

Thank You for your Input on the Palmdale to Burbank Project Section

California High-Speed Rail Authority <palmdale_burbank@hsr.ca.gov> Reply-To: palmdale_burbank@hsr.ca.gov

Fri, Jun 19, 2015 at 2:30 PM

To: mail@ssmpa.com

Dear Mr. Nachtrab,

We have received your letter on behalf of Teena A. Takata and the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association. Your input with respect to the proposed East Corridor, formerly known as the Alternative Corridor, alignment for the Palmdale to Burbank project section is highly valued. Public input is an important aspect of our alternatives and environmental review process and it does make a difference. We strongly encourage your continued participation and hope the following appropriately addresses the concerns laid out in your letter.

The East Corridor, which was introduced last summer, would tunnel under the San Gabriel Mountains and would go under the edges of the Angeles National Forest, including the national monument area. The Angeles National Forest is subject to numerous activities that include mining and quarry operations along with recreational uses.

The Authority is committed to making the environment and surrounding communities a top priority and will build a high-speed rail program with the fewest impacts and greatest benefits. To achieve this goal, the Authority is presently giving equal consideration to each of the alignment options within the two proposed corridors. It is very important to note that these conceptual alignments are simply an update and are <u>not</u> final and will continue to evolve during the planning and environmental process.

Earlier this month, the Authority released the Supplemental Alternatives Analysis. The SAA features the latest information regarding the proposed alignment and station options. You can access the SAA by visiting the following link: http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/brdmeetings/2015/brdmtg_060915_ltem3_ATTACHMENT_Supplemental Alt Analysis PalmBurb Project Section.pdf.

As a way to ensure the protection of all the impacted communities along the potential routes, including your region, the project has undertaken a multi-phased process. This includes a preliminary alternatives analysis and subsequent detailed environmental evaluation. The Authority continues to evaluate tunnel alternatives while minimizing the potential impacts to communities, the environment, communities, and our precious natural wildlife. Alternatives continue shift with input from stakeholders, our elected leadership and environmental resource agency partners during public meetings, comment submissions, and conversations with technical staff.

To remain up to date on the Palmdale to Burbank Section of the High Speed Rail, please visit http://hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Statewide_Rail_Modernization/Project_Sections/palmdale_burbank.html. We also welcome your continued comments at palmdale_burbank@hsr.ca.gov. Thank you again for your comments, concern for your community, and participation with the California High-Speed Rail program.

Sincerely,

The Palmdale to Burbank Project Team California High-Speed Rail Authority Palmdale_Burbank@hsr.ca.gov (800) 630-1039