

400 County Center  
 Redwood City, CA 94063  
 (650) 363-4570

www.nfoforward.org

*A Municipal Advisory Council to the  
 San Mateo County Board of Supervisors*



Everardo Rodriguez, Chair  
 Beatriz Cerrillo, Vice-Chair  
 Melinda Dubroff  
 Rosario Gonzalez  
 Linda Lopez  
 Rosaura Lopez  
 Mary Martinez  
 Emily Cordova, Youth Member  
 Diane Zermeno, Youth Member

## North Fair Oaks Community Council

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 27, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Fair Oaks Community Center, Multipurpose Room, 2600 Middlefield Road, Redwood City

Issue	Discussion
<b>Roll Call</b>	Present: Everardo Rodriguez, Beatriz Cerrillo, Linda Lopez, Rosaura Lopez, Rosario Gonzalez, Mary Martinez, Emily Cordova, Diane Zermeno  Absent: Melinda Dubroff
<b>Public Comment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No public comment</li> </ul>
<b>Presentation by the California High Speed Rail Authority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by Will Gimpel, San Francisco to San Jose Project Manager for the California High Speed Rail Authority</li> <li>The San Jose to Bakersfield line is currently under construction, fully funded, and should be operational by 2025</li> <li>The extension to San Francisco will most likely be included in phase 1 if \$2.9 billion more can be secured. If funding cannot be secured, then San Jose to San Francisco will be completed by 2029</li> <li>Will Gimpel reviewed all of the originally proposed options, explained why some options were not possible, and detailed which options the high speed rail authority decided to move forward with</li> <li>The rail authority decided to move forward with a blended service where high speed rail shares tracks twith Caltrain.</li> <li>Currently proposed high speed rail stations in the bay area will be in San Francisco, Millbrea (SFO), and San Jose Diridon.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A light maintenance facility is being proposed in Brisbane</li> <li>• Trains will travel along the Peninsula at 110 MPH in order to meet their legislative mandate</li> <li>• Track modifications will be made to travel at higher speeds</li> <li>• All track crossings will now have 4 gates instead of 2</li> <li>• The rail authority will also complete the perimeter fencing program that Caltrain started to make it more difficult for pedestrians to wander onto the tracks</li> <li>• There are also 3 planned grade separation projects for 25<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> Avenues in San Mateo</li> <li>• The rail authority is currently only considering the short-middle 4 passing track option which would run from 9<sup>th</sup> Ave in San Mateo and end just before Whipple Ave in Redwood City.</li> <li>• The rail authority is also considering a viaduct going into the Diridon station, most likely an elevated station</li> <li>• When HSR presented to the NFO Community Council in August, council members expressed concerns regarding Noise, Grade separation, Safety, and impacts to North Fair Oaks</li> <li>• Noise impacts will be detailed in the Environmental Impact Report</li> <li>• Grade separations will be built in San Mateo</li> <li>• For safety HSF is completing the perimeter fencing and installing 4-quadrant gates at crossings</li> </ul>
<p><b>Questions from Council Members</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linda Lopez: Since you cannot define a time-frame due to all the moving parts, does that affect your funding?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: No, it does not</li> <li>• Beatriz Cerrillo: Are the passing tracks that you mentioned included in the budget?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: Not yet, if we have to build passing tracks they cost would have to be added to the budget</li> <li>• Everardo Rodriguez: Are you still looking for cities to host stations, or are you pretty much set on the stations?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: At this point we're just moving forward with the stations at Diridon, Millbrae, and San Francisco</li> <li>• Everardo Rodriguez: Would it be too costly to add more stations?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: It's not a cost issue, its just a matter of whether a host city is willing to host it</li> <li>• Linda Lopez: How soon would you be coming back to update the council?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: We're happy to come back to give an update any time</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linda Lopez: What other types of outreach are you doing?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: We're meeting with city councils, neighborhood associations, or other groups that are interested in a presentation</li> <li>• Everardo Rodriguez: Would the next milestone be the Environmental Report?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: Yes, although I wouldn't expect that to be ready any sooner than 2019</li> <li>• Everardo Rodriguez: Are you documenting the process on your website?</li> <li>• Will Gimpel: Yes, that is the best place to go for information. The website is <a href="http://www.hsr.ca.gov">www.hsr.ca.gov</a></li> </ul>
<b>Public Comment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No public comment</li> </ul>
<b>Office of Immigrant Support &amp; Coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by Jasmine Hartenstein, Office of Immigrant Support &amp; Coordination</li> <li>• The Office of Immigrant Support &amp; Coordination was initially started as a two-year pilot program</li> <li>• The office focuses on connecting immigrants to available resources within the County government as well as community based organizations</li> <li>• Collaborates with regional immigrant affairs offices like the one in Santa Clara County and San Francisco</li> <li>• Attends meetings like the Immigrant Forum held by the Red Cross in Burlingame</li> <li>• Try to create resources and information sharing for the community at large</li> <li>• Work actively with the International Institute of the Bay Area to hold citizenship workshops</li> <li>• Hosted the County's first Immigrant Integration Summit in 2016. An issue that arose from the summit was language access, and in June of 2017 the County Board of Supervisors passed a Language Access Policy</li> <li>• A website was also created that has a consolidated list of resources for individuals and service providers: <a href="http://www.hsa.smcgov.org/oisc">www.hsa.smcgov.org/oisc</a></li> <li>• Collaborated with the Legal Aid Society to provide a brochure that outlines types of services immigrant can obtain based on their immigration status</li> </ul>
<b>Questions from Council Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linda Lopez: What is the purpose of the summit?</li> <li>• Jasmine Hartenstein: The purpose of the summit is to inform and educate service providers, elected officials, county staff, and others who attend.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Comment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

<p><b>Study.com presentation on the Working Scholars Program</b></p>	<p>Presentation by Tim Bieser &amp; Bo Cheli, Study.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Working Scholars program is a community funded bachelors degree for working adults</li> <li>• Study.com is an online education platform that you can access through your mobile phone and take actual college courses from an accredited university</li> <li>• Those that go through the program are taught life skills like financial literacy</li> <li>• Currently have around 300 working scholars in the program</li> <li>• The program is a public/private partnership run throught the Silicon Valley Community Foundation</li> <li>• The program is run through Thomas Edison State University, which is a public university based in New Jersey</li> <li>• The Working Scholars program gives participants the same BA/BS degree they would obtain in a regular 4 year program in one year</li> <li>• The program is attractive to people that have previous college credit that can just be transferred into the program</li> <li>• The curriculum is mobile friendly (accessible on cell phones), It’s broken up into 5-minute increments, and it’s self-paced so students can learn when they want</li> <li>• The program comes at no cost to the students, instead it is run by corporate philanthropy and paid for as part of their corporate-social responsibility</li> <li>• 85% of participants are below medium income</li> <li>• 35% of participants are Hispanic/Latino</li> <li>• The presenters are just asking the Council and community to spread the word on the program</li> </ul>
<p><b>Questions from Council Members</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beatriz Cerrillo: Do you receive a degree or certificate at the end of the program?</li> <li>• Tim Bieser: Yes, at the end of the program you receive a Bachelor’s degree from Thomas Edison State University</li> <li>• Beatriz Cerrillo: When was this program started?</li> <li>• Tim Bieser: We launched in January of 2017</li> <li>• Mary Martinez: Do students declare a specifi major?</li> <li>• Tim Bieser: We currently offer a liberal arts degree and a business administration degree. We’ll also be adding a computer information systems degree in Q1 of 2018</li> <li>• Mary Martinez: Do you also reach out to high school students or just target working adults?</li> <li>• Tim Bieser: We’re mainly targeting working adults to help them obtain a</li> </ul>

bachelors degree, although it will work for anybody

- Mary Martinez: Do you have to be a US Citizen to qualify?
- Tim Bieser: No, we do not check immigration status
- Linda Lopez: There are already several online programs like this. How is your program different?
- Tim Bieser: We're able to do it at a far more cost effective rate and the program is very easy and efficient
- Linda Lopez: Is there 24/7 support, and what about job placement?
- Time Bieser: We have about a 3-4 hour window for turnaround time on questions. Job placement is still something we're working on, although degrees from Thomas Edison State University are respected in the marketplace
- Rosaura Lopez: Can the community go to the library anytime to access the program, and will library staff be able to help them?
- Tim Bieser: We're not currently operating in North Fair Oaks, but we have been in discussions with Redwood City to provide services at their libraries
- Diane Zermeno: What does the application process look like, and what does it take to enroll?
- Tim Bieser: It's generally just demographic information, about 13-14 questions. It's much simpler than regular college applications.
- Beatriz Cerrillo: Although you can do this program at your own pace, is there a recommended pace for students?
- Tim Bieser: The minimum requirements to maintain enrollment is that you must take at least 6 courses in a year.
- Everardo Rodriguez: Was this organization founded in the Bay Area?
- Tim Bieser: Yes, Study.com was founded in the Bay Area in 2002 and we're currently based in Mountain View. This particular initiative is a purely philanthropic arm of the company
- Everardo Rodriguez: What is your success rate so far?
- Tim Bieser: It's difficult to say since the program is so new, but I am confident that we'll be in line with average graduation rates like regular universities.
- Everardo Rodriguez: Is the program offered in other languages, like Spanish?
- Tim Bieser: We do have some courses available in Spanish on our site, but this is a program that for the most part requires English proficiency
- Everardo Rodriguez: Is your content unique? Do you create it?
- Tim Bieser: Yes, our content is created and owned by Study.com
- Everardo Rodriguez: What are the next steps for you to be able to offer these services to this community?
- Tim Bieser: A letter of support from the Council would help, or any other

	information to show that there is a need in the community. Then we'd work on securing the funding.
<b>Public Comment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No public comment</li> </ul>
<b>Supervisor's Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report this month</li> </ul>
<b>County Manager's Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report this month</li> </ul>
<b>Council Member's Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linda Lopez: NRT (Neighborhood Response Team) continues to meet every month. At the last meeting they set goals for the rest of the year. Some issues that were brought up were street lighting, bike signage, and other safety issues. At some point I hope we can get someone from NRT present to the Council. It's good to see the different county departments working together.</li> <li>• Rosario Gonzalez: I'm working with Natalie Andrade from the Mental Health department and we want to work to bring some classes for parents to teach them about mental health issues. We're thinking of having these classes around September.</li> <li>• Everardo Rodriguez: Sadly Youth Members Diane Zermeno and Emily Cordova are leaving the Council for college and this is their last council meeting. We wish you both good luck on your next endeavors and I'd like to present these commendations from the County to both of you.</li> </ul>
<b>Adjournment</b>	

Next Meeting
<p><b>North Fair Oaks Community Council Study Session</b>  <b>Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Fair Oaks Community Center</b></p> <p><b>North Fair Oaks Community Council Regular Meeting</b>  <b>Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 7:00pm</b></p>

**Next Meeting**

**Fair Oaks Community Center, Multipurpose Room**