

Regarding: Attached Resolution (Fuentes, Martinez) introduced on May 29th 2014.

Council File: 15-0002-S59

I would like to thank Councilman Felipe Fuentes and Councilwoman Nury Martinez for bringing the High Speed Rail issue to the attention of our Los Angeles City Council by way of resolution. Our community has raised major concerns over the currently proposed High Speed Rail routes from Palmdale to Burbank that threaten our water supply, environment, wildlife, businesses, homes, churches, ecological resources, schools, recreational opportunities, equestrian zoning, murals, cultural hubs and overall quality of life for the District 7 communities and the City of Los Angeles. We have hosted community meetings with over 2000 in attendance to discuss this important issue.

The High Speed Rail project will have no benefit to the City of Los Angeles as currently proposed. The closest HSR station will be Burbank, or Palmdale. Neither is convenient to the Foothills, which will be desecrated by the currently proposed High Speed Rail construction.

Instead, we will suffer the burdens of destructive tunneling, communities divided and the desecration of our Angeles National Forest, which has recently been awarded the designation of National Monument. Our wildlife corridors are in jeopardy and are famously traveled by mountain lions and bobcats.

There is also a dire threat to the endangered wildlife in the Tujunga Wash.

Many of the proposed routes will bore deeply underground resulting in millions of tons of dirt to be hauled away through the San Gabriel National Monument using trucks and conveyor belts that will create a toxic atmosphere for our District 7 communities. One proposed route is threatening to divide a community in half with noise reducing walls. The High Speed Rail is jeopardizing one of the last equestrian neighborhoods in Los Angeles. Our entire city will suffer from the loss of water, traffic, dirt, noise and vibration for decades to come. There must be a better option.

The current routes proposed by High Speed Rail Authority run directly through our protected community and are not what California stakeholders voted for when the bond measure passed in 2008. Routes were to be located on "transportation corridors, utility easements, or where feasible". The current proposed routes are not feasible. The current routes run through wildlife corridors, will divide communities with 20 foot high "Death Walls", threaten our water supply, run over dangerous seismic fault lines and will destroy our Angeles National Forest. None of the currently proposed Palmdale to Burbank options is acceptable.

I am confident there is a way to solve this problem before more money is wasted and communities and forests are destroyed forever.

View HSR Community meetings from our very United District

7: <https://vimeo.com/channels/safehsrinfo>

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important issue,

Krystee Clark

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SAG-AFTRA Elected Convention Delegate - 30+ year union member