

March 2, 2009

California High-Speed Rail Authority
925 L Street, Suite 1425
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Friends of the Atherton Library are very concerned about the proposed High Speed Rail project planned from San Francisco to Los Angeles. Planning to put this additional rail service through so many Peninsula communities with no benefit to them is unacceptable.

The Atherton Library is already adversely impacted by the local train service. The noise disrupts the quiet atmosphere that libraries cultivate for reading and for library programs (i.e., lectures, shows and concerts, etc.). The addition of more train tracks will place the trains and all the noise and air particulates closer to the library. The years of construction will mean blocked streets, temporary "shoo-fly tracks," additional noise and difficult access to the library.

A High Speed Rail, from San Jose to Los Angeles, with a Cal Train connecting to San Francisco or a San Francisco to Los Angeles high speed rail system on the 280 or 101 corridor makes more sense than the present proposal. Why penalize all the residents of the Peninsula with a train that does not stop to provide service to any of their communities? Peninsula communities need commuter trains that stop at local towns . . . not trains that by-pass them.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joan Sanders
President
Friends of the Atherton Library
91 Ashfield Road
Atherton, CA 94027