
From: Joseph P Thompson <translaw@pacbell.net>
Sent: Saturday, October 12, 2024 9:32 AM
To: Planning Dept; supervisorkosmicki@cosb.us; supervisorzanger@cosb.us; SBC Board of Supervisors; Supervisors; Angela Curro; supervisorsotelo@cosb.us; Monica Gomez; Roxy Montana; San Benito Civil Grand Jury
Subject: Fw: You're Invited: CHSRA Gilroy Open House 10/22

SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dear Planning Department,

Thank you for inviting additional public comment. Please supplement my previous public comment to you with this Supplement in view of the continued bad transport policy in SBC, City and County, with the operation of wasteful County Transit and JDA. My testimony in the State Capitol before the Assembly Transportation Committee in support of proposed legislation to defund the Bullet Train, in keeping with ten years of my comments from the podium at SBCCOG meetings, regular and special, regarding local government's bad public policy, can be found on YouTube. Since SBCCOG voted for the Bullet Train, Prop. 1A, including the City director to SBCCOG, despite the vote of all of the SBC BoS to oppose the Bullet Train's Prop. 1A, the City's plan for future transport relying on bankrupt boondoggle SBCCOG is bad news for SBC's present and future residents. Until the City and County reverse their socialist transit policy, motorists will continue to be gouged so COG can run 100% empty, or nearly so, buses in the City and County.

Q: What will you do when you tax people out of their cars?

Caveat viator.

Joseph P. Thompson, Esq.

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Past-President 1999-2001, 2006, Gilroy-Morgan Hill Bar Assn.

Charter Member, SBCCOG Citizens Transit Task Force

Charter Member, SBCCOG Citizens Rail Advisory Committee

Past-Chair, Legislation Committee, Transportation Lawyers Assn.

Post-doc student, transportation law & policy, Norman Y. Mineta International Institute for Surface Transportation Policy Studies, SJSU;

Transportation Research Board, Georgetown U; and Library of Congress

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "tomlorimcc@comcast.net" <tomlorimcc@comcast.net>

To: 'Joseph P Thompson' <translaw@pacbell.net>

Sent: Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 07:30:20 AM PDT

Subject: RE: You're Invited: CHSRA Gilroy Open House 10/22

Thanks Joe. Much appreciated.

Tom McClintock

From: Joseph P Thompson <translaw@pacbell.net>

Sent: Saturday, October 12, 2024 7:10 AM

To: tomlorimcc@comcast.net; Congressman Tom McClintock <ca05tm.outreach@mail.house.gov>

Cc: Garrybredefeld Info <info@garrybredefeld.com>
Subject: Fw: You're Invited: CHSRA Gilroy Open House 10/22

Dear Mr. McClintock,

Thank you for your remarks yesterday at the Campaign fundraiser with Mr. McCarthy. Once again you restored my faith in my government.

I have taken the liberty of including you on some of my Messages about transportation policy.

I especially enjoyed hearing Lincoln's quote about the importance of the election results in the Fall of 1864.

That same year he asked General, Congressman Granville Dodge to come to the White House, as was related in Dodge's book, "How We Built the Transcontinental Railroad."

Dodge, who was UPRR's top Civil Engineer, and who had discovered the Sherman Pass over the Rockies which became the Overland Route to Promontory Point, Utah, and then on to Truckee and Donner Pass, was frustrated with UP's management.

He says that he told Lincoln that the transcontinental railroad must be government owned. Lincoln said no. Better it stay in private ownership, but the government would back it financially.

As an Illinois Assemblyman in the 1830's he had seen all the government owned railroads go belly-up.

Sound advice that the Nation has not always followed. When the Wilson Administration nationalized the railroads during WWI, congestion got so bad that nothing could move.

Congress corrected the mistake with the Transportation Act of 1920.

Did we learn our lesson? No.

During the debate on the creation of the National Passenger Railroad Act in 1970, Amtrak, its advocates stood on the Floor of the House and proclaimed, "It will be self-sufficient in three years." Yeh.

Traffic World reported that by the time the terrorists took down the World Trade Centers, Amtrak subsidies in \$100 bills was a stack higher than the WTC had stood. And today, of course, it's worse as we continue to pump more taxpayers' dollars into keeping it alive on life support.

If it was a horse, then we would do the humane thing.

Instead of learning Lincoln's lesson on transport policy, California is building the Bullet Train using the same failed fiscal policy.

My letter to Senator, Judge, Quentin Kopp from 1996 contains my idea about how to do it following Lincoln's advice, and subsequent letters to CAHSRA are also attached.

I recently re-submitted them to CAHSRA's next Gilroy Open House, with copies to Gilroy City Council and Gilroy Chamber of Commerce, and the editor of the town's newspaper.

Our generation has bequeathed unsustainable debt on to our children and grandchildren, partly due to our refusal to follow Lincoln's advice.

Our spending on wasteful public sector transport like Amtrak, Caltrain, Lite Rail, ACE Train, SMART Train, Metroliner, BART, and County Transit, contributes to this fatal route, the same route taken by the USSR.

As Lady Thatcher said, "Socialism works until you run out of other people's money."

I think we could start on a new course toward solvency if we followed Lincoln's advice, and kept our transport in the private sector, like UPRR, and SPRR, two of my former employers, 1964-1980.

I will continue to support you, and if you have our flag, will gladly follow you to the gates of Hades.

Respectfully,

Joe Thompson

(408) 607---7351 cell phone

cc: Garry Bredefeld, M.D.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Joseph P Thompson <translaw@pacbell.net>

To: Garrybredefeld Info <info@garrybredefeld.com>

Cc: City Council Members City of Gilroy <allcouncilmembers@ci.gilroy.ca.us>; Gilroy Dispatch Editor <editor@garlic.com>; chamber of commerce Gilroy California <chamber@gilroy.org>; Gilroy Chamber of Commerce <crisrina@gilroy.org>; Tammy Brownlow <president@gilroyedc.org>; jane@gilroy.org <jane@gilroy.org>; Victoria Valencia <victoria@gilroy.org>; editor@gilroydispatch.com <editor@gilroydispatch.com>; danny@gilroy.org <danny@gilroy.org>; Erik Chalhoub <echalhoub@weeklys.com>; Michael Moore <mmoore@weeklys.com>; Jon Coupal <jon@hita.org>

Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 06:23:06 PM PDT

Subject: Fw: You're Invited: CHSRA Gilroy Open House 10/22

PUBLIC COMMENT: NEXT MEETING; REGULAR OR SPECIAL; PUBLIC WORKSHOP OR PRIVATE RETREAT

Councilman Garry Bredefeld, M.D.

Fresno City Council

Dear Dr. Bredefeld,

Although I submitted this public comment to Gilroy City Council,
it also applies to Fresno City Council. Just swap FAX for VTA.

Thank you.

Joseph P. Thompson, Esq.

(408) 607---7351 cell phone

E-Mail: TransLaw@PacBell.Net

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Joseph P Thompson <translaw@pacbell.net>

To: Tabor, Rebecca@HSR <rebecca.tabor@hsr.ca.gov>

Cc: City Council Members City of Gilroy <allcouncilmembers@ci.gilroy.ca.us>; Gilroy Dispatch Editor <editor@garlic.com>; chamber of commerce Gilroy California <chamber@gilroy.org>; Tammy Brownlow <president@gilroyedc.org>; Gilroy Chamber of Commerce <crisrina@gilroy.org>; jane@gilroy.org <jane@gilroy.org>; danny@gilroy.org <danny@gilroy.org>; Victoria Valencia <victoria@gilroy.org>; Erik Chalhoub <echalhoub@weeklys.com>; Michael Moore <mmoore@weeklys.com>; Jon Coupal <jon@hita.org>

Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 05:40:54 PM PDT

Subject: Re: You're Invited: CHSRA Gilroy Open House 10/22

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for inviting public comment, again.

I repeat what I've said in the past (see attached).

I concur in the opinions of the Reason Foundation and Randall O'Toole.

Please include this in the official record of proceedings so that future generations will know that we were warned.

We ought to make it in the private sector using high value TOFC & COFC Intermodal tonnage to offset the losses we get moving passengers with boondoggles like Amtrak, Caltrain, ACE Train, SMART Train, Metroliner, Lite Rail, VTA County Transit, where only the public sector unions profit, and motorists are forced to pay higher and higher gas taxes so that the boondoggles can pad their nests. We ought to learn from history; follow Lincoln's advice to Grenville Dodge.

Thank you.

Joseph P. Thompson, Esq.

Past-President, 1999=2001, 2006, Gilroy-Morgan Hill Bar Assn.

(408) 848-5506

E-Mail: TransLaw@PacBell.Net

cc: All Council Members, City of Gilroy--**PUBLIC COMMENT--NEXT MEETING**

On Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 11:37:27 AM PDT, Tabor, Rebecca@HSR <rebecca.tabor@hsr.ca.gov> wrote:

Hello!

You're invited to a High-Speed Rail Open House at South Valley Middle School in Gilroy on Tuesday, 10/22, from 5-7pm! The public is invited to learn about the project's status, view detailed and interactive maps, experience virtual reality tours, and engage with Authority staff and regional partners. For more details, you can visit our [Eventbrite page here](#). Flyers are attached in English and in Spanish.



South Valley Middle
School

October 22, 2024

5pm-7pm

Please share with your family and friends – we hope to see you there!

Best,

Becca

Rebecca Tabor (She/Her)

Northern California Engagement Manager

California High-Speed Rail

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