

Highgrove Metrolink comments over the last eight years!

Please look at the dates of the following statements:

Excerpts prepared Jan. 14, 2010

(Not in sequence)

Ann Mayer, current Executive Director RCTC: (Press Enterprise, Feb. 15, 2009)

“We have to put stops where they will serve the most people”.

Marion Ashley, Riverside County Supervisor: (Letter, Oct. 14, 2009)

“Over the course of more than a decade, the Riverside County Transportation Commission has considered and repeatedly rejected the request of Highgrove residents for Metrolink service.”

Bob Buster, Riverside County Supervisor: (Statement Oct. 11, 2006)

“Highgrove is at the fulcrum, the pivot point of transportation between the 2 counties. You can not ignore the geographic reality that both the freeway and major rail lines and there is available land that will soon be snapped up for other uses. This is a key sight for the future of the Inland Empire”

Bob Buster, Riverside County Supervisor: (Letter July 17, 2006)

“Highgrove is the right place for a regional, intermodal station, at the junction of the main lines and the 215 freeway. Highgrove still has ample land and the community and Grand Terrace want the station”.

Mary Crayton, RCTC Commissioner from Canyon Lake: (RCTC meeting Feb. 11, 2009)

Stated that she *“was not satisfied why Highgrove has not been considered and that they never went to Highgrove to look at the property”*. She stated: *“they should consider the property in Highgrove”*.

Roger Berg, RCTC Commissioner from Beaumont: (RCTC meeting Feb. 11, 2009)

“The Highgrove station may have some merit, more parking is needed and gridlock will only get worse”.

James Potts, RCTC Commissioner from San Jacinto: (RCTC meeting Feb. 11, 2009)

“It is the right project for the right time and it would open up other areas where seniors could go instead of just driving locally”.

Robin Low, RCTC Commissioner from Hemet: (RCTC meeting Feb. 11, 2009)

“Recognized the amount of work that has been done on this project and said they need to revisit this idea”.

Jeff Stone, Riverside County Supervisor: (RCTC meeting Feb. 11, 2009)

Was sympathetic to the concerns of those living near the track and said that the I-215 is reaching capacity and that people need to get out of their cars, onto the tracks and to their destinations.

Bill Emmerson. California State Assembly- Dist. 63: (Letter Aug. 14, 2006)

"I am very supportive of bringing a Metrolink Station to Highgrove because I agree that it is an appropriate location to help solve traffic congestion for this fast growing area".

Mark Hanson, UCR Professor (emeritus): (Letter Feb. 22, 2009)

"For us the "no brainer" aspect of the sitting decision comes down to which station could provide the greatest service to commuters of the region when the Metrolink trains come on line. That has to be Highgrove where one station could serve in three directions: San Bernardino, Riverside and the PVL".

University Neighborhood Association: (Letter Oct. 21, 2005)

"Our meeting was standing room only and by a unanimous show of hands, we voted to support a train stop in Highgrove".

(Four years later)

University Neighborhood Association: (Letter Nov. 17, 2009)

"Our community continues to support this concept because that location seems to offer greater overall flexibility. In addition to servicing Metrolink traffic from the PVL, the Highgrove station establishes services to existing Riverside and San Bernardino traffic, and opens opportunities to increase the number of potential riders through the expanded capacity and the flexibility to serve them".

Riverside Land Conservancy: (Letter Oct. 18, 2005)

"At this time we see no objection to development of this parcel for such a Metrolink Station, but want you to be aware early on, that the development and any crossing of the Springbrook Arroyo should provide reasonable protection for the natural habitat and an undercrossing for the Regional Trail as well as habitat usage".

City of Loma Linda: (Letter Jan. 24, 2002)

"This is to advise that the City Council at the regular meeting of Jan 22, unanimously supported your efforts and the Riverside County Service Area 126 Advisory Board's recommendation to the Riverside County Transportation Commission to site a Metrolink station stop in Highgrove".

San Bernardino Sun Newspaper: (Article Dec. 31, 2006)

"San Bernardino County Supervisor Dennis Hasnsberger believes there is enough demand for a Metrolink station in the Highgrove area. "It's a very worthwhile objective", Hansberger said. "Unfortunately, the people in Riverside County who have jurisdiction have not shown a lot of interest. But we are willing to try to get that discussion going".

City of Grand Terrace Resolution: (Passed unanimously Dec. 13, 2001)

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Grand Terrace, does hereby recommend that the Riverside County Transportation Commission grant a Metrolink Station stop at Highgrove when planning for future track upgrading for Metrolink service on the San Jacinto Industrial Spur".

(Eight years later)

City of Grand Terrace: (Letter Dec. 29, 2009)

“The City of Grand Terrace continues to believe that a Metrolink stop in Highgrove would benefit the city and its residents”.

Tony Petta, First Mayor of Grand Terrace 1978: (Letter June 23, 2006)

“I encourage you and your staff to seriously consider building a Metrolink Station in Highgrove”.

Tony Petta, Retired Grand Terrace Mayor: (Public comments Dec. 11, 2009)

“It’s absolutely favorable to our community”

Hugh J. Grant: Former Chairman San Bernardino L. A. F. C. O., Former S. A. N. B. A. G. and Omnitrans Boards: (Letter June 21, 2006)

“I have become aware of the important need to situate a Metrolink stop in our neighboring community of Highgrove, in Riverside County. Due to the fact that the nearest stops at this time are in San Bernardino and Riverside, servicing the transportation needs for the large population in between, with valid predictions of sizable increases in the near future, seem to me to be self-evident”.

Southern California Association of Governments (S. C. A. G.): (Aug. 30, 2007)

“In the latest State of the Region Report, Southern California received an “F” for transportation mobility. The region has been the most congested in the country for the past two decades”.

JoAnn Johnson Manager Grand Terrace Senior Center: (Letter Feb. 23, 2009)

“I strongly support a Metrolink Station in Highgrove and I know that many others in Grand Terrace do also”.

William A. Shopoff, The Shopoff Group: (letter Feb. 23, 2009)

“Since Highgrove is a natural railroad junction point where two railroad lines meet between Riverside and San Bernardino, a commuter train stop in Highgrove would benefit the entire region. This location is only ½ mile east of the congested I-215 Freeway that has exits at Center Street. It is also only about one mile northeast of the new \$381 million dollar 60/91/215 interchange that was just completed, and about 3 miles south of the I-215/I-10 interchange. Both major interchanges are between Riverside and San Bernardino and the Highgrove location is also between Riverside and San Bernardino”.

Anthony Mize, Builder: (Letter Feb. 24, 2009)

“It is our opinion that the junction point of the Metrolink train traffic between the City of Riverside and the City of San Bernardino and the Perris Valley Line is a very logical location for a new station. In this day of “NIMBY” on just about everything, it would seem to us that if a community wants to work together to revitalize itself by embracing something like this then RCTC should give it careful, thoughtful consideration” .

Kirk Wallace, Builder: (Letter Oct. 21, 2009)

“We feel this station would be very beneficial to the community not only because of the established residents but with the future development that will impact the area of Highgrove”.

Bobbie Kay Forbes, Terra Loma Real Estate: (Letter Feb. 25, 2009)

“As a local Realtor I believe the area would benefit having a Metrolink Station in Highgrove. There are many people in our community that use the Metrolink a few times a week to get to LA for work. When I am showing property to people from out of the area they will ask about the location of Metrolink stations. And as more people in the area are financially stressed by the economy and the price of commuting they will be more encouraged to use Metrolink if it is closer to home”.

Byron Matteson 14 year Mayor of Grand Terrace: (Letter June 23, 2006)

“I think the commuter trains will gain even more popularity in the near future as our area continues to experience rapid growth and our freeway systems become more and more congested. Proper planning is essential in being able to handle these future transportation needs and I hope the new Highgrove Station will be approved soon, to help alleviate some of these ongoing traffic problems”.

Highgrove CSA 126 Resolution: (Nov. 27, 2001)

“Highgrove community adopted a 15 point resolution outlining the benefits of a Metrolink station stop in Highgrove”.

Highgrove Project Area Committee: (Petition Jan. 8, 2002)

“The Project Area Committee (P. A. C.), for the redevelopment of the Highgrove area, hereby submits this recommendation that a Metrolink Station stop be implemented at Highgrove when the tracks are upgraded for commuter service on the San Jacinto branch”.

Robert and Nancy Rice, Retired Highgrove residents: (Letter Feb. 20, 2009)

“We are in our Seventies, and don't like to drive very far. With a station near home, we could go, go, go, and not have to worry about traffic”.

George Saunders, commuter from Grand Terrace to Orange County for 7 years: (Letter Feb. 20, 2009).

“With the ever expanding usage of the train it has become increasingly difficult to get to, and to find parking at Downtown Riverside station. An additional stop on the route between Riverside and San Bernardino would be helpful”.

William H. Addington, Civil Engineer since 1975-Retired: (Public comments Dec. 11, 2009)

“It is really important to Grand Terrace, Loma Linda and Highgrove to have a station. The opportunity is there now and if passed by, it won't be available. The site is well located and the problems could be mitigated with good engineering. This is the time to act!”

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We also have additional letters of support from:

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|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Terry and Lori Carlstrom, G. T. | 2-23-2009 |
| James Lasby, Highland | 2-20-2009 |
| Ron and Cynthia Cruz, Highgrove | 2-26-2009 |
| Melanie Zimmermann, Highgrove | 2-23-2009 |
| Barbara McCoy, Highgrove | 2-23-1009 |
| Ardie Barnett, Highgrove | 2-26-2009 |
| Ron and Geri Barnett, G. T. | |

The above information does not include residents who have signed the circulated petition for a Highgrove station nor does it include names of those who signed the on-line petition on the web site: www.highgrovehappenings.net

Our requests consist of 3 items:

1. Build a Metrolink station stop next to the BNSF main line at Highgrove.
2. Build the Highgrove station first.
3. Name the station "Highgrove".