October 15, 2015

To:

Mayor & City Council

From:

City Manager

Subject:

Various Transportation related Issues – status report

This brief report is to provide the status of various transportation related issues that impact the City of Brisbane is some capacity.

1. Relocation of CalTrain Railyard (4th & King). This is a study that is being done by the SF Planning Department as part of an economic development effort by SF for the area currently being used as the CalTrain northern terminus and rail yard for both maintenance of their fleet as well as overnight storage. The official name of this study is "Railyard Alternatives and I-280 Boulevard Feasibility Study".

When we last met with SF Planning Department staff they indicated that their study of alternatives would be completed sometime in the last quarter of 2016. From there additional planning on a preferred site would commence that they estimate would take 12 to 18 months. Subsequent to that environmental clearance (CEQA and EIR activities) would take from 18 months to 5 years. No funding for a final project has been identified and the lead agency (CalTrain) has not agreed to any specific result.

2. High Speed Railyard – staff did meet with HSR in early September. The purpose of the meeting was for HSR to inform us that they are again studying a San Jose to San Francisco segment of the HSR project. In that study they will evaluate a potential rail maintenance yard in the Brisbane Baylands. They will also be studying a rail maintenance yard in the San Jose to Merced segment, specifically in the City of Gilroy.

Number of acres, type of activities, specific location have not been identified. HSR continues to have little to no understanding the nature of the underlying property. This was true 5 or so years ago and continue today. They have identified a summer 2017 schedule for their EIR work on the two segments under study by the Northern California project group, but also have noted that calendar may slip. That is not to say that a specific project would be identified in that time frame. Timing for a project is likely many years off.

One final note regarding HSR: If and when the State of California were to purchase or acquire property in Brisbane, that property would no longer be subject to our rules or regulations. Property would no longer be subject to property taxes and there is no legal obligation on the part of the State to provide any economic relief or compensation to the City.