

May 29, 2020

Mr. Stephen Sass  
Chairman  
County of Los Angeles, Historic Landmarks & Records Commission  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple Street, Room B-50  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Sass,

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) hereby announces the availability of the Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the California High-Speed Rail (HSR) Project. The Draft EIR/EIS has been prepared and is being made available pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Authority is the lead agency under both CEQA and NEPA<sup>21</sup>.

The Draft EIR/EIS is being made available for a minimum 45-day review and comment period in accordance with CEQA and NEPA. The comment period is from **May 29, 2020**, to **July 16, 2020**.

**\*COVID-19 UPDATE\***

Due to public health and safety requirements concerning the coronavirus, the **public open house** will be held online and via telephone on June 18, 2020 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. and the **public hearing** will be held online and via telephone on July 8, 2020 from 3:00-8:00 p.m.

The Authority invites you to participate in the community open house and public hearing listed to obtain more information about the project and to provide comments on the Draft EIR/EIS and the alternative under consideration.

Spanish interpreters will be available at the meetings. Other language requests must be submitted 72 hours in advance. You can request interpreters by calling (877) 977-1660 or contacting the California Relay Service at 711. A court reporter will be available at the public hearing to record public comments.

Visit the Authority website ([www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)) where you may download the Draft EIR/EIS. You may also request a copy of the Draft EIR/EIS by calling (877) 977-1660.

Printed and/or electronic copies of the Draft EIR/EIS and electronic copies of associated technical reports will be available at the following locations, if circumstances allow, during hours the facilities are open (open days/hours may be reduced for compliance with coronavirus public health and safety directives):

- Burbank
  - Burbank Central Library, 110 N Glenoaks Blvd
  - Buena Vista Branch Library, 300 N Buena Vista Street
  - Northwest Branch Library, 3323 W Victory Boulevard

**Public Open House  
Online and via Telephone**

June 18, 2020 from 5:00-7:30  
p.m.

**Public Hearing  
Online and via Telephone**

July 8, 2020 from 3:00-8:00 p.m.


<sup>21</sup> The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being or have been carried out by the State of California pursuant to 23 U.S. Code 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated July 23, 2019, and executed by the Federal Railroad Administration and the State of California. Under that MOU, the Authority is the project's lead agency under NEPA.

- Glendale
  - Glendale Central Library, 222 E Harvard St
  - Grandview Library, 1535 Fifth Street
  - Pacific Park and Community Center, 501 S Pacific Avenue
- Los Angeles
  - Atwater Village Branch Library, 3379 Glendale Boulevard
  - Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N Hill Street
  - Cypress Park Branch Library, 1150 Cypress Avenue
  - Lincoln Heights Branch Library, 2530 Workman Street
  - Little Tokyo Branch Library, 203 S Los Angeles Street
- Authority Offices (Authority offices may have reduced open days/hours, as required by coronavirus public health and safety directives. Please consult [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov) for up-to-date information)
  - Authority's Southern California Regional Office, 355 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 2050, Los Angeles, CA 90071
  - Authority's Headquarters, 770 L Street, Suite 620, MS-1, Sacramento, CA 95814

During the comment period, written comments may be submitted by mail to Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section: Draft EIR/EIS, 355 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 2050, Los Angeles, CA 90071; through the Authority's website ([www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)); or by email to [Burbank\\_Los.Angeles@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:Burbank_Los.Angeles@hsr.ca.gov) with the subject line "Draft EIR/EIS Comment."

The Authority is committed to working closely with the public; local and regional stakeholders; and our federal, state, and local partners to ensure the success of California's HSR project. We look forward to your feedback on this important environmental document and project milestone. The enclosed Notice of Availability (NOA) provides detailed information regarding the Draft EIR/EIS.

Sincerely,



Mark A. McLoughlin  
 Director of Environmental Services  
 (916) 403-6934  
[Mark.McLoughlin@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:Mark.McLoughlin@hsr.ca.gov)

Enclosure: Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR/EIS for the Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section of the California High-Speed Rail Project (English)

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى ترجمة هذا الكتاب تحريرياً أو شفويًا، فثمة موظفون يتحدثون اللغة العربية متاحين لمساعدتك. يُرجى الاتصال على الرقم (877) 977-1660.

Եթե այս նամակի գրավոր կամ բանավոր թարգմանության համար օգնության կարիք ունեք, կան հայերենախոս անձեր, ովքեր տրամադիր են օգնելու Ձեզ: Խնդրում ենք զանգահարել (877) 977-1660 համարով:

如果您需要协助翻译或口译该信函，有讲普通话的人员可以帮助您。请致电 (877) 977-1660。

この通知状の翻訳または通訳に補助が必要な場合は、日本語を話す係の者がお手伝いします。(877) 977-1660にお電話ください。

본 서신에 대한 번역 또는 통역 관련 도움이 필요한 경우 한국어로 귀하를 도울 수 있는 인력이 준비되어 있습니다. (877) 977-1660번으로 연락하십시오.

Si necesita asistencia para traducir o interpretar esta carta, contamos con personal que habla español disponible para ayudarlo. Llame al (877) 977-1660 si desea solicitar este servicio.

Kung kailangan mo ng tulong sa pagsasalin o pag-interpretar sa liham na ito, may tauhang nagsasalita ng Tagalog na maaaring makatulong sa iyo. Tumawag sa (877) 977-1660.

Nếu bạn cần trợ giúp phiên dịch hoặc diễn giải bức thư này, nhân viên nói tiếng Việt sẽ có sẵn để hỗ trợ bạn. Vui lòng gọi (877) 977-1660.

## OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC HEARING

### \*COVID-19 UPDATE\*

Due to public health and safety requirements concerning the coronavirus, the **public open house** will be held online and via telephone on June 18, 2020 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. and the **public hearing** will be held online and via telephone on July 8, 2020 from 3:00-8:00 p.m.

Following the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (herein referred to as COVID-19) in California (and globally), on March 17, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom announced directives to address the need to slow the spread of COVID-19 including prohibiting gatherings of any size. In addition, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 on March 19, 2020, which orders all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, effective immediately and until further notice. In order to comply with the Governor's directives and Executive Order N-33-20, and to protect public health, the traditional in-person format of the open house and public hearing will be changed to a "virtual" format held online and via telephone.

The Authority invites you to participate in the virtual open house scheduled for June 18, 2020. The open house will feature a project overview and interactive question and answer session. The virtual public hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2020. The public hearing will provide members of the public an opportunity to provide formal oral testimony. Oral comments provided via the call-in number by telephone will be recorded by an official court reporter. *En la reunión se contará con intérpretes que traducirán al español para el público asistente que lo necesite.*

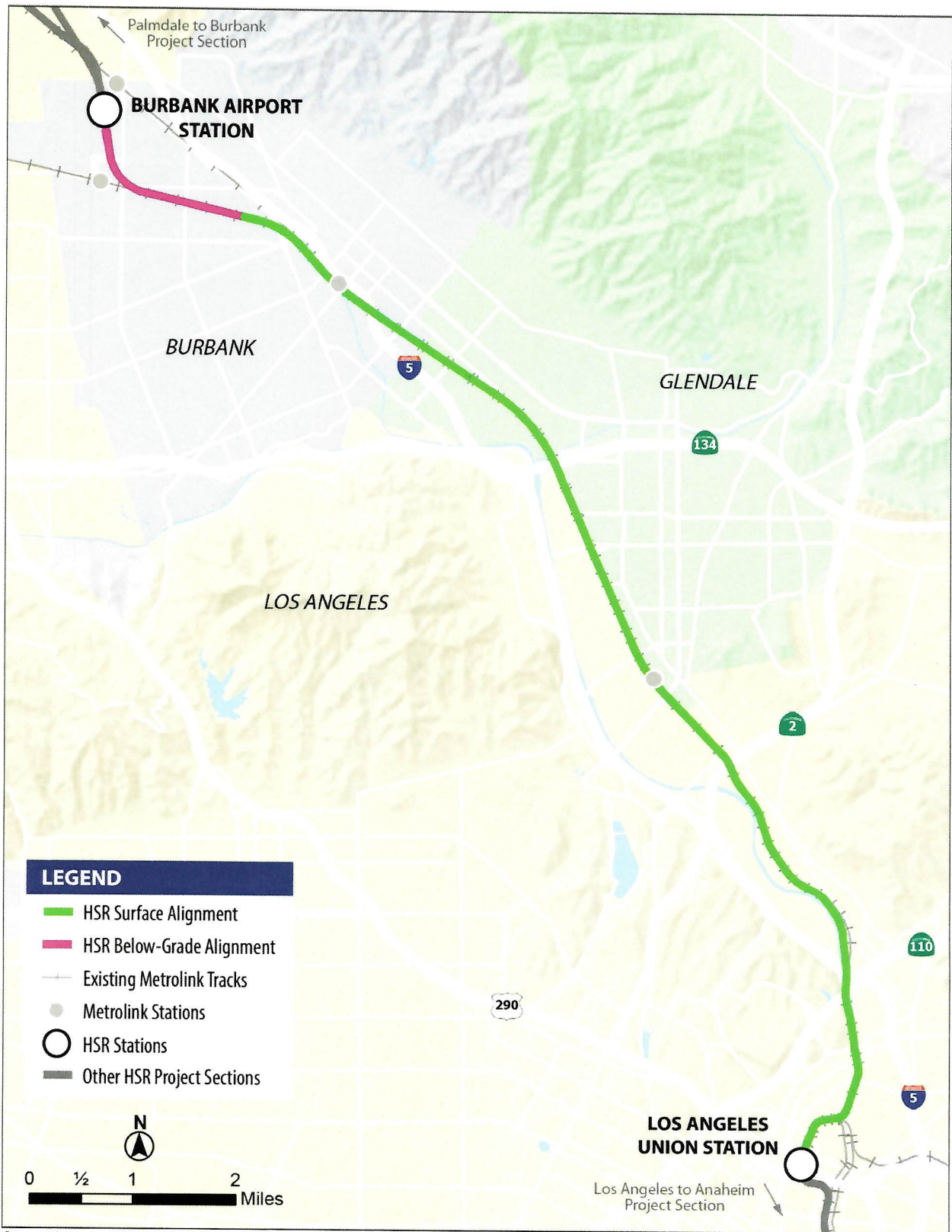
Please check the Authority website ([www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)) for more information, including up-to-date information on the planned open house and public hearing and how to access them. All requests for reasonable accommodations and language services must be submitted 72 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Please contact the Authority's public outreach team at (877) 977-1660 or call the California Relay Service at 711.

## COPIES OF THE DRAFT EIR/EIS

Please visit the Authority website ([www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)) to download an electronic copy of the Draft EIR/EIS. You may also request a copy of the Draft EIR/EIS by calling (877) 977-1660.

Printed and/or electronic copies of the Draft EIR/EIS and electronic copies of associated technical reports will be available at the following locations, if circumstances allow, during hours the facilities are open (open days/hours may be reduced for compliance with COVID-19 public health and safety directives):

- Burbank
  - Buena Vista Branch Library, 300 N Buena Vista Street
  - Northwest Branch Library, 3323 W Victory Boulevard
  - Burbank Central Library, 110 N Glenoaks Boulevard
- Glendale
  - Grandview Library, 1535 Fifth Street
  - Pacific Park and Community Center, 501 S Pacific Avenue
  - Glendale Central Library, 222 E Harvard Street
- Los Angeles
  - Atwater Village Branch Library, 3379 Glendale Boulevard
  - Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N Hill Street



Source: Authority 2019

Figure 1 Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section



# PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY/NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

## *California High-Speed Rail Project – Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section*

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section of the California High-Speed Rail Project. The Draft EIR/EIS has been prepared and is being made available pursuant to both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

**The Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section Draft EIR/EIS and associated documents will be available to the public on May 29, 2020.**

The Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section Draft EIR/EIS is available online in PDF at the Authority website ([www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)) or you can request a copy by calling (877) 977-1660.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being or have been carried out by the State of California pursuant to 23 U.S. Code 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated July 23, 2019, and executed by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the State of California. Under that MOU, the Authority is the project's lead agency under NEPA. Prior to the July 23, 2019 MOU, the FRA was the federal lead agency. The Authority is also the lead agency under CEQA.

### PROPOSED PROJECT AND LOCATION

A Statewide Program (Tier 1) EIR/EIS was completed in 2005 as the first phase of a tiered environmental review process for the proposed California High-Speed Rail (HSR) System planned to provide a reliable high-speed electric-powered rail system that links the major metropolitan areas of the state and that delivers predictable and consistent travel times. A further objective is to provide an interface with commercial airports, mass transit, and the highway network and to relieve capacity constraints of the existing transportation system as intercity travel demand in California increases, in a manner sensitive to and protective of California's unique natural resources. A second program-level (Tier 1) EIR/EIS was completed in 2008 focusing on the connection between the Bay Area and Central Valley; the Authority revised this document under CEQA and completed it in 2012. Based on the Program EIR/EISs, the Authority selected preferred corridors and station locations to advance for further study.

The Authority has prepared a project-level (Tier 2) EIR/EIS that further examines the Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section. The approximately 14-mile Project Section would provide HSR service between the Burbank Airport Station in Burbank and Los Angeles Union Station in Los Angeles. These

For translation services, or special needs, please call 877-977-1600

**[www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov) | [Burbank\\_LosAngeles@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:Burbank_LosAngeles@hsr.ca.gov) | 877-977-1660**

HSR stations would provide links with regional and local mass transit services as well as connectivity to airports and the highway networks in the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles Basin. The Project Section would connect the Northern and Southern portions of the Statewide HSR system.

This Draft EIR/EIS evaluates the impacts and benefits of a No Project Alternative and one Build Alternative. The Authority's Preferred Alternative under NEPA, which serves as the proposed project for CEQA, is the HSR Build Alternative. The Preferred Alternative includes a new station near the Hollywood Burbank Airport, modifications to Los Angeles Union Station (raising of passenger platforms and installation of overhead catenary system), new electrified tracks within the existing railroad corridor (which would be shared with Metrolink and Amtrak), a tunnel under the Hollywood Burbank Airport (Runway 8-26, Taxiway D, and the proposed extended Taxiway C), and traction power facilities.

## ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

Significant pre-mitigation environmental effects resulting from the HSR Build Alternative is anticipated in the following resource areas: transportation (operation impacts); air quality and global climate change (construction impacts); noise and vibration (construction and operation impacts); electromagnetic fields and electromagnetic interference (construction and operation impacts); public utilities and energy (construction and operation impacts); biological and aquatic resources (construction and operation impacts); hydrology and water resources (construction and operation impacts); hazardous materials and wastes (construction impacts); safety and security (operation impacts); socioeconomic and communities (construction and operation impacts); station planning, land use, and development (operation impacts); parks, recreation, and open space (construction and operation impacts); aesthetics and visual resources (construction impacts); and cultural resources (construction impacts).

## HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES

Some of the facilities included in the HSR Build Alternative would be located on or near sites or facilities on hazardous materials/contaminated site lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (Cortese List).

## PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

The Authority is making this Draft EIR/EIS available in accordance with CEQA and NEPA for a minimum 45-day review and comment period. During the comment period, comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- By mail to Attn: Burbank to Los Angeles Draft EIR/EIS Comment, 355 S Grand Avenue, Suite 2050, Los Angeles, CA 90071
- Through the Authority's website ([www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov))
- By email to [Burbank\\_Los.Angeles@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:Burbank_Los.Angeles@hsr.ca.gov) with the subject line "Draft EIR/EIS Comment".
- Verbal comment on the direct line for the Burbank to Los Angeles Project Section at (877) 977-1660.
- Oral testimony at the public hearing to be held on July 8, 2020 from 3:00-8:00 p.m.

The comment period begins on May 29, 2020 and ends on July 16, 2020. Comments must be received electronically or postmarked on or before July 16, 2020.

After the public review period, the Authority will prepare a Final EIR/EIS, which will include responses to comments received during the comment period.

- Cypress Park Branch Library, 1150 Cypress Avenue
- Lincoln Heights Branch Library, 2530 Workman Street
- Little Tokyo Branch Library, 203 S Los Angeles Street

Printed and/or electronic copies of the Draft EIR/EIS and electronic copies of associated technical reports are also available for review during business hours at the Authority's Southern California Regional Office at 355 S Grand Avenue, Suite 2050, Los Angeles, CA and the Authority's Headquarters at 770 L Street, Suite 620 MS-1, Sacramento, CA.

Electronic copies of the Tier 1 documents are available on request by calling the Authority office at (877) 977-1660. The Tier 1 documents may also be reviewed at the Authority's offices during business hours at 770 L Street, Suite 620 MS-1, Sacramento, CA 95814 and 355 S Grand Avenue, Suite 2050, Los Angeles, CA.

Authority offices may have reduced open days/hours, as required by COVID-19 public health and safety directives. Please consult [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov) for up-to-date information.

The Authority does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities

لعرض إشعار الإتاحة هذا باللغة العربية يُرجى زيارة الموقع الإلكتروني للهيئة:

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)

Ղխտելու համար այս NOA-ն հայերենով, խնդրում ենք այցելել Իշխանության կայքէջը՝

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)

如要阅读本 NOA 的简体中文版，请访问高铁局网站：

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)

この公開開始通知を日本語で閲覧するには、高速鉄道局のウェブサイト

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)にアクセスしてください。

NOA를 한국어로 열람하고자 하는 경우 다음의 공단 웹사이트를 참조하십시오:

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)

Para ver este Aviso de Disponibilidad (NOA) en español, visite el sitio web de la Autoridad en:

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)

Upang matingnan ang NOA na ito sa Tagalog, pakibisita ang website ng Authority sa:

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)

Để xem NOA này bằng tiếng Việt, vui lòng truy cập trang web của Cơ quan:

[https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis\\_eir/draft\\_burbank\\_los\\_angeles.aspx](https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_burbank_los_angeles.aspx)