



community report

FEBRUARY 16, 2016

A New, Statewide Initiative, Now Circulating, Could Put An End To High-Speed Rail!

Evidence that project might be brought to a halt this year!

CC-HSR has been working since 2008 to make sure that the state's High-Speed Rail Project doesn't victimize residents and businesses on the Peninsula. On a statewide level, we have been doing everything we can to stop the High-Speed Rail Authority from wasting more than \$10 billion of the taxpayers' money on a boondoggle project that just won't work.

Most notably, CC-HSR has been in court! Just last week, Attorneys Mike Brady and Stuart Flashman appeared in the Sacramento Superior Court, before Judge Michael Kenny, in the case of *Tos v. High-Speed Rail Authority*. CC-HSR has been supporting the *Tos* case from the beginning - and the case has now gone on for five years. If High-Speed Rail opponents are successful in the *Tos* case, as they hope to be, since it is very clear that the Authority has failed to follow the promises made to the taxpayers in Proposition 1A, there will still be years of appeals and collateral litigation ahead.

There may be a shortcut!

An initiative measure that would dramatically affect the proposed High-Speed Rail Project is now circulating, with signatures being collected to put that initiative on the November 2016 ballot. The initiative is titled, the "Water Priorities Public Interest and Public Trust Constitutional Amendment." As you can tell from the name, the main thrust of the initiative is to make fundamental changes to existing California water policy. These proposed changes are definitely controversial, since the Constitutional Amendment that is part of the initiative, and other initiative language as well, eliminates current requirements that water projects need to have a positive environmental impact.

But there is another aspect to this initiative. If qualified for the ballot and passed by the voters, this "Water Priorities" initiative would redirect the entirety of the bond money currently designated for High-Speed Rail (\$10 billion), and would state that these funds could be used only to help build water projects. As a practical matter, passage of the "Water Priorities" initiative will probably have the immediate effect of terminating the state's High-Speed Rail Project.

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Obviously, all those who oppose the state's High-Speed Rail Project should seriously review this new initiative measure. Here is a link for the text.

[https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/initiatives/pdfs/15-0107%20\(Redirect%20HighSpeed%20Rail%20Funds%20to%20Water%20Projects\)_0.pdf](https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/initiatives/pdfs/15-0107%20(Redirect%20HighSpeed%20Rail%20Funds%20to%20Water%20Projects)_0.pdf)

For the Attorney General's Title and Summary:

https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/initiatives/pdfs/Title%20and%20Summary%20%2815-0107%29_0.pdf?

Here is the website for the sponsors of the initiative:

<https://cawater4all.com>

This is the place to go if you'd like to learn more about the initiative and the campaign.

We Appreciate Your Support

We hope you will make a New Year's Resolution to make a generous contribution to CC-HSR! We have been working since 2008 to make sure that the High-Speed Rail Authority doesn't victimize residents and businesses on the Peninsula, and that the High-Speed Rail Authority won't be able to waste almost \$10 billion of the taxpayers' money with a project that just won't work.

Help us continue our coverage.

Since 2008, CC-HSR has been working through litigation, lobbying, and public outreach to make sure that the state's proposed High-Speed Rail project does not bring devastating impacts to the San Francisco Peninsula, or to other parts of California. Return go to our web site **www.cc-hsr.org** to make a donation to support our work. CC-HSR is totally supported by the community, and this latest decision by the STB, and the anticipated approval in January of the proposed Caltrain "Pre-HSR" project, means that we will probably have to be back in court very soon. We truly need your help! (AS NOTED ABOVE.)

AND, please Know This: WE APPRECIATE Your Support!

CC-HSR is totally supported by the community, and we truly appreciate your help! Thank you again for your support and assistance for our work!

Visit Our Website To Make A Contribution