracy to Stockton



Map 4 - Tracy/Manteca/Stockton Area



Initial Alternatives – Manteca to Modesto



Map 5 - Manteca/Modesto Area

