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# Assembly California Legislature



**RUDY SALAS, JR.**  
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, THIRTY-SECOND DISTRICT

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AND MATH

September 15, 2020

Tom Richards, Vice Chair  
Board of Directors  
California High-Speed Rail Authority  
770 L Street, Suite 620  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: High-Speed Rail Project Impact to Wasco and Communities in California's 32nd Assembly District

Dear Mr. Richards,

I am writing today with regard to the High Speed Rail's (HSR) fiscal and public safety impacts on the City of Wasco and its residents. The High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) has demonstrated its continued commitment to mitigate surrounding city impacts throughout the planning and early stages of construction. Accordingly, it is my hope that HSR engages with the City of Wasco to address the current fiscal and public safety impacts that the former Wasco Farm Labor Housing property presents to the City and residents in my district.

While I appreciate HSRA's contributions to the City of Wasco and Kern County to mitigate the impacts of HSR, I am writing today to ask for the HSRA's engagement on the current blighted condition of the former farm labor housing complex. I acknowledge that the HSRA has created jobs for local residents, has made significant contributions to local nonprofits, and has collaborated with the City of Wasco to develop and construct Rosaleda Village. Unfortunately, since the facility was vacated due to HSR, the property now poses a threat to public safety, attracting transient inhabitants, graffiti, and crime to the area. With the City of Wasco's general fund budget for the fiscal year 2018-19 totaling \$6,278,146, and the demolition totaling \$5,051,214, it is a clear demonstration of the enormous fiscal impact this project will have on the rural community of Wasco.

For these reasons, it is my hope that the High-Speed Rail Authority strongly considers the City of Wasco's request to work with and financially support the demolition of the unsafe abandoned complex that remains within the city as a result of the construction of the High-Speed Rail. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Chief of Staff Carla Castilla, at (916) 319-2032.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. SALAS".

RUDY SALAS  
Member of Assembly  
32nd District  
RS: ct

