



For Immediate Release
April 8, 2010

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**California High Speed Rail Authority Adopts Variances to Ensure
Transbay Transit Center is Northern Terminus of High Speed Rail**
Beale Street Alternative Determined Infeasible

San Francisco, Calif. (April 8, 2010) – The Transbay Transit Center Project cleared another hurdle as the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) Board adopted design variances to the Transbay Transit Center at First and Mission streets in downtown San Francisco to ensure it becomes the northern terminus for High Speed Rail in California.

The CHSRA also presented its Alternatives Analysis Report for San Francisco to San Jose. The alternatives study will be used to help CHSRA identify alternatives that merit being carried forward for additional study. The analysis confirmed that the Transbay Transit Center is the preferred and only practical location and that the proposed Beale Street Alternative is infeasible.

“We are pleased that the CHSRA Board of Directors agreed with the voters of California that the Transbay Transit Center is the preferred location for High Speed Rail in San Francisco,” said Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan, Executive Director of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority. “The Transbay Transit Center Project is one of the largest transit projects that will be built in the country in over 50 years and we look forward to building a new station to accommodate High Speed Rail travel between San Francisco and Los Angeles.”

The Transbay Transit Center Project will replace the current Transbay Terminal with a new, multi-modal transportation center and centralize the region’s transportation network by accommodating nine transportation systems under one roof. The project will make public transit a more convenient option in the Bay Area, much as it is in other world-class cities.

The three components of the project – replacing the outdated Transbay Terminal with a modern transit hub, extending the Caltrain rail line 1.3 miles into the heart of the Financial District and redeveloping the area surrounding the Transbay Transit Center with 2,600 new homes (35% affordable), parks and a retail main street – will help to return San Francisco to

a culture of mass transit, allowing people to travel and commute without the need for a car, thereby decreasing congestion and pollution.

The project broke ground on the Temporary Terminal in December 2008 and demolition of the current bus terminal is scheduled for summer 2010.

For more information about the project, please visit www.transbaycenter.org

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