

## Welcome!

## Madera Station Relocation Project

Draft Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration

Project Meeting (via online webinar)

November 5, 2020

(10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. / 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)



- Simultaneous Spanish interpretation is available for today's webinar. Please join via the Interpretation button at the bottom of the screen.
- Interpretación simultánea en español disponible en la videoconferencia de hoy. Únase a través del icono de interpretación (parece un mundo) en la parte inferior de la pantalla, y seleccione Spanish.

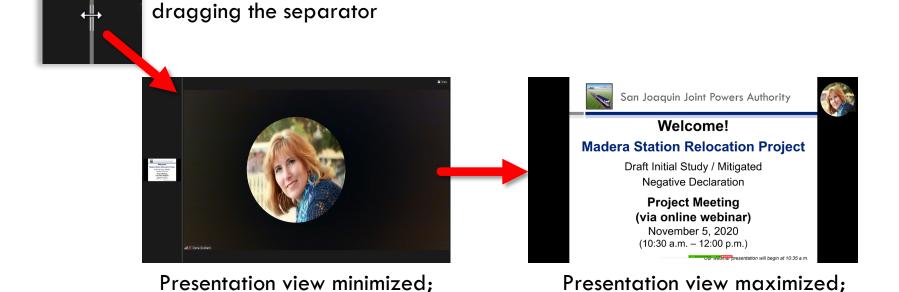




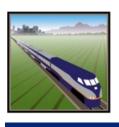
- Speaker View
- Maximizing Today's Presentation

Make adjustments by clicking and

Speaker View maximized



Speaker View minimized



#### **Questions/Comment Session**

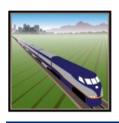
• For the Questions and Comment session, use the "Q&A" button at the bottom of your screen (Note: questions will not be answered until the Q&A section near the end of the virtual meeting)



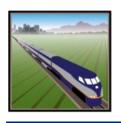


Note: Questions asked or comments given during this webinar on the Draft IS/MND will be documented and officially responded to in the Final IS/MND.

You can also submit comments via e-mail, the Project webpage online submission form, or the mail.



# Welcome, Introductions, and Meeting Goals



#### **Opening Remarks**



Introduction from Madera County
Supervisor Brett Frazier



#### **Presenters**



**Dan Leavitt**Manager of Regional Initiatives
San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority



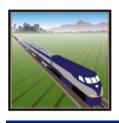
**Daniel Hartman**Project Engineer
AECOM



**Daniel Krause**Project Manager
AECOM

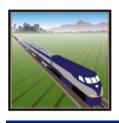


Jaime Guzman CEQA Lead AECOM

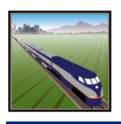


#### **Agenda**

- I. Project Background
- II. Project Information
- III. Proposed Relocated Madera Station Site Plans
- IV. Draft IS/MND Findings
- V. Questions/Comments

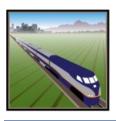


#### **Project Background**



#### **Project Background**

- San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA), which is the managing agency for the San Joaquins Rail Service ("San Joaquins"), is the Lead Agency in pursuing this project.
- SJJPA has a goal to improve service and performance of the San Joaquins.
- The Madera Station Relocation Project will relocate the station to a site at Avenue 12.



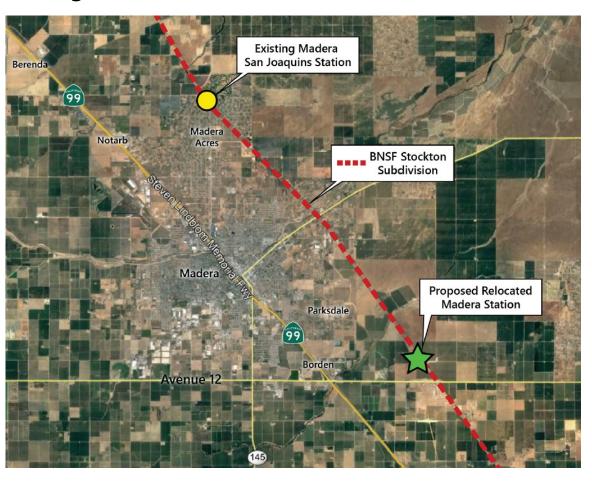
#### **Project Background**



San Joaquins System
 Map



#### **Project Location**



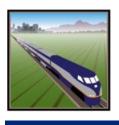
- Existing Madera
   San Joaquins
   Station located in vicinity of Madera
   Acres
- Proposed Station located just north of Avenue 12 along the existing BNSF tracks



#### **Project History**

- In late 2016, SJJPA analysis identified Madera Station as lacking any public transportation connections.
- Additional analysis showed poor access to SR 99, very low ridership, and limited transit-oriented development potential.
- It was determined that the station location was a major contributing factor for the lack of connectivity and low ridership.



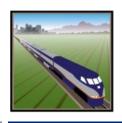


## **Project History**

- In late 2016, SJJPA staff worked with Madera CTC, Madera County, the City of Madera, CalSTA, and the CHSRA to review the issues related to the existing station at Madera Acres. The result was a determination that a station site at Avenue 12 would best address the goals of the region and SJJPA.
- In early 2018, SJJPA submitted an application for a Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grant and was awarded \$26 million on April 26, 2018 to relocate of Madera San Joaquins Station to a site at Avenue 12. Subsequently, SJJPA has been coordinating with its State and local/regional partners towards project implementation.

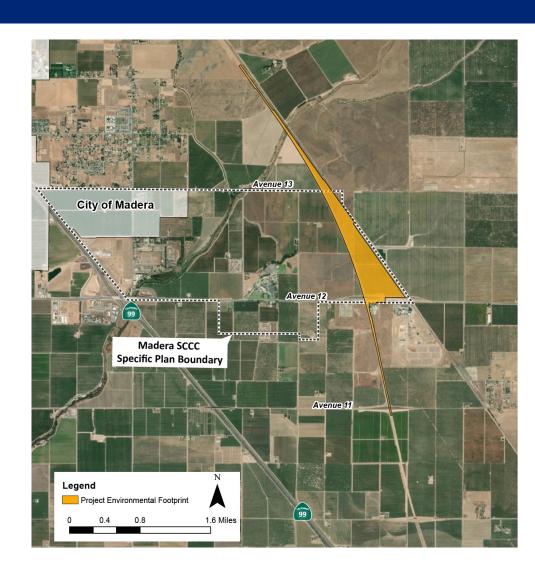


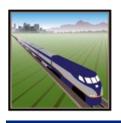
#### **Project Information**



## Project Environmental Footprint

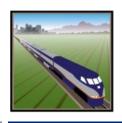
- The Relocated Station site is located just north of Avenue 12 and very near the Madera Community College Center.
- Much of the Project
   Environmental Footprint is
   located within the
   boundaries of the State
   Center Community College
   Specific Plan.





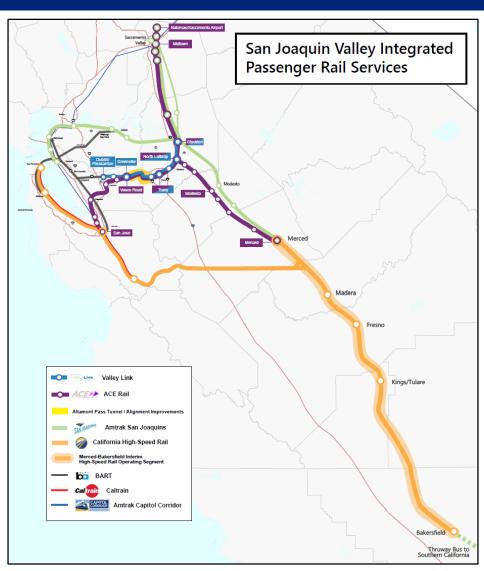
#### **Project Phasing**

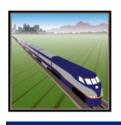
- Phase 1 San Joaquins Relocated Station
  - The Madera San Joaquins Station and service would be relocated from the existing station site in Madera Acres to a new station (Relocated Station) that would be constructed near Avenue 12.
  - San Joaquins service to the Relocated Station is anticipated to commence in 2024.
  - Fully Funded
- Phase 2 HSR Interim Operating Segment Station
  - Would construct trackwork and a high-speed rail (HSR) platform to allow HSR trains to access the same Relocated Station from Phase 1.
  - Not Currently Funded



# Integration with High-Speed Rail

- As early as 2029, the San Joaquins service is planned to terminate in Merced, once high-speed rail service along the Merced-Bakersfield HSR Interim Operating Segment (IOS) of the California High Speed Rail Project is operating.
- This project includes environmental clearance of facilities needed to enable this station to be served by high-speed rail as part of the IOS.





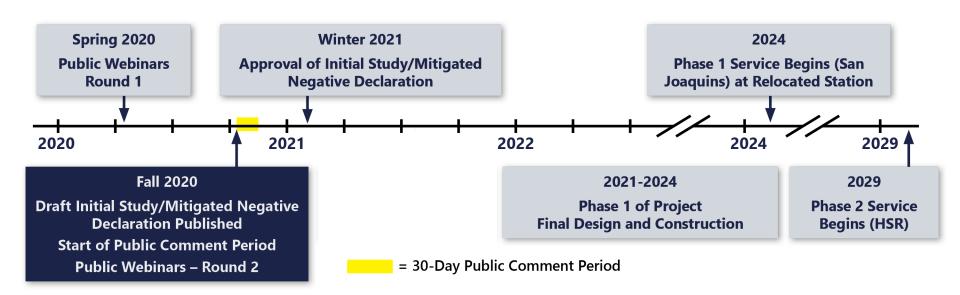
#### **Project Benefits**

The Avenue 12 location has the following benefits:

- Excellent connectivity to SR 99 due to a recently completed interchange at Route 99/Avenue 12, as well as planned additional improvements to Avenue 12.
- Two bus lines were already running along Avenue 12 (pre-COVID), which provided great public transportation access to the Avenue 12 corridor.
- Central to the fast-growing region of Madera County.
- Within the Madera State Center Community College (SCCC)
   Specific Plan, which envisions possible Transit-Oriented
   Development in the vicinity of the Relocated Station.



#### **Project Timeline**

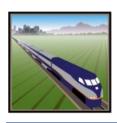


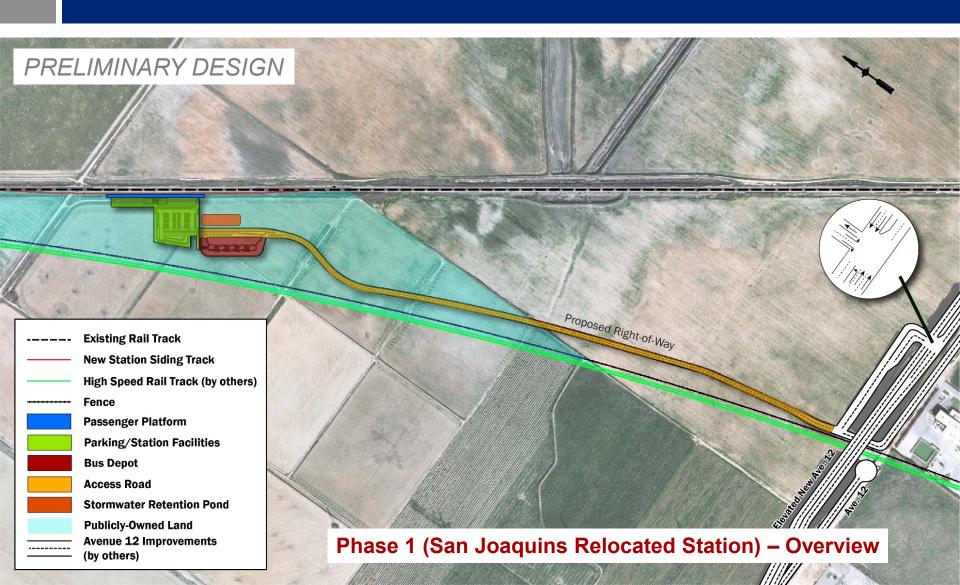
#### Key Documents Released to public on October 14, 2020:

- Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
- Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration
- Both available on Project webpage

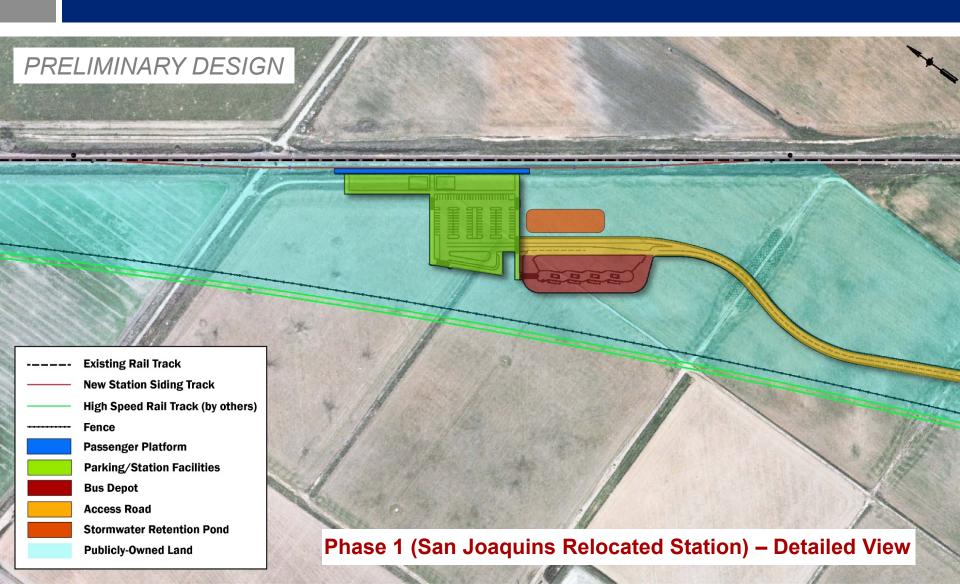


## Proposed Relocated Madera Station Site Plans

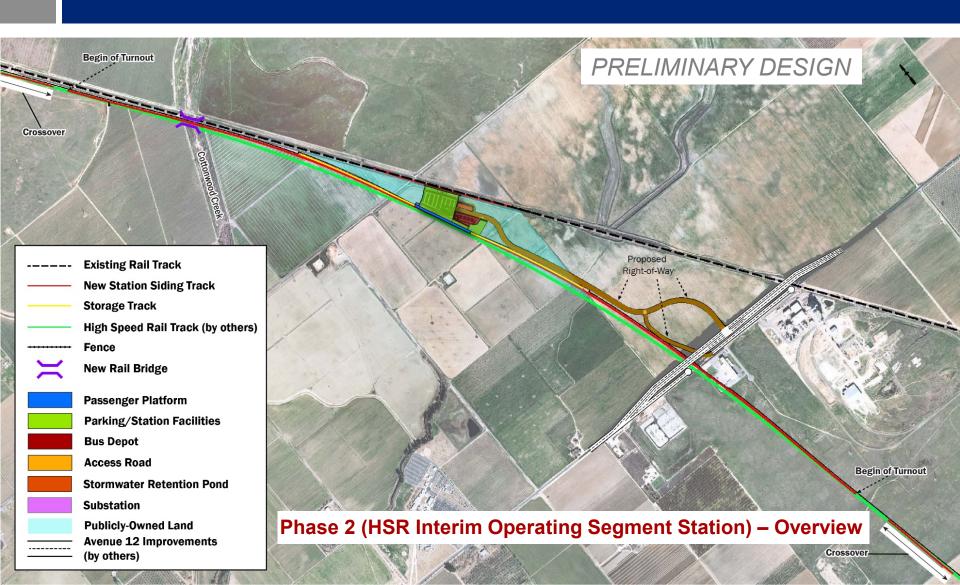




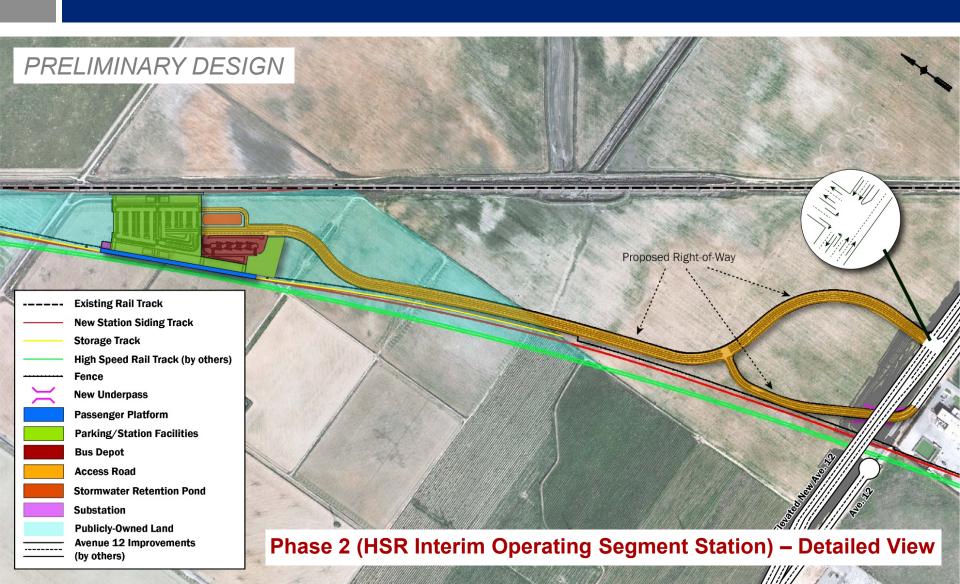




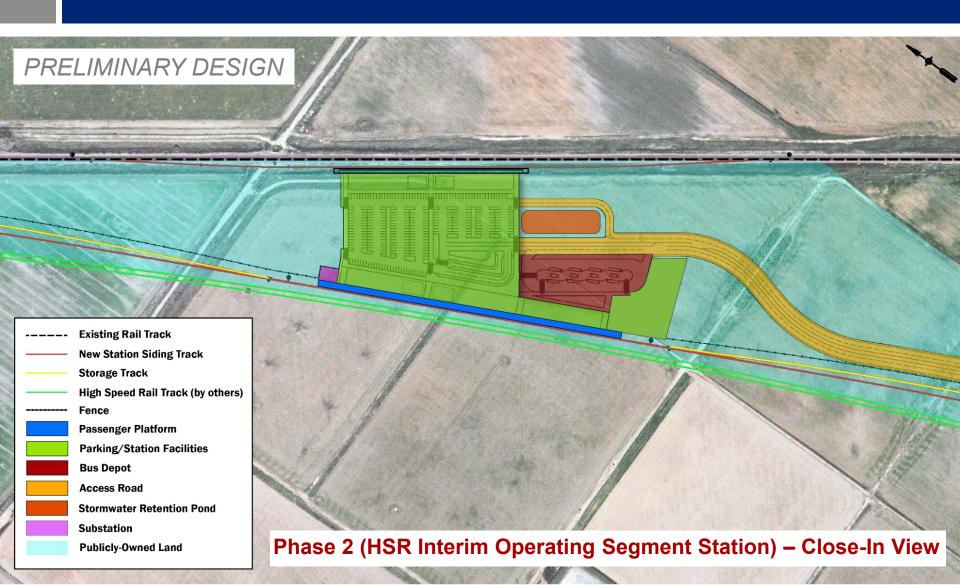


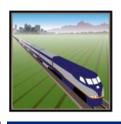






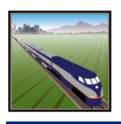






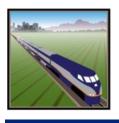
#### **Environmental Review**

## Summary of Findings from Draft Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft IS/MND)



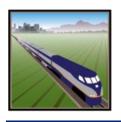
#### **Environmental Process**

- Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Environmental document used by other agencies for issuing permits
- Process to determine adequate environmental document
- San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority is the Lead Agency
- California High-Speed Rail Authority is a Responsible Agency
- Public input is important part of the process



#### **Public Review Process**

- Draft IS/MND Released on October 14, 2020.
  - Document available on Project Website at: (https://sjjpa.com/madera-station-relocation-project/)
- Published Notice of Intent to Adopt an IS/MND on October 14, 2020
  - Madera Tribune
  - Madera County Clerk's Office
  - CA State Clearinghouse
  - Project Website
- 30-Day Public Review
- Public Webinar on November 5, 2020
- Public Review Period ends November 16, 2020



#### **Draft IS/MND Organization**

- Mitigated Negative Declaration & Summary of Mitigation Measures
- Introduction & Project Description
- Initial Study
  - 21 Environmental Topics
     Evaluated
  - Existing Conditions Compared with Project Elements
  - Mitigation Measures Proposed as Needed
- Technical Appendices
- Engineering Drawings



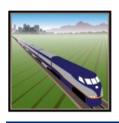
## MADERA STATION RELOCATION PROJECT

**VOLUME 1** 

DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

October 202



#### Draft Initial Study: No Impacts/Less Than Significant Impacts

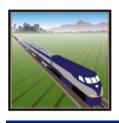
- Aesthetics & Visual Quality
- Forestry Resources
- Air Quality (Operations)
- Cultural Resources (Historic)
- Energy
- Geology, Soils, Seismicity
- Greenhouse Gases
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology & Water Resources
- Land Use & Development
- Mineral Resources

- Noise & Vibration
- Population & Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation (Operations)
- Tribal Resources
- Utilities & Service Systems
- Wildfires
- Mandatory Findings of Significance (including Cumulative Impacts)



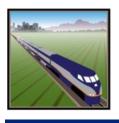
#### Draft Initial Study: Less Than Significant Impacts with Mitigation

- Agriculture Resources
  - Farmland Protection
- Air Quality
  - Construction Equipment Emissions
- Biological Resources
  - Surveys for Sensitive Species
- Archaeological/Paleontological Resources
  - Unknown Resources



#### Draft Initial Study: Less Than Significant Impacts with Mitigation (cont'd)

- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
  - Construction
- Hydrology & Water Resources
  - Bridge Construction over Cottonwood
     Creek
  - Drainage Control
- Transportation
  - Freight Operations During Construction
  - Construction



#### **Project Benefits**

- Reduced Vehicle Miles Traveled
  - Net Reduction in Greenhouse Gases
- Supportive of Transit Oriented Development
- Accessibility Improvements
  - Major Highway
  - Area of Substantial Growth
  - Transit-Dependent Populations

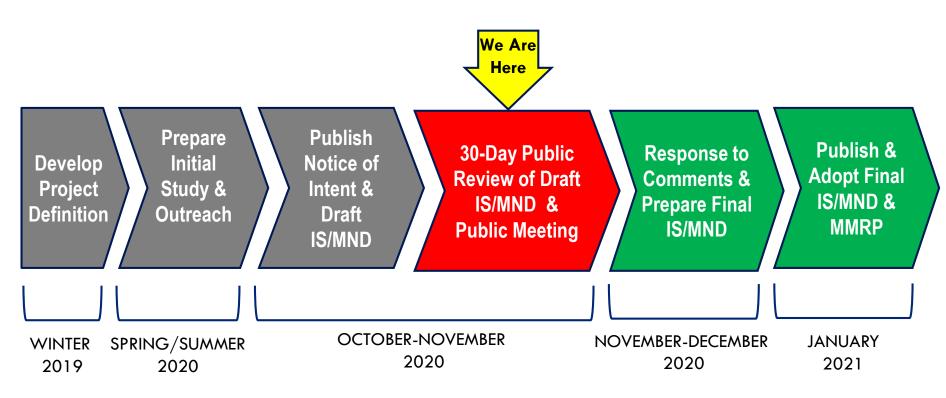


#### Comments due by 5:00pm November 16, 2020

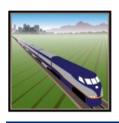
- Comments can be submitted the following ways:
  - Via Email: <u>MaderaStationComments@sjjpa.com</u>
  - Via Project Webpage: <a href="https://sijpa.com/madera-station-relocation-project/">https://sijpa.com/madera-station-relocation-project/</a>
  - Via Regular Mail: Attn: Dan Leavitt, Manager of Regional Initiatives/
     Madera Station Relocation Project
     San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority
     949 East Channel Street
     Stockton, CA 95202
- All comments received via the three options above will be responded to in the Final IS/MND
- Comments can also be made during this public webinar.



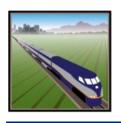
#### **Next Steps**



Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration



#### **Questions/Comments**



#### **Questions/Comments?**

In Zoom, open the "Q&A" box at the bottom of your screen to submit a question and view other questions.

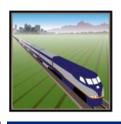


Note: Questions and comments regarding the Draft IS/MND provided during this public webinar will be documented and responded to in the Final IS/MND.

#### Public comments on the Draft IS/MND are due on November 16, 2020 by 5:00 p.m.

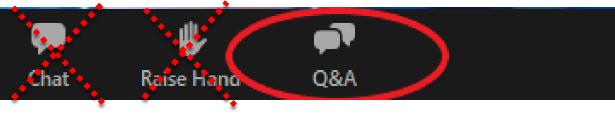
To provide official public comment, please submit written comments via:

- 1) E-Mail: MaderaStationComments@sjjpa.com;
- 2) Project Webpage Submission Form: <a href="https://sjjpa.com/madera-station-relocation-project/">https://sjjpa.com/madera-station-relocation-project/</a>;
- 3) Mail: Attn: Dan Leavitt, Manager of Regional Initiatives/Madera Station Relocation Project, 949 E. Channel Street, Stockton, CA 95202



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Standing By for Additional Questions/Comments



## Thank you!

For more information, visit the project webpage at:

https://sjjpa.com/madera-stationrelocation-project/

#### **Questions?**

Contact SJJPA's Madera Station Relocation Project Manager:

Dan Leavitt, Manager of Regional Initiatives
San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

dan@sjjpa.com

(209) 944-6266