Council Agenda # 8-C
Meeting of June 8, 2010

CITY OF BELMONT

Staff Report

HIGH SPEED RAIL (HSR) PROJECT UPDATE

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary/Background/Discussion
This report serves as an update regarding current issues/topics associated with the proposed San Francisco to San Jose Section of the California High Speed Rail (HSR) project:

1. The City conducted a community outreach meeting with the Peninsula Rail Program (PRP) on the Alternatives Analysis (AA) Study for the HSR Project on Wednesday May 26, 2010 from 6 to 9:30PM in the City Council Chambers of City Hall; approximately 50 persons were in attendance at the meeting. Staff is in the midst of compiling a summary/feedback on the meeting and will post this information on the City's website. In addition, staff will be augmenting its mailing list/email group for future HSR communications based on interest from meeting participants. The City intends to hold future outreach meetings on the project.

2. Staff is drafting a letter (to be signed by Mayor Wozniak) and forwarded to the Rail Authority requesting reimbursement for City costs/resource allocation associated with:
   - Conduct of community/public outreach meetings on the HSR project
   - Preparation of Belmont comments on the AA study and Draft Project EIR
   - Facilitation of the Context Sensitive Study (CSS) process which is expected to guide feedback on the AA study

Staff raised these issues at the May 11, 2010 City Council Meeting, and the Council was supportive of undertaking steps to request cost recovery related to the HSR project. The draft letter will be forwarded to the City Council for review in advance of tonight's meeting.

General Plan/Vision Statement
Review of this matter furthers the City's Vision Statement(s) as follows:

Distinctive Community Character
- *We get involved in town matters because we care about living here.*
- *Our strong sense of community and enjoyment of the town's assets and activities deepen as we become better informed and connected.*

Fiscal Impact
The City Council previously authorized up to $10k in resource commitments towards the HSR project.

Public Contact
Posting of City Council agenda.

Recommendation
This report is informational regarding both items 1 and 2.

Alternatives
1. Direct staff to return with additional information.
2. Continue the review of this matter.
3. Take no action.

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