



# California Governor Gavin Newsom Scraps High-Speed Train Because It Is Too Expensive

Governor Newsom announced in his 'State of the State' address that the plan to connect San Francisco to Los Angeles by high-speed rail "would cost too much and, respectfully, would take too long," he told legislators. The price of the train rose from an initial estimate of \$37 billion in 2008 to nearly \$100 billion according to an estimate last year, and the earliest it would have been finished is in 2033. He said the state would still build a portion of the system under construction in the rural Central Valley, denying that it would be a "train to nowhere." He said the state would not send \$3.5 billion back to the federal government to be spent by President Donald Trump. The new governor also devoted much of his speech to attacking President Trump over "fear-mongering" over a "so-called border crisis."

California Governor Gavin Newsom announced Tuesday in his "State of the State" address at the California State Capitol in Sacramento that he

**would abandon the state's high-speed rail system because it was too expensive.**

The plan to connect San Francisco to Los Angeles by high-speed rail "would cost too much and, respectfully, would take too long," he [told](#) legislators. He said the state would still build a portion of the system under construction in the rural Central Valley, denying that it would be a "train to nowhere." He said the state would not send \$3.5 billion back to the federal government to be spent by President Donald Trump.

But Newsom said the state could not afford the total cost – even with what he noted was a "record-breaking surplus" in the state's coffers, thanks to the ongoing economic recovery.

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# Senate Intelligence Committee Has Found Zero Direct Evidence of Trump Campaign Colluding with Russia

After two years and 200 interviews, the Senate Intelligence Committee is approaching the end of its investigation into the 2016 election, NBC reported, "Both Republicans and Democrats are telling us that they found no direct evidence of a conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia, which after all was the big question that everyone was asking." Meanwhile, special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation continues without oversight and Democrats continue to pursue the impeachment of Trump.

NBC

News admitted on Tuesday that the Senate Intelligence Committee has found zero direct evidence of the Trump campaign colluding with Russia.

The news will no doubt come as a great relief to the multiple Trump associates who had their homes raided and were thrown in

prison and  
forced to plead guilty for made-up process crimes such as  
“lying to  
congress” or “lying the FBI.”

From [NBC News, “Senate has uncovered no direct evidence of conspiracy between Trump campaign and Russia”](#):

*After two years and 200 interviews, the Senate Intelligence Committee is approaching the end of [its investigation](#) into the 2016 election, having uncovered no direct evidence of a conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia, according to [both Democrats and Republicans](#) on the committee.*

*But investigators disagree along party lines when it comes to the implications of a pattern of contacts they have documented between [Trump associates](#) and Russians – contacts that occurred before, during and after Russian intelligence operatives were seeking to help Donald Trump by leaking hacked Democratic emails and attacking his opponent, Hillary Clinton, on social media.*

*“If we write a report based upon the facts that we have, then we don’t have anything that would suggest there was collusion by the Trump campaign and Russia,” said Sen. Richard Burr of North Carolina, the Republican chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said last week in an interview with CBS News.*

*Burr was careful to note that more facts may yet be uncovered, but he also made clear that the investigation was nearing an end.*

*“We know we’re getting to the bottom of the barrel because there’re not new questions that we’re searching for answers to,” Burr said.*

***Democratic Senate investigators who spoke to NBC News on condition of anonymity did not dispute Burr’s characterizations, but said they lacked context.***

*“We were never going find a contract signed in blood saying, ‘Hey Vlad, we’re going to collude,’” one Democratic aide said.*

We were never going to find any hard evidence, folks. All that talk of the Trump camp “collusion,” “conspiracy” and “treason” with Russia didn’t actually mean anything.

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# Port of Long Beach, CA: Customs and Border Protection Seized Record-Setting 1.7 Tons of Meth Worth \$1.29 Billion

US border officials made the largest methamphetamine drug bust on US soil at the Long Beach port in mid-January. Three shipping containers, intended to be exported to Australia, were filled with speakers stuffed with 3,810 pounds of meth, and also contained 55.9 pounds of cocaine and 11.5 pounds of heroin. Australian officials said the total street value of the haul was \$1.29 billion and contained 17 million doses. Authorities arrested two Americans and four Australians, but they have not disclosed whether the drugs were manufactured in America or who supplied them.

The bust is the third major seizure in a matter of weeks by border officials. The other two busts were in Arizona, including the seizure of 254 pounds of fentanyl, the largest ever bust for that drug, on January 31st and 3,500 pounds of marijuana and over 220 pounds of meth near Gila Bend.

A joint [drug bust](#) between [Australian](#) and U.S. authorities in mid-January resulted in a record 1.7 tons of [methamphetamine](#)

[being seized](#) at Los Angeles/Long Beach seaport.

[Customs and Border Protection](#) announced the seizure of the three containers on Thursday, which were intended to be shipped to Australia before being searched on Jan. 11. The containers were filled with speakers “artfully” stuffed with the drugs.

“There’s no question that the criminal organization behind this scheme has been dealt a significant blow,” Joseph Macias, special agent-in-charge for Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Los Angeles, said in a statement. “Along with our law enforcement partners here and around the world, we continue in a day-to-day battle against the blight of methamphetamine that continues to devastate our communities. Through a collaborative effort – pooling our information, resources and expertise – we are keeping this dangerous contraband from reaching our streets and potentially saving lives.” In addition to the 3,810 pounds of meth, the shipment also contained 55.9 pounds of cocaine and 11.5 pounds of heroin. Australian officials said the total street value of the haul was \$1.29 billion.

The bust was the largest amount of methamphetamine ever seized in the United States, according to police.

Authorities said six people have been arrested in the scheme – two Americans and four Australians. The Americans were identified by Australian police as a 52-year-old man and 46-year-old woman

living in  
Woodstock, Victoria.

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