

# LET'S PLAN FOR DOWNTOWN GILROY STATION AREA TOGETHER

## Newsletter #2 - June 2016

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 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. Currently, the planning process is at the Land Use and Circulation Alternatives phase of the project. The Alternatives Analysis Report was recently released for public review. This report introduces and compares three alternatives showing different approaches to development and circulation in Downtown Gilroy and around the future California High-Speed Rail (HSR) Station, including the consideration of different vertical alignments for HSR. The findings from this analysis will help the community and decision-makers work towards identifying elements to create a Preferred Alternative, which will then set the direction for the Station Area Plan.



## 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](http://www.GilroyHighSpeedTrain.org)
- » The Alternatives Analysis Report was released for public review and is available on the project website.



## Upcoming Meetings

**Join us at the second Community Meeting!**

**June 28, 2016 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 this next Community Meeting, participants will learn about the alternatives, review the results of the alternatives analysis, and have an opportunity to provide input toward creating a Draft Preferred Alternative.



## Future Meetings

- **Community Meeting #3: Draft Preferred Alternative – Fall 2016**
- **City Council/Planning Commission Study Session #2: Draft Preferred Alternative – Fall 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/](http://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**

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](http://www.gilroyhighspeedtrain.org) to provide comments

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