

APPENDIX 5-A: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE OUTREACH PLAN

California High-Speed Rail
Authority

Merced to Fresno

Section: Central Valley Wye

Draft
Supplemental Environmental
Impact Report/Environmental
Impact Statement

FINAL Environmental Justice
Outreach Plan

September 2018



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1 PURPOSE

Environmental Justice (EJ) is the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws and policies. The roots of EJ are in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin, including the denial of meaningful access for limited English proficiency (LEP) persons, in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is committed to incorporating EJ considerations into its program, policies and activities, and complies with federal, state, and other laws and regulations relevant to EJ.

U.S. Presidential Executive Order (USEO) 12898, known as the Environmental Justice Policy, requires federal agencies to “ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the decisionmaking process; to avoid/mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including interrelated social and economic effects of their programs, policies and activities on low-income and minority populations; and to prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits to low-income and minority populations” (Executive Office of the President [EOP] 1994). A key component of compliance with USEO 12898 is outreach to potentially affected EJ populations. Consistent with USEO 13166, language assistance is provided as part of these outreach efforts so that persons with limited English proficiency have meaningful access to information (LEP) (EOP 2000).

EJ populations are defined by U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Order 5610.2(a) as follows:

- A minority population means any readily identifiable group or groups of minority persons who live in geographic proximity and, if circumstances warrant, geographically dispersed or transient persons (such as migrant workers, students, or Native Americans). Minority includes persons who are American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, African American, Hispanic, and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander.
- Low-income means a person whose median household income is at or below the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines. A locally developed threshold or a percentage of median income for the area may also be used, provided that the threshold is at least as inclusive as the HHS poverty guidelines. A low-income population means any readily identifiable group of low-income persons who live in geographic proximity and, if circumstances warrant, geographically transient persons (such as migrant workers, students, or Native Americans).

This Environmental Justice Outreach Plan identifies the low-income and minority populations in the vicinity of the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye (Central Valley Wye) of the California High-Speed Rail (HSR) System. The plan describes the outreach methods that have been and will continue to be used to improve general awareness of the project and provide meaningful opportunities, through continued, targeted outreach, for low-income and minority populations to participate in the project development process.

2 MERCED TO FRESNO SECTION: CENTRAL VALLEY WYE COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

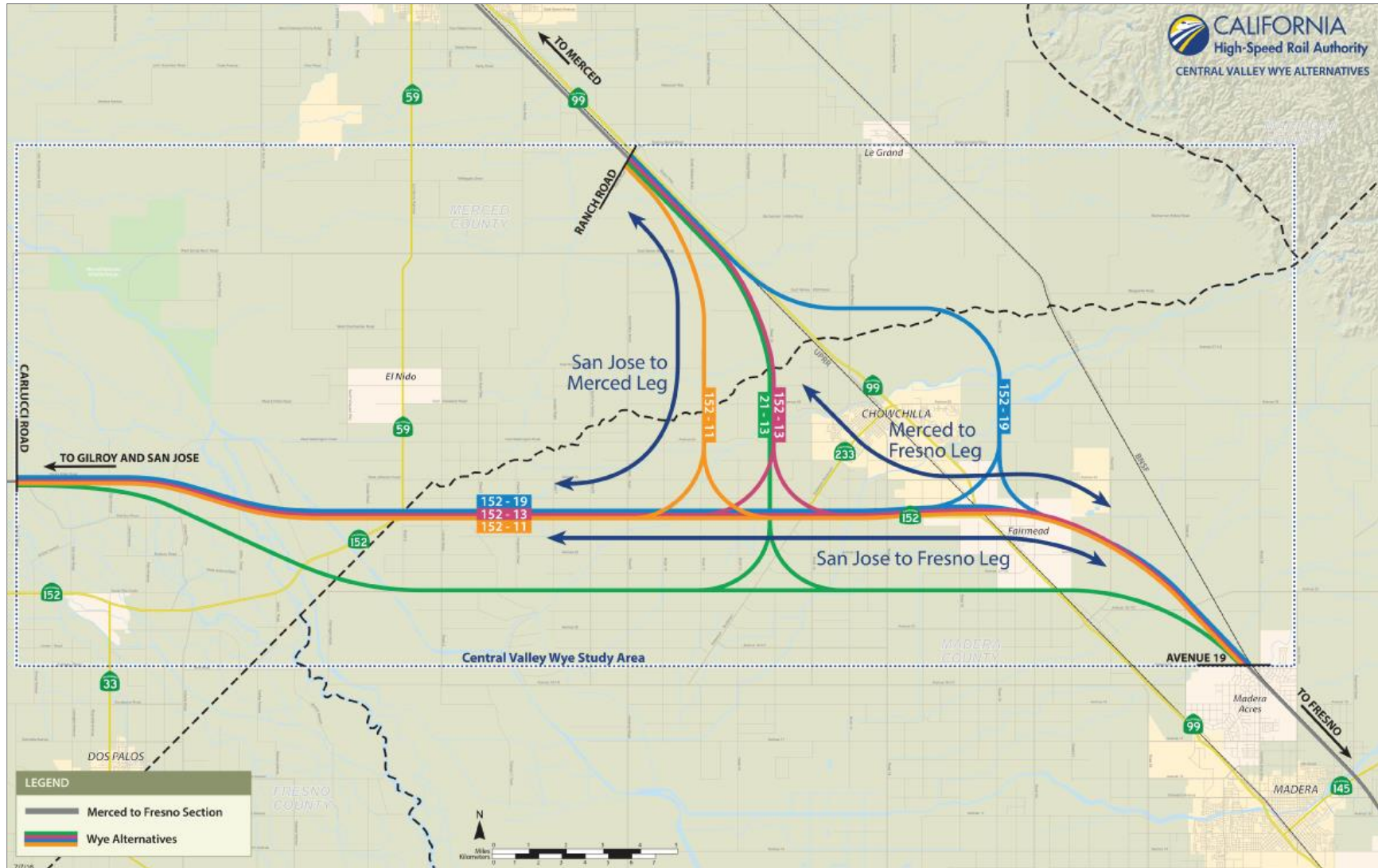
2.1 Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye

The Central Valley Wye is located in the San Joaquin Valley and would create the east-west HSR connection between the San Jose to Merced Section to the west and the north-south Merced to Fresno Section to the east. The four Central Valley Wye alternatives addressed in the Supplemental EIR/EIS (Figure 2-1) are:

- SR 152 (North) to Road 13 Wye Alternative
- SR 152 (North) to Road 19 Wye Alternative
- Avenue 21 to Road 13 Wye Alternative
- SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye Alternative

The Central Valley Wye alternatives would cross rural areas in unincorporated Merced and Madera Counties, and would travel through the southern portion of Chowchilla and the rural-residential community of Fairmead. The Central Valley Wye alternatives would range in length from 52 to 55 miles and would be located adjacent to existing transportation corridors when feasible.

The Central Valley Wye extends from Avenue 19 in Madera County north to Ranch Road in Merced County and west to the intersection of Henry Miller Road and Carlucci Road. The four Central Valley Wye alternatives have common end points (logical termini) to allow for equal comparison of engineering and environmental considerations across all alternatives. All Central Valley Wye alternatives share logical termini at Henry Miller Road/Carlucci Road on the west, Ranch Road/SR 99 on the north, and Avenue 19 near Madera Acres on the south.



Source: ESRI/National Geographic, 2015

DRAFT – SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

Figure 2-1 Central Valley Wye Alternatives

2.2 Low-Income Populations

Low-income populations consist of individuals whose median household income is at or below HHS poverty guidelines. Low-income populations within the resource study area (RSA)¹ were identified through use of data obtained from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. Table 2-1 provides the percentages of individuals that are below the poverty level and the median household income within the RSA.

Table 2-1 Low-Income Populations

Characteristics	Population (2014)	Percent Individuals Below Poverty Level Low-Income (2014)	Median Household Income (2014)
Counties			
Merced County	261,609	26	\$43,100
Madera County	152,452	23	\$45,500
Regional Total	414,061	25	\$44,000
City and Communities of the Resource Study Area			
City of Chowchilla	18,411	30	\$36,900
Community of Fairmead	1,983	39	\$31,100
Community of Madera Acres	9,653	16	\$69,000

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014a, 2010-2014b, 2010-2014c

Overall, in 2014, 25 percent of individuals within the reference community were low-income. This percentage is substantially higher than California, where low-income individuals made up 16 percent of the total population (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014b). Of the communities within the RSA, the community of Fairmead and Chowchilla—with 39 and 30 percent of individuals living below the poverty level, respectively—would be considered low-income populations. Fairmead exceeds both criteria for low-income populations, as it contains more than 25 percent low-income persons and has a percentage of low-income persons more than 10 percent greater than the reference community average of 24 percent (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014b).

The low-income populations in the study area were validated using quantitative methods, such as the percentage of households that receive coupons through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), a major national income support program. All low-income and low-resource households, regardless of household characteristics, are eligible for SNAP. Table 2-2 presents data on households that received SNAP support during the previous 12 months. Fairmead had the highest percentage of SNAP-receiving households (44 percent), while Madera Acres had the lowest percentage of households receiving SNAP (18 percent) (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014d). These data reiterate the same trends as the low-income data for the city and communities within the environmental justice RSA, and confirm that Fairmead is a low-income community; therefore, the Authority is committed to providing multiple methods for the community of Fairmead to participate in the environmental process. This includes conducting project outreach and community meetings in Fairmead, and utilizing local community organizations to help publicize meetings and distribute information. The Authority will utilize the local church and schools to reach the broader population of Fairmead and the surrounding

¹ The RSA for direct and indirect impacts on low-income and minority populations is defined as census block groups partially or fully within 0.5-mile from the Central Valley Wye alternatives project footprints and support facilities. This includes the project footprint for each of the Central Valley Wye alternatives where direct impacts may occur and adjoining areas that might be indirectly affected.

community, and will continue to offer to meet in smaller groups for project briefings and to gather feedback in a way that is convenient and accessible.

Table 2-2 Estimated Percent of Households Participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Assistance (2014)

Geographic Area	Estimated Percent Households Receiving SNAP (%)
Counties	
Merced County	19
Madera County	18
Regional Total	19
City and Communities of the Resource Study Area	
City of Chowchilla	23
Community of Fairmead	44
Community of Madera Acres	18

Source: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014d

2.3 Minority Populations

Minority populations in the RSA include Hispanics of all races, Non-Hispanic Native American, Non-Hispanic Asian, Non-Hispanic African American, and Non-Hispanic Other. The breakdown of minority populations within each county, city, and community of the RSA is provided in Table 2-3.

Table 2-3 Minority Populations

Location	Percentage of Population (%)					
	Hispanic of All Races	Non-Hispanic				Total
		Native American	Asian	African American	Other	
Counties						
Merced County	56	<1	7	3	2	69
Madera County	55	1	2	3	2	63
Regional Total	56	1	5	3	2	67
City and Communities of the Resource Study Area						
City of Chowchilla	39	1	2	12	3	58
Community of Fairmead	60	<1	1	4	15	80
Community of Madera Acres	66	0	2	2	0	70

Source: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014e
Numbers have been rounded, which may

The reference community of Merced and Madera Counties is racially and ethnically diverse. In 2014, minority individuals made up 69 and 63 percent of the population in Merced and Madera Counties, respectively. Hispanics were the predominant minority within the two-county region,

with approximately 56 percent of the population identifying as Hispanic or Latino. The community of Fairmead and Madera Acres have the largest minority populations (80 percent and 70 percent, respectively), while the city of Chowchilla has the largest African-American population (12 percent) in the RSA.

For the purpose of outreach, the Authority is committed to providing Spanish-speaking staff as well as providing interpreters at publicly noticed events. For the Central Valley Wye, the Authority translates meeting materials into Spanish and provides a hotline with a voicemail box for Spanish speakers.

2.4 Other Underserved Populations

Table 5-4 identifies linguistically isolated households, elderly populations, and the unemployed within each county, city, and community in the resource study area. These populations may require special relocation needs. The elderly population (65 years and older) was comparable in both counties, and consisted of approximately 11 percent of the reference community in 2014. Approximately 12 percent of households in the reference community were linguistically isolated (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014f). In addition, approximately 15 percent of the population was unemployed in the reference community in 2014, with unemployment rates of 10 percent in Madera County and 18 percent in Merced County (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014g).

Within Chowchilla and Fairmead, the percent of households that are linguistically isolated and the elderly population are similar to or less than the environmental justice RSA. However, Fairmead has a substantial percentage of unemployed individuals (28 percent), which would require special consideration during the relocation process (U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014g).

Table 2-4 Reference Community Demographic Characteristics (2014)

Characteristics	Percent Linguistically Isolated Households	Percent Over 65	Percent Unemployed
Counties			
Merced County	13	10	18
Madera County	9	12	10
Regional Total	12	11	15
City and Communities of the Study Area			
City of Chowchilla	5	10	10
Community of Fairmead ¹	7	3	28
Community of Madera Acres	5	8	6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2010-2014a, 2010-2014f, 2010-2014g

For the purpose of outreach, the diversity of socioeconomic factors necessitate that the Authority and FRA provide multiple means for the interested or potentially affected stakeholders to learn more about the project, as well as provide multiple means to participate. Providing a few meetings which require attendance in person is not adequate. Therefore, the Central Valley Wye team will continue to provide information via the website, coordinate with local media, seek to hold meetings at local community meeting spots such as churches and schools, and provide a toll-free hotline for questions or to arrange a briefing.

2.5 Identifying Low-Income and Minority Populations in the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye

The demographic data presented in Sections 2.2 through 2.5 informed the process for identifying low-income and minority populations in the RSA. Additionally, finer census block group data from

the 2010–2014 U.S. Census Bureau ACS 5-Year Estimates were collected within 0.5 mile of the project footprint. For the purpose of this analysis, the threshold for EJ populations is defined as those census block groups with minority populations of 50 percent or more and/or low-income populations of 25 percent or more.

After identifying the key population for conducting outreach, input was solicited from local stakeholders and community groups, elected officials and staff members to refine the locations of EJ communities, as well as identify their issues of concern. The project team met and coordinated with the following individuals and groups within the RSA:

- Local experts and consultants
- City staff and elected officials who are familiar with low-income and minority populations in the RSA
- Local neighborhood/homeowner associations, special interest groups, community centers, and faith-based organizations, including Chowchilla Community Center, Preserve Our Heritage, Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Fairmead, Fairmead Community and Friends
- Local chambers of commerce and other business stakeholders

The Central Valley Wye team reviewed community newspapers, websites, and blogs and conducted additional online research of corridor city organizations that serve low-income and minority populations. Previous work experience in the corridor was relied upon for the identification of additional stakeholders and organizations.

3 OUTREACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POPULATIONS

The purpose of targeted outreach to EJ populations is to understand and address the unequal environmental burden often borne by low-income and minority populations. Understanding the location and makeup of EJ communities in the project area allows the Authority to tailor outreach activities for effective public participation and access to information. In addition, the outreach conducted provides these populations with early and ongoing opportunities to provide input on the project and assist in identifying social, economic, and environmental impacts for consideration.

Outreach to EJ populations is most effective when it is done from the earliest opportunity and maintained over the course of the project. Outreach should also be done in coordination with trusted individuals and organizations, such as faith-based organizations, neighborhood associations, community centers, and schools. This approach provides a bridge between the community and the project and provides a forum to gain the input of EJ community leaders and members, who are able to provide insights that may not otherwise be apparent. The resulting input received will be used to make sure the project would not disproportionately affect any of the EJ populations relative to the potential benefit gained by that community from the project.

Outreach for the Central Valley Wye considers all recommendations and factors for outreach included in the guidance provided in the Authority's Title VI and EJ Guidance. This includes the following:

- Time, location, and accessibility of all meetings. This also includes utilizing other means for engagement such as interviews, briefings, and the use of audio devices to record comments. In addition, all meetings shall include multiple notification methods, provision of interpreters, venue locations which are accessible and formats that provide for different ways to learn about the project and share feedback.
- Reaching people within their own communities and during existing meetings schedules. This includes utilizing existing community groups and their knowledge of the community to more effectively reach EJ populations.
- Provision of LEP interpreters at meetings
- Presentations focused to specific interest groups
- Placement of meeting announcements and flyers through different types of media
- Cultural sensitivity to minority and Native American Tribal groups
- Identification of barriers to overcome public participation

Outreach undertaken as part of the Merced to Fresno Project Section and San Jose to Merced Project Section is relevant to the Central Valley Wye, which was initially included in and analyzed as part of the Merced to Fresno Project Section. The Merced to Fresno Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) process began in 2009 and continued with public discussions through 2010 and 2011 about the range of alternatives for evaluation. Wye options were considered in the Preliminary Alternatives Analysis (PAA) report published in April 2010 and Supplemental Alternatives Analysis (SAA) reports published in August 2010 and May 2011 (California High-Speed Rail Authority and Federal Railroad Administration [Authority and FRA] 2010a, 2010b, 2011). Additional consultation with stakeholders and regulatory agencies through 2016 continued to inform the range of alternatives being considered. During this time, a variety of outreach activities were conducted, the results of which can be reviewed in the public documents noted in this section.

3.1 Scoping Period

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) was issued on September 29, 2009, for the preparation of a Draft EIR/EIS for the Merced to Fresno Section of the HSR system, which at the time included the Central Valley Wye. This triggered a series of public scoping meetings and other outreach efforts,

including five scoping meetings, elected officials briefings, stakeholder meetings, and public notifications.

Appendix A lists the organizations that were identified as potentially serving low-income and minority communities throughout the RSA. These organizations were added to the project mailing list so that they would receive notifications about public meetings and opportunities to be involved with the project. The resulting Scoping Report can be found under the Merced to Fresno Project Section on the Authority's website at http://hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Statewide_Rail_Modernization/Project_Sections/merced_fresno.html.

3.2 Alternatives Analysis Phase

In late 2009, the Alternatives Analysis (AA) process began. A series of public information meetings and associated public outreach efforts took place to update the public and obtain feedback on project alternatives and station locations. The resulting Alternatives Analysis Report, including both the Preliminary and Supplemental, can be found at http://hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Statewide_Rail_Modernization/Project_Sections/merced_fresno.html

As a result of the public scoping and alternatives analysis process, the Merced to Fresno Project Section Draft EIR/EIS, released in August 2011, included detailed examinations of east-west alignments and wyes at Avenue 21 and Avenue 24. Public information workshops and formal public hearings were held in the fall of 2011. Other outreach activities related to the release of the Draft EIR/EIS also occurred, including three public information workshops, three formal hearings, stakeholder meetings, and public notifications. The Draft EIR/EIS can be found at http://hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Environmental_Planning/draft_merced_fresno.html, along with a variety of educational materials and public notices.

In July 2011, based on stakeholder and regulatory agency input, the Authority determined that a SR 152 east-west alignment and wye merited detailed study and that this evaluation should occur through the adjoining San Jose to Merced EIR/EIS process. Accordingly, the Authority included information in the Merced to Fresno Draft EIR/EIS that explained that all three east-west alignments and wyes (Avenue 21, Avenue 24, and SR 152) would be carried forward for further study as part of the San Jose to Merced Section. The Merced to Fresno Draft EIR/EIS can be found at http://hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Environmental_Planning/draft_merced_fresno.html.

3.3 Work Advanced as Part of San Jose to Merced Section

In May 2012, the Authority's Board of Directors (Board of Directors) certified the Merced to Fresno Final EIR/EIS and approved selection of the Hybrid Alignment, Merced Station, and Fresno Station on Mariposa Street as the preferred alternative. The Final EIR/EIS also identified the northern and southern connecting points for the Central Valley Wye alternative alignments. It can be found at http://hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Environmental_Planning/final_merced_fresno.html. As part of project approval, the Board of Directors directed staff members to carry forward for further study and analysis all HSR elements in the wye area as part of the San Jose to Merced Section. The San Jose to Merced and Merced to Fresno outreach teams worked closely to establish or continue community relationships and conduct public outreach meetings. This included working with local staff members and elected officials to engage the community, gather input, and review and update the approach so that appropriate outreach is conducted per the Authority's Title VI and EJ Guidance. The list of the various groups that were engaged includes the following:

- Schools
 - Chowchilla School District
 - Alview-Dairyland School District
 - Chowchilla Union High School District
- Government Offices
 - City of Chowchilla (staff, elected officials)

- City of Merced
- City of Los Banos
- Madera City Council
- Merced County, Planning Department
- Madera County, Planning Department
- Madera County Board of Supervisors
- Madera County Office of Education
- Merced County Board of Supervisors
- Merced County Office of Education
- Church
 - Galilee Baptist Church, Fairmead
- Business
 - Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce
 - Minturn Nut Company
- Community Groups
 - Chowchilla Water District
 - Preserve Our Heritage
 - Madera County Farm Bureau
 - Merced County Farm Bureau
 - Fairmead Community and Friends

Prior to direction from the Board of Directors in May 2012, Authority staff members and the regional team had been working closely with interested stakeholders to understand their concerns about the Central Valley Wye. Following the May meeting, staff members engaged in further outreach efforts and discussions with stakeholders to focus on and seek ways to refine the Central Valley Wye alternatives for crossing the Central Valley and connecting to the recently selected north-south Hybrid Alignment for the Merced to Fresno Section.

These continuing Central Valley Wye discussions generated multiple conceptual alignment ideas, in addition to the wye alignment concepts that were initially studied. Staff members also worked closely with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Madera County to develop an approach to a potential SR 152 wye alignment. To evaluate the viability of the new scenarios, the number of potential alternatives under discussion expanded to approximately 14.

3.4 Transition of Central Valley Wye Back to Merced to Fresno Section

As noted earlier, the Board of Directors approved the Merced to Fresno Section Final EIR/EIS in May 2012, which identified the Hybrid Alignment, the Merced Station, and the Fresno Station at Mariposa Station as the preferred alternatives. The Board of Directors also chose to delay making an alignment decision within the wye, directing staff to carry forward for further study all HSR elements in the wye area as part of the San Jose to Merced Section.

In January 2013, Authority staff identified a strategy that would augment the Merced to Fresno EIR/EIS with preparation of a Supplemental EIR/EIS for evaluating the Central Valley Wye alternatives. As a result, public information meetings related to the Central Valley Wye were held in the spring of 2013 as other outreach activities continued.

Community feedback focused on the desire for the project to minimize impacts on existing communities, follow existing transportation corridors to the greatest extent possible, provide adequate access where changes to the road network are required, and to continue to coordinate with communities, agencies, school districts and other organizations, as well as property owners and businesses with potential impacts. The meeting format was successful in providing the information in an accessible format and knowledgeable staff was present to answer questions.

Meeting participants expressed appreciation for the maps and stations, and were thankful for the related information on right-of-way and project activities in the adjacent sections.

Additional community engagement continued through 2016 with multiple community meetings held in Chowchilla and Fairmead. Outreach for the Draft and Final Supplemental EIR/EIS will follow the Authority's protocol for public meetings and hearings. It will emphasize providing information about the alternatives, impacts, and mitigation in an accessible format, along with details of the decisionmaking process consistent with the Authority's Title VI and EJ Guidance.

3.5 Outreach Tools and Techniques

Based on the lessons learned from previous work in the region, the project team and the Authority will focus outreach on direct engagement with community leaders, individuals, groups, and organizations that represent or serve EJ populations. This includes small, informal meetings and briefings with school districts, churches, community leaders, the farming community and others. In addition, at key milestones and decision points, the Authority will conduct more formal, publicly noticed community meetings hosted at local community gathering places such as churches, schools or the fairgrounds to provide a central location for sharing information. Information will be posted to the website and provided to local jurisdictions, which allows EJ populations to engage directly with their elected officials or local staff. These methods, as well as the outreach tools and techniques described in this section, will help foster ongoing dialogue with the EJ population as well as the public in general.

3.5.1 Website

The Authority hosts an agency website (www.hsr.ca.gov) that distributes information to interested persons. The Merced to Fresno section page (http://www.hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Statewide_Rail_Modernization/Project_Sections/merced_fresno.html) provides materials from the scoping period, and public outreach activities are posted for public review. In this section of the HSR system, the Authority has decided to translate selected materials into Spanish. These Spanish-language materials are also available on the website and upon request.

3.5.2 Stakeholder Meetings

A stakeholder database of low-income and minority populations was developed to identify and connect with important stakeholders within and near the project vicinity. A comprehensive list of all stakeholders that represent low-income and minority populations can be found in Appendix A.

Stakeholder meetings were and will continue to be conducted with the organizations listed in Appendix A during development of the Supplemental EIR/EIS. These meetings allow community stakeholders to provide comments and feedback on the multiple alternative alignments that are being studied. Feedback is gathered through documentation of questions, comments, and concerns at stakeholder meetings. In addition, comments and feedback are gathered through phone inquiries, emails received, and one-on-one discussions that occur at various times, such as part of the environmental surveying effort. Stakeholders are provided with timely information regarding the project, and unresolved problems are addressed. For more information, see the Merced to Fresno Environmental Justice Plan.

3.5.3 Targeted Outreach to Organizations

Often, low-income and/or minority populations have a greater degree of pressing priorities, some of which include hourly jobs, childcare needs, and school or continuing education. Many low-income and/or minority populations have limited English skills and, because of this, may be fearful of or distrust government meetings. Therefore, targeted outreach to the low-income and minority populations, as well as other sensitive/underserved populations along the Central Valley Wye corridor has been a crucial component in developing an all-inclusive participation and information program for the project.

A list of all stakeholders that represent low-income and minority populations is provided in Appendix A. The list includes organizations that directly serve or represent low-income and minority, with leadership from those communities. Other organizations that may not necessarily

have minority leadership but are located in and provide services to low-income and minority communities are also included. The project team will continue to work with these stakeholders to reach low-income and minority populations.

3.5.4 Public Information Meetings

The process of informing the public about public information meetings will rely on a variety of notification methods. Emails will be sent to parties on the project stakeholder list, with information provided in English and Spanish. Newspaper advertisements will be placed in English and Spanish-language newspapers. Spanish translators, in addition to Spanish-speaking members of the project team, will be available for translation services at the public meetings. Translators for other languages will also be available to the public upon request.

3.5.5 Project Hotline

A public information phone line has been established so that interested members of the public can leave a message for the team in English, Spanish, or, in some cases, Chinese or Vietnamese. A member of the outreach team will then return the message in the preferred language or provide additional resources to the caller.

3.5.6 Public Information Materials

Public information materials, such as factsheets, newsletters, meeting notices, advertisements, and public and stakeholder meeting materials will be translated and disseminated through multicultural centers. In this section of the HSR system, the Authority has decided to translate selected materials into Spanish. The project team will use the Authority's English to Spanish Glossary of Transportation Terms for consistency when translating terminology. The team will call upon language and cultural translation experts to make sure that, beyond direct translation, materials and meetings are presented in a culturally appropriate and sensitive manner.

3.5.7 Media Coordination

The Authority's Central Valley Regional Director and the communications team from the Sacramento headquarters handle all media coordination. However, the team will support the Authority's decision to distribute information about the project through Spanish media outlets such as television and radio stations, websites, community calendars and blogs, and local community newspapers, newsletters, and magazines. The project team recognizes that cultures and communities understand, communicate about, and relate to information in multiple ways, including through culturally focused media outlets. Often, the coverage of issues by these media outlets relates directly to the population's particular interests. Preferences identified indicate many of the communities receive information through local media and affiliations with community based organizations. Therefore, based on knowledge of these preferences and feedback received, the Authority will provide media releases, information and publicity of meetings through paid advertisements in mainstream and ethnic media, and will coordinate with reporters to gain earned media for print, radio and TV. In addition, notification of events and community meetings will be provided to local community based organizations.

3.5.8 Outreach at Community Activity Centers

Community activity centers are locations and settings in which stakeholders normally congregate. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Chowchilla
 - Alview-Dairyland Union School District
 - Chowchilla Community Center
 - Chowchilla High School
 - Chowchilla School District
 - Chowchilla Fairgrounds

- Fairmead
 - Fairmead Elementary School
 - Galilee Church
- Le Grand
 - Le Grand Union High School District
- Los Banos
 - Los Banos Community Center
 - Los Banos Unified School District
 - Volta Elementary School
- Merced
 - Rossotti Ed-Zoo-Cation Center
 - Merced Senior Center
 - Plainsburg Elementary School

4 NEXT STEPS

This Central Valley Wye Environmental Justice Outreach Plan is a living document. It will continue to be updated with new data and refined as the project progresses and the outreach team conducts additional public outreach. Additionally, as new statistics on low-income and minority populations in the study area become available and are evaluated in the context of the project, the project team will update this Central Valley Wye Environmental Justice Outreach Plan.

The project team will continue to reach out to the organizations listed in Appendix A and identified as potentially serving minority and/or low-income communities throughout the RSA.

5 PREPARERS

Parsons Brinkerhoff

Bryan Porter, Environmental Manager

Parsons

Anne Winslow, Environmental Planner

Lesley Scheuber, Associate Environmental Planner

Jennifer Cardamone, Environmental Planner

Circlepoint

Chris Colwick, Public Participation Task Leader

Tracy Cook, Public Participation Team Member

Rochelle Germano, Public Participation Team Member

ICF International

Tami Mihm, Editor

John Mathias, Editor

6 REVISION HISTORY

This section identifies changes to the Environmental Justice Outreach Plan. This portion of the plan will be active and filled out as progress occurs.

Version	Date	Name	Description
1	December 2014	Parsons/ Circlepoint/ICF	Initial draft of EJ Outreach Plan for the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye
2	January 2015	Parsons/ Circlepoint	Revised draft of the EJ Outreach Plan for the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye
3	September 2016	ICF	Revised draft of the EJ Outreach Plan for the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye
4	September 2017	ICF	Revised draft of the EJ Outreach Plan for the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye

7 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE LOW-INCOME AND MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN THE RESOURCE STUDY AREA

Table A-1 List of Organizations that Serve Minority and/or Low-Income Communities

Type	County	City	Organization
Agriculture	Madera County	Chowchilla	Minturn Huller Cooperative
Agriculture	Madera County	Madera	Madera County Farm Bureau
Business	Madera County	Chowchilla	Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce
Business	Madera County	Madera	Madera County Economic Development Commission
Business	Madera County	Madera	Madera Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Business	Madera County	Madera	Self-Help Enterprises
Community	Madera County	Madera	Association of Mexican American Education
Community	Madera County	Chowchilla	Chowchilla Community Center
Community	Madera County	Madera	Community Action Partnership of Madera County
Community	Madera County	Madera	Concerned Black Citizens
Community	Madera County	Madera	Fairmead Community and Friends
Community	Madera County	Madera	Filipino-American Women's Club of Fresno Vicinity
Community	Madera County	Madera	Madera County Workforce Assistance Center
Community	Madera County	Madera	NAACP, Madera Chapter
Community	Madera County	Madera Acres	Grace Community Church
Community	Madera County	Chowchilla	Preserve Our Heritage
Community	Madera County	Fairmead	Galilee Church
County	Madera County	Madera	Madera County Office of Education
School	Madera County	Chowchilla	Alview-Dairyland School District
School	Madera County	Chowchilla	Chowchilla School District
School	Madera County	Chowchilla	Chowchilla Union High School District
School	Madera County	Fairmead	Fairmead Elementary School
School	Madera County	Madera Acres	Berenda Elementary School
Agriculture	Merced County	Dos Palos	Baker Farming Partnership
Environment	Merced County	Grassland Ecological Area	Grassland Conservation District
Environment	Merced County	Merced	San Joaquin Et Al.
Agriculture	Merced County	Le Grand	Live Oak Farms
Agriculture	Merced County	Le Grand	Minturn Huller, J. Manchini Farms
Business	Merced County	Los Banos	Los Banos Chamber of Commerce

Type	County	City	Organization
Environment	Merced County	Los Banos	Grassland Environmental Educational Center
Agriculture	Merced County	Merced	Merced County Farm Bureau
Business	Merced County	Atwater	Atwater Chamber of Commerce
Business	Merced County	Merced	Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce
Business	Merced County	Merced	Merced County Chamber of Commerce
Business	Merced County	Merced	Merced County Economic Development Corporation
Business	Merced County	Merced	Merced County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Business	Merced County	Santa Nella	Santa Nella Chamber of Commerce
Community	Merced County	Merced	Alliance for Community Research and Development
Community	Merced County	Atwater	Habitat for Humanity
Community	Merced County	Merced	Healthy House Within a Match Coalition
Community	Merced County	Los Banos	Los Banos Community Center
Community	Merced County	Merced	Merced County Community Action Agency
Community	Merced County	Merced	Merced Lao Family Community, Inc.
Community	Merced County	Merced	Merced Senior Center
Community	Merced County	Merced	Rossotti Ed-Zoo-Cation Center
County	Merced County	Merced	Merced County Office of Education
Environment	Merced County	Merced	Valley Land Alliance
Labor	Merced County	Merced	AFSCME Council 57
Labor	Merced County	Merced	IBEW 684/Merced Mariposa CLC
Labor	Merced County	Merced	Merced Mariposa CLC
Labor	Merced County	Merced	United Domestic Workers Association
Labor	Merced County	Merced	Workforce Investment Board of Merced County
Local	Merced County	Merced	Merced County Hispanic Network
Local	Merced County	Merced	NAACP, Merced Chapter
Local	Merced County	Merced	Golden Valley Health Centers
Local	Merced County	Merced	Central Valley Coalition for Affordable Housing
Neighborhood	Merced County	Merced	Davenport Park Neighborhood Association
School	Merced County	Le Grand	Le Grand Union High School District
School	Merced County	Merced	Merced College
School	Merced County	Merced	Plainsburg Elementary School
School	Merced County	Merced	Plainsburg School District
School	Merced County	Merced	UC Merced
School	Merced County	Volta	Volta Elementary School