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How can cities Think Big and leverage the HSR network?
High-speed rail will effectively shrink California, in particular reducing the relative distances from the San Joaquin Valley to the Bay Area and to Greater Los Angeles. Driving times in the table below are all during peak travel hours. The range in driving times shows the unpredictability of driving versus high-speed rail travel times, which do not fluctuate with traffic.

Source: Foster & Partners, California High-Speed Rail Authority

It’s not just a line, it’s a network
More Choices = Resilience + Competitive advantage
A richer and expanded perception of California
What happens here?
What happens here?
How does the station fit into the community?
What happens here?
How does the station **fit** into the community?
How does the station **interface** with the community?
A small city put on the map and connected to the larger region

Montabaur, Germany
Population: 14,400  (40,000 municipality)
Cologne

Frankfurt Airport

Montabaur

Limburg

ICE Max. Speed: 300 km/h
(186 m/h)

25 km/ 15 miles - 9 min. with HSR

180 km/ 112 miles
2-hour drive without traffic
Proximity to freeway and historic downtown

Station area attracted office, regional retail, and residential development (2,500 jobs; 110,000 sf retail; 550,000 sf office; economic growth + 2.7% in 4 years)

80 train stops per day (40 HSR)
2,500 Passengers per Day
75% Commuters (more outbound than inbound)

400 Initial Parking Spaces, Expanded to 1,100 (underground and surface)
How can the Power of Place be amplified?
Build a neighborhood (with a station in it)
Scale to walkable distances
Build a Station of its Time and Place
Help people find their way
Embrace what’s already there and make it even better.
Station as place

Station canopy retrofit resulted in dramatic architecture that defines place:

- Plaza with high passenger capacity
- Major bus transfer and interchange
- Bus to rail transfer
- Mall and surrounding mixed use development

Metrotown Station, Vancouver BC
The Station is Invisible

- One of the top 10 best American public places
- Two LRT stops designed as part of the square, (now expanded to three)
- Station budget turned over to Friends of Pioneer Square
- Transit integral part of the sense, smell, sight, feel of the square

Pioneer Courthouse Square, Portland, OR
What else can Stations be?

Community places - can change over time
The place you meet friends over coffee;
The farmers market over the weekend;
Collecting dry cleaning on the way home from work

Stations can be places to fall in love!

Burrard Station, Vancouver BC
Fresno HSR Station: Connecting two sides
The station site today
Connectivity and Integration
TOD and Revitalization
Include the Community
Integrate Historic Buildings

View from station site to Downtown

Historic Southern Pacific Depot

Historic Pullman Shed
Connect to Downtown
How can the Human Experience be prioritized?
Details Matter
Delight, Joy, Surprise
Welcoming and Comfortable

Køge North Train Station, Denmark

Lorient Station, France

Miaoli City, Taiwan

Canopy, Las Cabezas de San Juan, Spain
High-Quality Open Spaces

Västerås, Sweden - Rendering by BIG

Transbay Terminal, San Francisco

Toronto Bentway
Seamless Transit & Mobility Connections
Sustainable Design
VISION FOR SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR
EXAMPLE: HAMILTON STATION

WAYFINDING ELEMENTS ARE HIGHLY VISIBLE FROM BOTH THE STATION PLATFORMS AND FROM THE SURROUNDING STREET.

STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS WILL INTRODUCE A CLIMATE-APPROPRIATE PLANT PALETTE AND IMPROVE THE URBAN TREE CANOPY ALONG THE PROJECT CORRIDOR.

A MIX OF EXISTING AND FUTURE USES ARE EASILY AND SAFELY WALKABLE AND BIKEABLE FROM THE STATION.

RAISED PROTECTED BIKE LAINES AND WIDE SIDEWALKS CREATE A MORE COMPLETE MULTIMODAL NETWORK.
Move and connect people

Project vision for corridor improvements

Existing Conditions
Mature tree canopy and stormwater features, over time, can create a more attractive street-level pedestrian experience while protecting rivers, streams and oceans.

Private mobility options can complement and promote transit use. The project is assessing the need for future mobility services at locations within and outside the right-of-way.

The presence of a walkable, compact and mixed community near stations helps to encourage transit use, and offers better mobility for non-driving populations.
How can cities Unlock Opportunity and build a pro-transit culture?
Show people “what’s in it for me”

HSR Access to:
- Education
- Jobs
- Recreation

Amenities:
- Parks/Plazas
- Culture/Arts
- Resiliency

Development:
- Mixed Income housing
- Mixed Use
- Small Business opportunities

Advantages over flying and driving:
- Comfortable
- Reliable
- Faster
- Affordable
- Center to Center
Mix it up + Build Value
Small = more accessible = more equitable
Leave space and flexibility for changing needs
FRESNO
542,000 in 2020
817,000 projected in 2040
116 sq. miles

SURREY, BC
580,000 in 2021
783,000 projected in 2041
122 sq. miles
Vision: Find shared goals

“Excellent transit through convenient, quick travel choice that connects all customers and builds ridership within a livable community.”

- Mission Statement, TransLink

“Street-oriented LRT will transform Surrey into connected, complete and livable communities, making the Metro Vancouver Region more vibrant, accessible, competitive and sustainable.”

- Vision for LRT, City of Surrey
Vision: Find shared goals - they do exist!

“Excellent transit through convenient, quick travel choice that connects all customers and builds ridership within a livable community.”
- Mission Statement, TransLink

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- Vision for LRT, City of Surrey

• 1976 The Livable Region
• Livable Region Strategic Plan (1993)
• Transport 2021 (1993)
• South of Fraser Area Transit Plan (2008)
• Metro Vancouver’s Regional Growth Strategy (2011)
• TransLink’s Regional Transportation Strategy (2013).
• Mayor’s Council 10-year Vision
Connected:

Connecting people, places and communities quickly with great transit at the doorstep.
Complete:

Streets that are safe, attractive and comfortable for all to get around.
Liveable:

Livable communities are unique, beautiful and healthy places where people and jobs want to be.
Deep and Diverse Engagement
Density as a Responsibility
Historic Downtown

To Cologne

To Frankfurt

Station Area

Montabaur Castle

New Mixed-Use District

1/4 Mile
5 min. Walk

A-3 Freeway

1/2 Mile
10 min. Walk

Factory Outlet Center

Office

Station Parking

Build on existing assets and context
Station plaza, bus terminal, and office development

Pedestrian connections

Historic Downtown

Retail

Mixed-use district around old train station

Public Art

A mix of ingredients
Adjustments to plan and uses over time
You get to design the future.

Show people “what’s in it for you”

Prioritize the public realm, maximize choice and opportunity, and allow flexibility