

LET'S PLAN FOR DOWNTOWN GILROY STATION AREA TOGETHER

Newsletter #1 - November 2015

The City of Gilroy has received a grant from the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) to study and plan for high-speed rail in Downtown Gilroy. This planning effort, commenced in April 2015, is called the Downtown Gilroy Station Area Plan (Station Area Plan). The Station Area Plan will act as a tool to guide private development and public improvements in Downtown over the next 25 years with a focus on the area near the future high-speed train station. The Station Area Plan will be based upon the best practices for transit-oriented development and will address land use, infrastructure, transportation connectivity, and economic development issues. Currently, the planning process is at the Opportunities and Constraints Report phase of the project. This Opportunities and Constraints Report evaluates the existing conditions of the Plan Area to identify the opportunities and constraints related to future development. The key issues explored include land use and development; transportation and parking; infrastructure; and environmental issues.



What does High-Speed Rail in Gilroy mean?

In 2008, California voters approved building a high-speed train system to connect major regions throughout the state. The system is proposed to travel at speeds of over 220 miles per hour and connect San Francisco and Los Angeles in less than three hours. The CHSRA is the organization leading this planning effort.

The CHSRA has determined that a high-speed rail station will be located in Gilroy. In 2012, through the visioning process, the City of Gilroy expressed a preference for the station to be located in Downtown. High-speed rail will require widening of existing railroad right-of-way and additional land for a new station and parking. High-speed rail will likely require changes to the street network and land uses in Downtown to accommodate and take advantage of opportunities that high-speed rail presents.

Project Updates

- » Check out the updated project website at www.GilroyHighSpeedTrain.org
- » The Opportunities and Constraints Report released for public review.



Upcoming Meetings

Join us at the first Community Meeting!

November 17, 2015 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm
at the Eliot Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room

A total of four community meetings are planned throughout the process to inform the community about the Station Area Plan and solicit input on aspects of it. At the first Community Meeting, participants will learn about the project and its planning process, review a summary of the existing conditions within the Plan Area, and discuss the potential opportunities and constraints to development in Downtown Gilroy.



Future Meetings

- **City Council/Planning Commission Study Session #1: Draft Alternatives – Spring 2016**
- **Community Meeting #2: Alternatives Analysis Results – Summer 2016**

The Future of Downtown Gilroy is in Your Hands!

Your input is needed to make sure the Downtown Station Area Plan reflects the public's expectations for Downtown Gilroy's future! Throughout the project's development process, there will be a number of meetings for the community to participate in the process. Please take a look at the following project process, and sign up to receive project updates and meeting notices here: www.gilroyhighspeedtrain.org/mailling-list/

WE ARE HERE

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL APPROVED, 2008

GILROY HIGH-SPEED TRAIN STATION VISIONING PROCESS, 2012

DOWNTOWN GILROY STATION AREA PLAN

2015-2017: In 2015, the City of Gilroy has embarked on planning for Downtown Gilroy and the high-speed train station area.

Fall 2015: OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS REPORT

What are the opportunities and constraints for improvements in your Downtown? Consider factors related to transportation, infrastructure, land use, and environment. **Please participate and provide feedback!**

Summer 2016: LAND USE AND CIRCULATION ALTERNATIVES

How can we improve the Downtown in general and the station area specifically? What kinds of uses and transportation improvements do you want to see in the future? **Please share your ideas!**

Fall 2016: PREFERRED LAND USE AND CIRCULATION ALTERNATIVE

After exploring several options and alternatives, and hearing your input, a preferred land use and circulation plan will be drafted to support a safe, pedestrian-friendly, and lively Downtown and station area. **Please participate and share your ideas!**

Summer 2017: DRAFT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Based on the preferred Land Use and Circulation Alternative and your input, a draft plan will be created. This plan will include goals, policies, development standards, and strategies for economic development, infrastructure, and circulation improvements. A draft environmental impact report (EIR) will be prepared to evaluate potential impacts to the environment. **Please review the documents and provide us with feedback!**

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ADOPTION, 2017



Ask Questions or Provide Feedback

Visit www.gilroyhighspeedtrain.org to provide comments

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