



**HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR  
JOINT POWERS AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MEETING AGENDA**

**Thursday, April 20, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.**

Members of the public are welcome to participate via computer or by phone.  
Please mute phones/computer audio, until you are called to speak.

HDC JPA Board Meeting Virtual Info:

Please Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device.

Please click this URL to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89221978621?pwd=QXJpdUY4aVFNRjg2Y09tVzdPb29hQT09>

Meeting ID: 892 2197 8621 Passcode: 528376

Please Join from Phone by Dialing +1 669 900 9128 (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 892 2197 8621 Passcode: 528376

**TELECONFERENCE AVAILABLE AT THESE ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS**

<p><b>Kathryn Barger</b> County of Los Angeles Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple Street Conference Room 864 Los Angeles, CA 90012</p>	<p><b>Elizabeth Becerra &amp; Bob Harriman</b> Victorville - City Hall 14343 Civic Drive Conference Room A Victorville, CA 92392</p>	<p><b>Gabriel Reyes &amp; Daniel Ramos</b> Adelanto – City Hall 11600 Air Express Way Adelanto, CA 92301</p>
<p><b>Darrell Dorris</b> Lancaster - City Hall 44933 Fern Avenue Conference Room A Lancaster, CA 93534</p>	<p><b>Eric Ohlsen &amp; Richard Loa</b> Palmdale - City Hall 38300 Sierra Highway Suite B Palmdale, CA 93550</p>	<p><b>Ara Najarian</b> 500 N. Brand Blvd Suite 830 Glendale, CA 91203</p>

**HDC JPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS**

Chair Kathryn Barger, Supervisor, 5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District, Los Angeles County  
Vice Chair Elizabeth Becerra, Council Member, City of Victorville  
Gabriel Reyes, Mayor, City of Adelanto  
Darrell Dorris Council Member, City of Lancaster  
Eric Ohlsen, City of Palmdale  
Ara Najarian, Chair, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER ALTERNATES**

Richard Loa, Council Member, City of Palmdale  
Bob Harriman, Council Member, City of Victorville  
Daniel Ramos, Council Member, City of Adelanto

**HDC JPA STAFF**

Executive Director: Arthur V. Sohikian  
Legal Counsel: Laura Jacobson, Deputy County Counsel, Los Angeles County

**OPEN SESSION**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Kathryn Barger, Chair
- 2. ROLL CALL** – Arthur Sohikian, Secretary
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

HDC JPA is conducting business remotely. HDC JPA is committed to ensuring that our public meetings are accessible to the public and that the public can observe and address the meeting and to participate by providing written and oral comment on HDC matters. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Executive Director Arthur Sohikian at [sohikian@highdesertcorrrior.org](mailto:sohikian@highdesertcorrrior.org). At this time members of the public can address the HDC JPA Board of Directors regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the agency that are not separately listed on this agenda. When possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Board in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

**HDC JPA BOARD CONSENT CALENDAR**

*All items listed under the Consent Calendar are routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Board, any public comments on any of the Consent Calendar items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless Board Members request items be removed from the Consent Calendar.*

- 5. HDC JPA BOARD MEETING MINUTES/RECAP OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Recommended Action:** Approve January 12, 2023, HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes/Recap of Proceedings held via virtual zoom webinar format.

**HDC JPA BOARD REGULAR CALENDAR**

**6. HDC JPA PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET – Executive Director**

**Recommended Action:**

A. Approve High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget of \$1,947,500. Attachment A – HDC JPA Proposed FY23-24 Budget and HDC JPA FY22-23 Approved Budget.

B. Authorize the Executive Director and Los Angeles County Counsel to execute all necessary funding agreements with Metro.

C. Authorize the Executive Director contractual signing authority for an amount not to exceed \$79,000.

D. Authorize the Executive Director and Los Angeles County Counsel to execute necessary agreements with Los Angeles County Public Works for procurement support services.

**7. HDC JPA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH AVS CONSULTING, INC. FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND AGENCY ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT SERVICES – Executive Director**

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the AVS Consulting, Inc. Contract Extension, including subcontractors, for a not-to-exceed annual amount of \$430,000 to conduct the agency management activities of the HDC JPA including those of the Executive Director and Agency Administration Support Services with a period of performance from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, pending funding of the FY2023-2024 adopted budget.

**8. HDC JPA CONTRACT AMENDMENT 9 WITH TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS – Executive Director**

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 9, including subcontractors, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$710,000 to complete the project's remaining tasks related to National Environmental Policy Act and Record of Decision processes with a period of performance from June 30, 2023, to June 30, 2024, pending funding in the FY2023-2024 adopted budget.

**9. CALIFORNIA HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT UPDATE — LaDonna DiCamillo, Southern California Regional Director**

**Recommended Action:** Receive and file report.

**10. HDC JPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – HDC JPA Executive Director**

**Recommended Action:** Receive and file report.

**11. HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**12. ADJOURNMENT. Next HDC JPA Board Meeting is July 13, 2023, 2pm.**



**AGENDA REPORT – BOARD ITEM 5**

**High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency**

Date: April 20, 2023

To: Board of Director Members of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency (HDC)

From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director

Subject: **HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes/Recap of Proceedings**

**Recommendation Action:**

Approve January 12, 2023, HDC JPA Board Minutes/Recap of Proceedings held via virtual zoom webinar format.

**1. January 12, 2023 HDC JPA CALL TO ORDER – Chair Barger calls virtual Board meeting to order at 2:00pm**

**2. ROLL CALL – Quorum Present, 6 voting members as follows:**

**HDC JPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS – present/voting members**

Kathryn Barger, Supervisor, 5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District, Los Angeles County  
Elizabeth Becerra, Council Member, City of Victorville  
Eric Ohlsen, Council Member, City of Palmdale  
Darrell Dorris, Council Member, City of Lancaster  
Gabriel Reyes, Mayor, City of Adelanto

**HDC JPA STAFF**

Executive Director: Arthur V. Sohikian

Legal Counsel: Laura Jacobson, Deputy County Counsel, Los Angeles County

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Director Dorris**

**4. HDC JPA VIRTUAL/REMOTE BOARD MEETING OPT-IN UNDER AB 361 –**

**Approved** on Motion by Director Dorris, second by Vice Chair Becerra

KB	EB	EO	DD	GB	
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Public Comment**

**6. HDC JPA BOARD MEETING MINUTES/RECAP OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Recommended Action:** *Approve November 9, 2022, HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes/Recap of Proceedings held via virtual zoom webinar format.*

**Approved.** Motion by Vice Chair Becerra, seconded by Director Dorris

KB	EB	EO	DD	GB	
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

**7. BRIGHTLINE WEST HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT UPDATE — *Brightline West Staff***

**Recommended Action:** *Receive and file report.*

**Approved** on Motion by Director Reyes, second by Vice Chair Becerra

KB	EB	EO	DD	GB	
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

**8. HDC JPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – *HDC JPA Executive Director***

**Recommended Action:** *Receive and file report.*

**Approved** on Motion by Director Dorris, second by Vice Chair Becerra

KB	EB	EO	DD	GB	
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

**9. HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. ADJOURNMENT.** Next HDC JPA Board Meeting is April 20, 2023, 2pm.



## **AGENDA REPORT – BOARD ITEM 6**

### **High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency**

Date: April 20, 2023

To: Board of Director Members of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency (HDC)

From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director

Subject: **HDC JPA PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET**

#### **Recommended Action:**

A. Approve the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget of \$1,947,500. Attachment A – HDC JPA Proposed FY23-24 Budget and HDC JPA Current FY22-23 Budget.

B. Authorize the Executive Director and Los Angeles County Counsel to execute all necessary funding agreements with Metro.

C. Authorize the Executive Director contractual signing authority for an amount not to exceed \$79,000.

D. Authorize the Executive Director and Los Angeles County Counsel to execute necessary agreements with Los Angeles County Public Works for procurement support services.

#### **Highlights of Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget/Background:**

- Extend the contract for one year with Transportation Solutions to complete the CEQA addenda/NEPA environmental clearance process with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) as the federal lead with the petition filed with the Surface Transportation Board for interoperability with other high-speed rail systems. With the completion of these environmental compliance items, the HDC JPA high speed rail project will be positioned to pursue federal, state, and local funds for the next phase of development which is design/engineering. Contract extension for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 for a not to exceed cost of \$710,000.
- Extend the professional services contract with AVS Consulting, Inc. to provide the HDC JPA with executive director and agency administration support services including subcontracting additional senior level management and administrative support services staff to conduct project management functions and additional administrative activities. As the high speed rail project develops, AVS Consulting, Inc. will need to add subcontracted staff with no change to the hourly rate structure. The contract extension is for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 for a not to exceed amount of \$430,000.

- Procure a Financial Advisory Services firm for ongoing financial planning, modeling, and analysis that will be required to support project development into the preliminary engineering phase that includes to further develop and refine the funding plan, analyze options for local funding contributions toward the project, assess alternative delivery options and the viability of public-private partnerships through a Value for Money analysis, provide updated ridership forecasting as needed, perform additional financial modeling and diligence on financing options, identify credit enhancement strategies, and support discussions with potential market participants. For FY24, it is estimated that \$135,000 will fund the FA contractor to perform work at a level of effort that may be required for financial modeling and grant management. The total FA contract is estimated to cost \$3.5M over three fiscal years.
- Procure the professional services of a Program Management Support Services (PMSS) firm to the HDC JPA with overseeing the work related to Preliminary Engineering (PE) including development of statement of work, contract development, contract administration support, federal and state grant agreement compliance, procurement support services, set and monitor program control and project scheduling control functions, cost estimating, configuration management, project management, and other support services. For FY24, it is estimated that \$250,000 will fund the PMSS contractor to perform work at a level of effort that will be commensurate with transitioning from the environmental phase into the PE phase of the project that will consist of developing the Preliminary Engineering (PE) statement of work and contract development. PMSS contract is estimated to cost \$6.23 million over three fiscal years.
- The County of Los Angeles will be providing auditing, controller, and legal counsel services for an estimated amount of \$175,000 from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
- Authorize the Executive Director and Los Angeles County Counsel to execute necessary agreements with Los Angeles County Public Works for procurement support services.
- Technical planning support and grant application assistance funding is available to take full advantage of the state and federal grant opportunities such as the Biden Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Bill and State SB1 Cycle 6 TIRCP grant. It is estimated that \$165,000 will fund this activity for FY24.
- Community-based stakeholder engagement funding is available and will continue to be strategically important in the upcoming phase of project development.
- The Executive Director signing authority is \$79,000.

ATTACHMENT A

High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024		
Task	Budget Description	Budget by Category
1	<p><b>1. Re-evaluate National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) &amp; Record of Decision (ROD):</b> Complete NEPA Re-evaluation/RE-validation and Record of Decision (ROD) with Final Review by Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). Due to Federal review of submittals this task is scheduled to be completed by FRA in in FY24. Tasks for FY24 include:</p> <p>-Addressing FRA comments, provide revised version for FRA final review, Prepare final version for NEPA Re-evaluation and prepare a ROD for FRA final approval.</p> <p>-Draft a Letter of Concurrence and re-initiate ROD Section 7 consult. Complete Section 106 process, Tribe Consultation. Prepare CEQA addendum for state funding. Conclude Surface Transportation Board (STB) Petition Approval process.</p> <p>2. Conclude Surface Transportation Board (STB) Petition Approval process.</p> <p>3. Update Service Development Plan</p>	\$ 710,000
2	<p><b>HDC JPA Management:</b> Provide the HDC JPA with executive director and agency administration support services including subcontracting additional senior level management and administrative support services staff to conduct project management functions and additional administrative activities. As the high speed rail project develops, AVS Consulting, Inc. will need to add subcontracted staff with no change to the hourly rate structure.</p>	\$ 430,000
3	<p><b>Project Management Support Services (PMSS).</b> Procure the professional services of a program management support services (PMSS) firm to support HDC JPA with overseeing the work related to Preliminary Engineering (PE) including statement of work, contract development, contract administration support, federal and state grant agreement compliance, procurement support services, set and monitor program control and project scheduling control functions, cost estimating, configuration management, project management, and other support services. For FY24, the PMSS contractor will be performing work at a level of effort that will be commensurate with transitioning from the environmental phase into the PE phase of the project which will consist of developing the Preliminary Engineering (PE) statement of work and contract development. PMSS contract is estimated to cost \$6.23 million, (11% of PE contract of \$56.62 million), plus a 15% Contingency, adding \$934,500 for a total estimated PMSS cost of approximately \$7.165M. Start 3rd Qtr FY24</p>	\$ 240,000
4	<p><b>Financial Advisory (FA) Services</b> - Procure ongoing financial planning, modeling, and analysis will be required to support project development into the preliminary engineering phase that includes to further develop and refine the funding plan, analyze options for local funding contributions toward the project, assess alternative delivery options and the viability of public-private partnerships through a Value for Money analysis, provide updated ridership forecasting as needed, perform additional financial modeling and diligence on financing options, identify credit enhancement strategies, and support discussions with potential market participants. FA contract is estimated to cost \$3.5M (based on annualized cost of existing Metro HDC task order for FA services), YOE would be 2023 to 2026, so 5% escalation adds \$0.175M, for a total of \$3.675M. 15% Contingency adds \$0.55M for a total FA contract of \$4.23M. Start 2nd/3rd Qtr FY24.</p>	\$ 135,000
5	<p><b>Technical/Planning &amp; Grant Funding Application Assistance:</b> Provide technical/planning assistance to support the agency planning functions and provide grant application assistance for state and federal grant funding under the recent Biden Infrastructure Bill and other federal and state funding categories such as the Notifications of Funding Opportunity issued by FRA or USDOT.</p>	\$ 165,000
6	<p><b>Los Angeles County Treasury, Auditor-Controller, Legal Counsel, Public Works, LA Metro Reviews-</b> Monthly Support for AP/AR functions, Budget Oversight, Board Meetings staffing, Agency Oversight &amp; Compliance Items, Procurement Oversight/RFP process, and contract execution.</p>	\$ 175,000
7	<p><b>Audit Services: County of Los Angeles Audit Services</b></p>	\$ 20,000
8	<p><b>LA Metro Funding Agreement Audit Services</b></p>	\$ 20,000
9	<p><b>Multi-Media Promotion, Materials &amp; Advertising</b></p>	\$ 30,000
10	<p><b>IT Support, GIS, Software &amp; Website Mgmt.</b></p>	\$ 22,500
	<b>Total Proposed FY24 Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,947,500</b>



**ATTACHMENT A**

**High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency Budget for 2022-2023**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Task Description</b>	<b>Budget by Category</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1.1 Complete NEPA Re-evaluation/RE-validation and Record of Decision (ROD) tasks including:</b> -Addressing FRA comments, provide revised version for FRA review, Prepare final version for NEPA Re-evaluation and prepare a ROD for FRA final approval. -Draft a Letter of Concurrence and re-initiate Section 7 consult. Complete Section 106 process, Tribe Consultation. Prepare CEQA addendum for state funding <b>1.2 Conclude Surface Transportation Board (STB) Petition Approval process.</b> <b>1.3 Update Service Development Plan</b>	\$ 720,000
<b>2</b>	<b>Technical/Planning &amp; Grant Funding Application Assistance:</b> Provide technical/planning assistance to support grant application assistance for state and federal funding.	\$ 145,000
<b>3</b>	<b>HDC JPA Management:</b> Oversee Agency Management, Technical Analysis and Grant Applications, Equity Focused Planning and Engagement, & Administration.	\$ 182,970
<b>5</b>	<b>Los Angeles County Treasury, Auditor-Controller and Legal Counsel-</b> Monthly Support for Board Meetings, Review Board Action Items, Review of Compliance Issues, Procurement Support.	\$ 39,000
<b>6</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Administration Staff Support:</b> Next phase of project development requires additional staff to conduct additional planning tasks and project management.	\$ 105,000
<b>7</b>	<b>Audit Services:</b> To conduct San Bernardino County Closeout Audit and annual LA County Audit. (San Bernardino Audit Services: \$6,825 + San Bernardino In-Kind: \$2,686= \$9,511)	\$ 14,030
<b>8</b>	<b>Multi-Media Promotion, Materials &amp; Advertising</b>	\$ 12,000
<b>9</b>	<b>IT Support, GIS, Software &amp; Website Mgmt.</b>	\$ 10,000
<b>10</b>	<b>Website Creation and Creative Design (Logo)</b>	\$ 8,500
	<b>Total Budget 2022-2023</b>	<b>\$ 1,236,500</b>

<b>High Desert Corridor JPA Available Funds with Transfer of Funds from Dissolution of Previous HDC JPA to Inaugurated HDC JPA</b>		
Original HDC JPA Budget FY 2022-2023		\$ 1,236,500
Add: San Bernardino County Staff Time - In Kind		\$ 2,686
Add: Interest Income		\$ 1,068
<b>Total Reconciled Budget FY 2022-2023 Prior to Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 1,240,254</b>
Less Expenses as of 12/31/2022		\$ 93,625
<b>Total Reconciled Budget After Expenditures at Dissolution 12/31/2022</b>		<b>\$ 1,146,629</b>
Add HDC JPA Fund Balance 07/01/2022 - Pre-Dissolution		\$ 130,286
<b>Available/Ending Fund Balance 12/31/2022 - At Dissolution</b>		<b>\$ 1,276,915</b>
Add: Fair Value Adjustment by County of San Bernardino		\$ 6,705
<b>Total Funds Transfer from County of San Bernardino to County of Los Angeles on 01/10/2023</b>		<b>1,283,620</b>



**AGENDA REPORT – BOARD ITEM 7**  
**High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency**

Date: April 20, 2023

To: Board of Director Members of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency (HDC)

From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director

Subject: **HDC JPA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH AVS CONSULTING, INC. FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND AGENCY ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the AVS Consulting, Inc. Contract Extension, including subcontractors, for a not-to-exceed annual amount of \$430,000 to conduct the agency management activities of the HDC JPA including those of the Executive Director and Agency Administration Support Services with a period of performance from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, pending funding of the FY2023-2024 adopted budget.

**Background:**

In October 2020 after a public procurement process, AVS Consulting, Inc. was unanimously selected by the HDC JPA to provide contracted professional services for the Executive Director at an hourly rate of \$165, and Agency Administration Support Services at an hourly rate of \$80. In April 2022, the HDC Board extended the contract performance period with no hourly rate increase from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023 for a total contract value of \$182,970.

As the HDC High Speed Rail Project advances, the Agency needs to sub-contract additional senior level management and administrative support service staff to assist with project management functions and additional administrative activities. As the High Speed Rail Project develops, AVS Consulting, Inc. will need to add sub-contracted staff with no change to the hourly rate structure for the period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024 for a not to exceed amount of \$430,000.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AGENCY  
AND AVS CONSULTING, INC.

HDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SUPPORT SERVICES (AVS CONSULTING, Inc.)  
CONTRACT AMENDMENT

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

AVS Consulting, Inc. Contract Amendment

Contract Amendment by and between HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AGENCY (HDC JPA) and AVS CONSULTING, INC., to provide the Agency with Executive Director and Agency Administration Support Services for the general purpose of planning, operation, and maintenance of transportation and utility corridors throughout the Counties' high deserts, as more specifically stated in the HDC Joint Powers Agreement dated September 26, 2022. The AVS Consulting, Inc. contract first became effective October 29, 2020 and changes were made on July 1, 2022.

Section 3. is amended to read:

**3. Term and Budget**

Subject to compliance with all terms and conditions, this Contract Amendment is effective as of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, for a not-to-exceed annual amount of \$430,000. All other terms, conditions and covenants remain in full force and effect.

Section 17. is added to read:

**17. Electronic Signatures**

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same Agreement. The parties shall be entitled to sign and transmit an electronic signature of this Agreement (whether by facsimile, PDF, or other mail transmission), which signature shall be binding on the party whose name is contained therein. Each party providing an electronic signature agrees to promptly execute and deliver to the other party an original signed Agreement upon request.

All other terms, conditions and covenants remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency ("HDC JPA") and AVS Consulting, Inc. ("Consultant") have each caused this Amendment to be subscribed by its respective duly authorized officers, on its behalf.

**HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR, JPA**

**AVS CONSULTING, INC.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KATHRYN BARGER**  
**CHAIR, HDC JPA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**ARTHUR V. SOHIKIAN**  
**PRESIDENT**



**AGENDA REPORT – BOARD ITEM 8**  
**High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency**

Date: April 20, 2023

To: Board of Director Members of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency (HDC)

From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director

**Subject: HDC JPA CONTRACT AMENDMENT 9 WITH TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS**

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 9, including subcontractors, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$710,000 to complete the project's remaining tasks related to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Record of Decision (ROD) processes with a period of performance from June 30, 2023, to June 30, 2024, pending funding in the FY2023-2024 adopted budget.

**Background:**

This Amendment No. 9 ("Amendment") to the Professional Services Agreement for Rail Connector Implementation Study, effective as of July 1, 2023, is made and entered into by and between the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency ("HDC JPA") and Transportation Solutions ("Consultant").

**Most Recent Prior Amendments**

On April 14, 2022, the HDC JPA entered Amendment No. 8 to the Professional Services Agreement for Rail Connector Implementation Study with Consultant for the purpose of obtaining the services of consultant to prepare the HDC Rail Component Record of Decision (ROD). Section III of Amendment No. 8 to the Agreement provided that the Term of the Agreement period was to commence upon issuance of a written Notice to Proceed issued by the HDC JPA and was to continue in full force and effect through June 30, 2023, or upon completion of the final Transportation Solutions interim report, whichever is sooner.

I. **Scope of Work**

Paragraph V of the original Agreement, Scope of Work, is hereby amended and will supplement the existing Scope of Work with the following Scope of Work:

Complete Re-evaluation/Re-validation and Record of Decision (ROD) tasks including:

- Addressing FRA comments, provide revised version for FRA review, prepare final version for NEPA Re-evaluation and prepare a ROD for FRA final approval.
- Draft a Letter of Concurrence summarizing design changes and formal re-initiation of Section 7 consultation
- Complete Section 106 process, including Tribe Consultation
- Prepare CEQA addendum for state funding
- Complete other necessary to receive NEPA and ROD approvals.

Conclude Surface Transportation Board Petition approval process and application waiver request and other related tasks to complete this phase of project development for the HDC high speed rail project. This would close out one of the major pending items for dissolution of the HDC JPA.

II. Compensation and Invoicing

Paragraph VI of the original Agreement set forth the compensation and invoicing for the original Scope of Work and is hereby amended to add the following:

The method of payment for the expanded Scope of Work set forth in this Amendment will be based on a total sum, subject to availability and receipt of funding, not to exceed \$710,000.

In addition, Consultant will also be authorized to subcontract for Financial, Legal, and Engineering upon approval of the HDC JPA staff. Progress payments may be made monthly in arrears based on the percentage of Work completed by consultant or subcontractors.

Consultant shall submit progress reports with its invoices. Payments to Consultant shall be made within sixty (60) calendar days after receipt and approval by the HDC JPA.

Amendment 9 not to exceed \$710,000 budget breakdown is as follows:

- Transportation Solutions -- \$126,000
- Venable LLP- \$130,000
- AECOM - \$21,000
- CirclePoint - \$433,000

III. Other Terms of the Agreement

All other terms of the Agreement remain in full force and effect.

**See Following Page for Signature Page**

**Electronic Signatures**

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same Agreement. The parties shall be entitled to sign and transmit an electronic signature of this Agreement (whether by facsimile, PDF or other mail transmission), which signature shall be binding on the party whose name is contained therein. Each party providing an electronic signature agrees to promptly execute and deliver to the other party an original signed Agreement upon request.

All other terms, conditions and covenants remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency ("HDC JPA") and Transportation Solutions ("Consultant") have each caused this Amendment to be subscribed by its respective duly authorized officers, on its behalf.

**HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JPA**

**TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Arthur Sohikian**  
**Executive Director**

**Neil Peterson**  
**President**



**CALIFORNIA**  
High-Speed Rail Authority

HDC JPA April 20, 2023 BOARD ITEM 9 - CALIFORNIA HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT UPDATE

# High Desert Corridor JPA Board Meeting California High-Speed Rail Update

April 20, 2023





**CALIFORNIA**  
High-Speed Rail Authority

# Statewide and Southern California Overview

LaDonna DiCamillo, Southern California Regional Director  
California High-Speed Rail Authority

# California High-Speed Rail

- 500-mile project
- Connecting:
  - » San Francisco Bay Area
  - » Central Valley
  - » Los Angeles
- Total trip time: less than 3 hours



- Electrified service, 220 mph
- Creating jobs
- Reducing GHG emissions
  - » 400k cars off the road annually
- Increasing rail ridership



# 2022 Progress

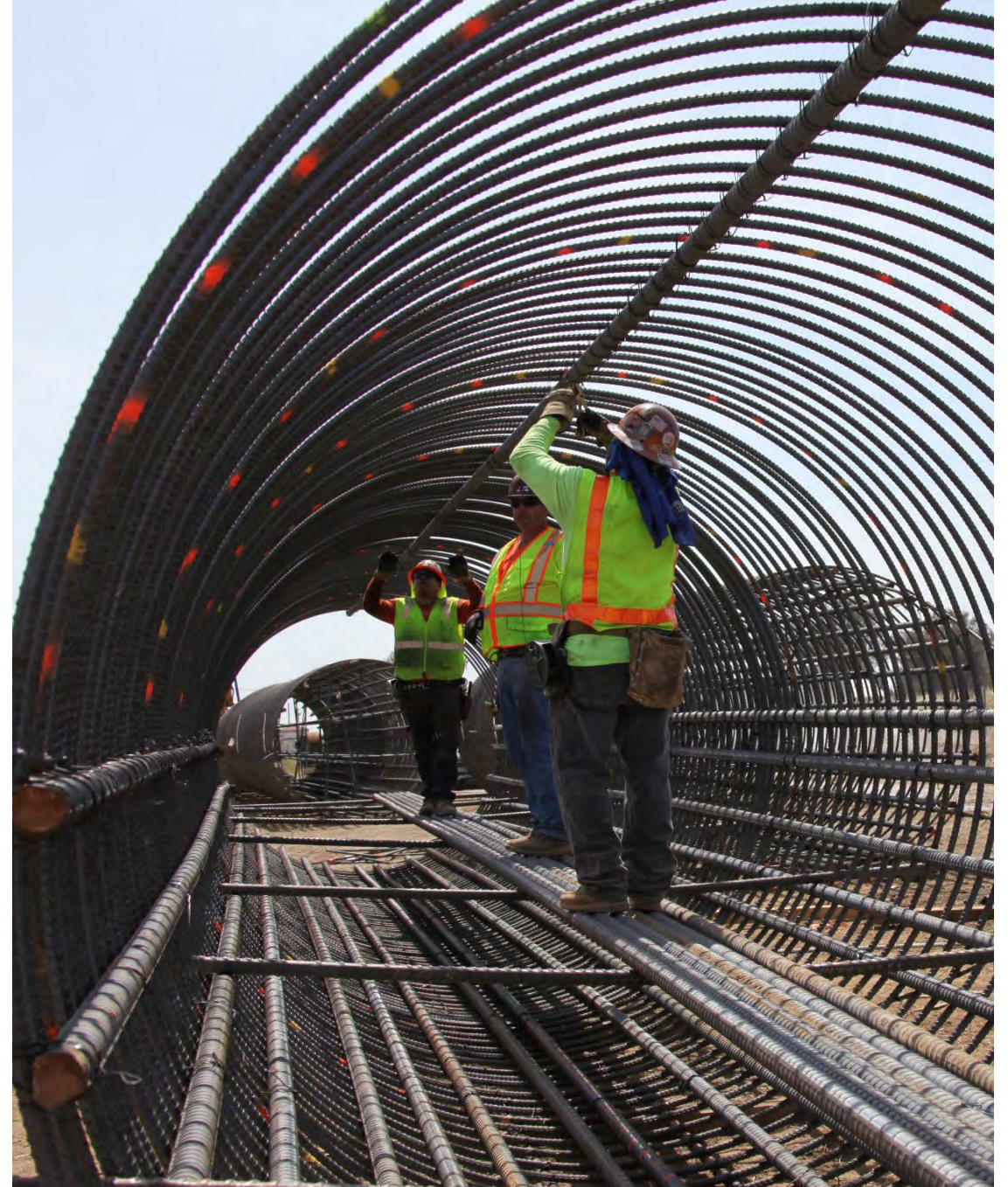
## Today:

- 422 of 500 miles environmentally cleared
- 119 miles under construction
- Merced to Madera and Poplar Avenue to Bakersfield in Advanced Design
- Central Valley Station design work underway
- Bookend Projects Underway
  - » Caltrain electrification construction underway
  - » Funding committed for LAUS improvements



# 2022 Progress Continued

- More than 10,000 Construction Jobs Created Since Construction Began
  - » 1,000+ Construction Workers Dispatched to Sites Daily
  - » 34 Active Construction Sites
- Pre-Apprenticeship Training Center
  - » 12-week program targeting veterans, at-risk young adults, minority and low-income Central Valley residents
- 762 Small Businesses Employed
  - » 259 are Disadvantaged Business Enterprises
  - » 93 Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises





## Bay Area Valley to Valley Segment

- 159 Miles
- 100% environmentally cleared
- Eligible to begin advanced design in 2023
- Corridor electrification underway on 51 miles through Caltrain Electrification Project
- Corridor grade separation coordination
- Segment construction is unfunded

Goal: Advance design work in 2023, identify “shared corridor” early capital investments, develop funding plan options

# Central Valley Initial Operating Segment

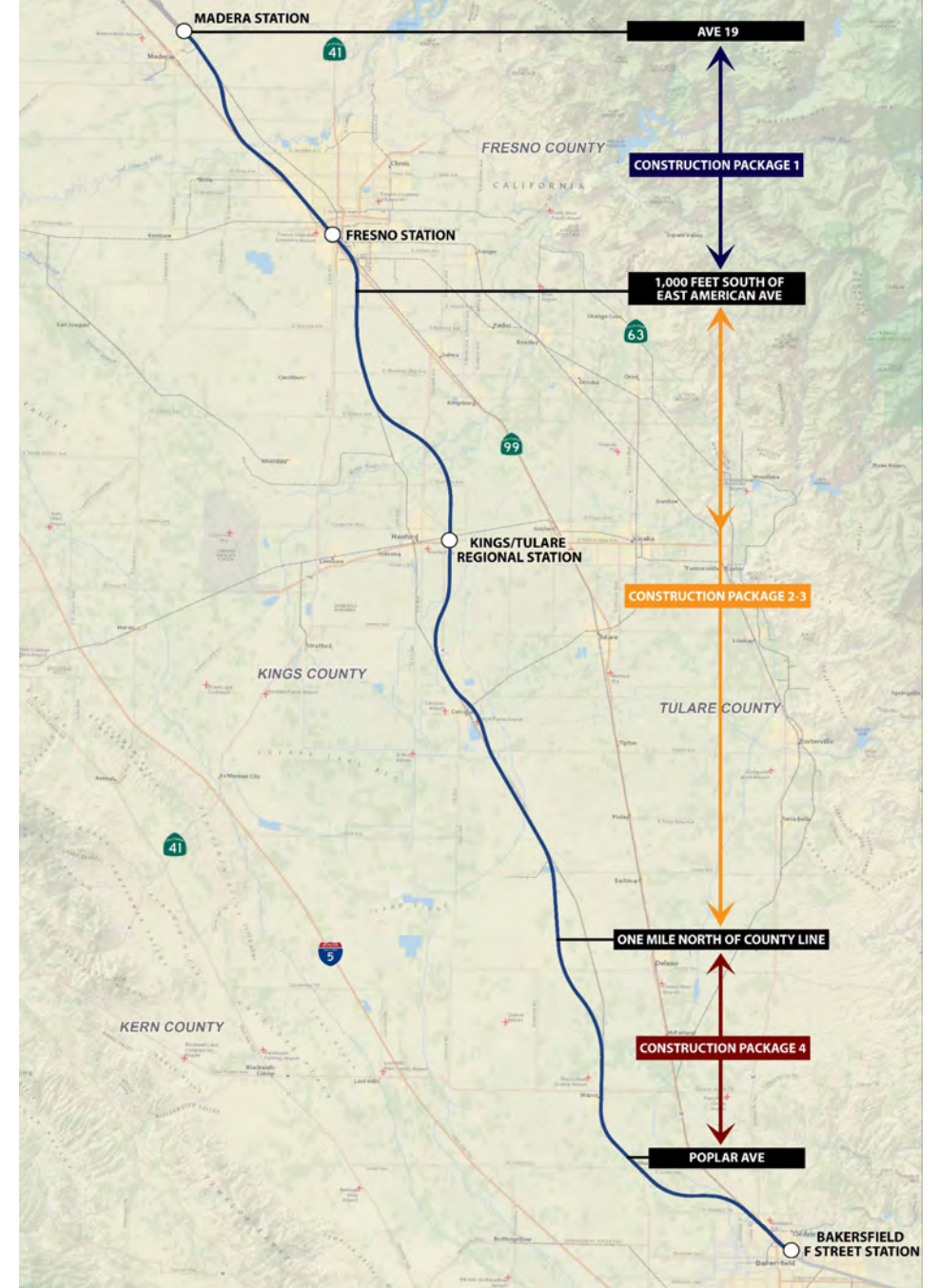
- 171 Miles
- 100% environmentally cleared
- 119 miles under construction
- 52 miles starting advanced design (pre-construction work)
- Design for Central Valley Stations awarded October 2022
- Revised Track and Systems procurement in 2023

Goal: Initial operations by 2030-2033

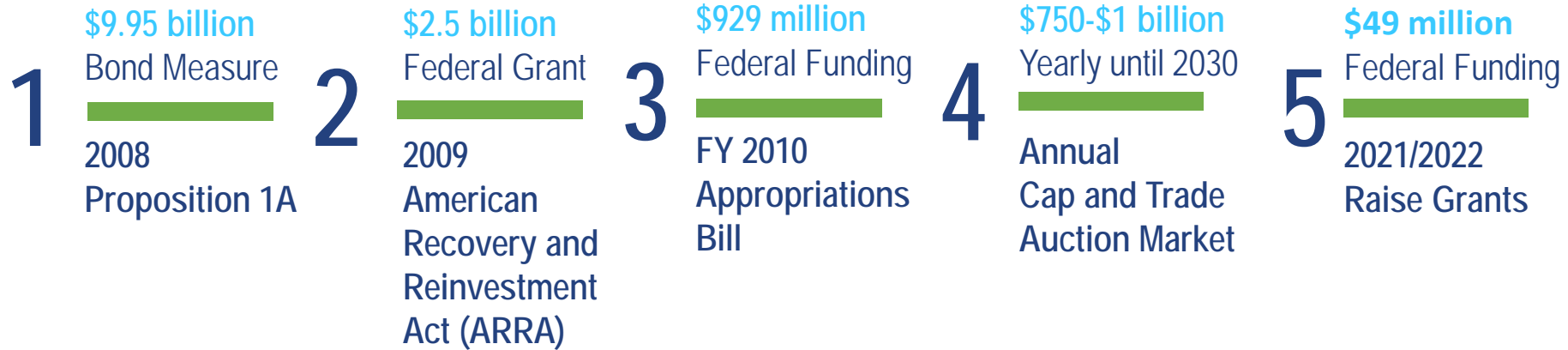


# Upcoming Milestones

- 2023
  - » CP 4 construction completion
  - » Track and Systems Procurement
- 2025/2026
  - » CP 1 and CP 2/3 construction completion
- 2028
  - » Track and Systems completion for 119-mile test track
  - » Stations Completed on 119
- 2029/2030
  - » Testing on 119-mile test track
  - » Completion of extensions into Merced and Bakersfield



# Project Funding





# Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail

## Application 1: California Inaugural High-Speed Service

**\$2.8 billion request**



Procure six electric trains



Construct the second track on the 119-mile high-speed rail from Madera to Poplar Avenue



Construct the Fresno Station



Complete final design and early works including ROW acquisition and utility relocation on the Merced and Bakersfield extensions

## Application 2: Phase 1 Corridor Configuration Design

**\$194 million request**



Configuration level design for:

- » San Jose to Merced
- » Bakersfield to Palmdale



Begins crucial geotechnical studies in the Pacheco Pass and Tehachapi Mountains

# Southern California Completion of Phase 1

- 164 Miles
- 92 miles (56%) environmentally cleared in 2022 (remainder in 2023/24)
- Some advanced design could begin in 2023
- LA Union Station Phase A progressing
- Segment construction is unfunded

Goal: Complete all environmental; begin advanced design in 2023; identify “shared corridor” early capital investments; develop segment funding plan options



# Southern California Connectivity

-  High-Speed Rail Station
-  High-Speed Rail
-  Planned High-Speed Rail *Brightline West*
-  Intercity Bus Service
-  Coaster *Oceanside to San Diego*
-  Amtrak Pacific Surfliner
-  Metrolink Lines
-  Metro Rail/Metro Bus



  
MAP NOT TO SCALE

# Southern California Connectivity

-  High-Speed Rail Station
-  High-Speed Rail
-  Planned High-Speed Rail *Brightline West*
-  Intercity Bus Service
-  Coaster *Oceanside to San Diego*
-  Amtrak Pacific Surfliner
-  Metrolink Lines
-  Metro Rail/Metro Bus

To Fresno and San Francisco

To Santa Barbara

To Las Vegas

Bakersfield to Palmdale  
ROD/NOD Complete

To Las Vegas, Nevada

To San Luis Obispo

Burbank Airport HSR

Ventura

BUR

Los Angeles Union Station

Rancho Cucamonga

ONT

San Bernardino

Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs

Riverside

Fullerton

Anaheim ARTIC

LGB

SNA

Perris

VENTURA COUNTY

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

ORANGE COUNTY

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

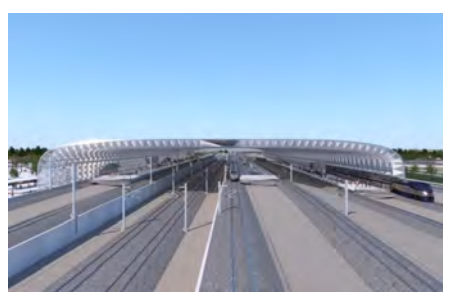


# Southern California Connectivity

-  High-Speed Rail Station
-  High-Speed Rail
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-  Metrolink Lines
-  Metro Rail/Metro Bus





Palmdale Station  
Planning Underway  
Metrolink and potential  
Brightline Connections



  
MAP NOT TO SCALE

# Southern California Connectivity

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
|  | High-Speed Rail Station                           |  | Coaster<br><i>Oceanside to San Diego</i> |
|  | High-Speed Rail                                   |  | Amtrak Pacific Surfliner                 |
|  | Planned High-Speed Rail<br><i>Brightline West</i> |  | Metrolink Lines                          |
|  | Intercity Bus Service                             |  | Metro Rail/Metro Bus                     |

To Fresno and San Francisco

To Santa Barbara

To Las Vegas

Bakersfield

KERN COUNTY

To Las Vegas, Nevada

Palmdale

Victor Valley

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

To San Luis Obispo

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Los Angeles Union Station

Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs

Riverside

LAX

Fullerton

LGB

Anaheim ARTIC

SNA

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

ORANGE COUNTY

Perris

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

## Palmdale to Burbank

- DEIR/S released Sept 2
- Comments due Dec 1
- Preferred alternative SR14A  
28 miles of tunneling



# Southern California Connectivity

-  High-Speed Rail Station
-  High-Speed Rail
-  Planned High-Speed Rail *Brightline West*
-  Intercity Bus Service
-  Coaster *Oceanside to San Diego*
-  Amtrak Pacific Surfliner
-  Metrolink Lines
-  Metro Rail/Metro Bus

To Fresno and San Francisco

To Santa Barbara

To Las Vegas

Bakersfield

KERN COUNTY

Palmdale

To Las Vegas, Nevada

Victor Valley

First HSR to airport station direct connection

VENTURA COUNTY

To San Luis Obispo

Burbank Airport HSR

BUR

Ventura

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

San Bernardino

Burbank to Los Angeles  
ROD/NOD Complete

Rancho Cucamonga

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MAP NOT TO SCALE

# Southern California Connectivity

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-  Intercity Bus Service
-  Coaster
-  Amtrak Pacific Surfliner
-  Metrolink Lines
-  Metro Rail/Metro Bus



Metro on Link US improvements  
\$441 M partnership



MAP NOT TO SCALE



# Southern California Connectivity

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-  High-Speed Rail
-  Planned High-Speed Rail
-  Intercity Bus Service
-  Coaster
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-  Metrolink Lines
-  Metro Rail/Metro Bus



Los Angeles to Anaheim



  
MAP NOT TO SCALE



**CALIFORNIA**  
High-Speed Rail Authority

# Palmdale Station Implementation



# Advance Integrated Station Delivery

Build off of Palmdale planning as well as approved station footprint to advance an integrated station:

- Palmdale 2045 – General Plan Update
  - » 2019 through 2022 (complete)
  - » Zoning update underway
- Avenue Q Complete Streets Projects
  - » 2020 through 2022 (complete)
- High Desert Intercity Rail Corridor Service Development Plan
  - » 2020 through 2023
- PTC Infrastructure Support Project
  - » 2021 through 2023
- Palmdale Sustainable Transportation Plan
  - » 2022 through 2023
- Palmdale Station Master Plan
  - » RAISE grant application submitted 2021
  - » Conducting workshops to refine Master Plan vision and discuss governance for implementation

## FY 2021 USDOT RAISE Grant Application

### Palmdale High-Speed Rail Implementation Master Plan Palmdale, CA

July 12, 2021

RAISE Funding Request: \$1,350,000  
Total Project Cost: \$1,800,000

Submitted by  
California High-Speed Rail Authority



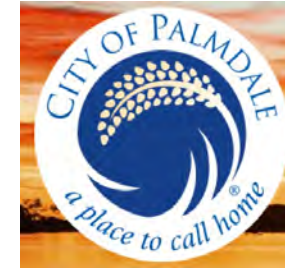
## 2021 RAISE Grant Application



## Palmdale Station Master Plan Area

# Purpose of the Station Implementation Workshops

- Utilize the Palmdale Transit Area Specific Plan (PTASP) and other city work as the foundation for an Integrated Station Master Plan
- Develop a **common vision**, lasting **partnerships**, and an effective station area **governance structure** early in the process to create a successful Master Plan and facilitate its implementation
- Lay the groundwork for the Master Plan to **leverage grant funding** (state and federal)
- Determine the **necessary components** of the Master Plan and the questions it should address to reflect the common vision
- Understand the value and benefits of a Palmdale Station Master Plan that is **co-created by the station partners**



# Next Steps

- Palmdale Station Planning Workshop #5 – Spring/Summer 2023
  - » [Partnerships to Support Implementation Strategy](#)
- Establish topics for additional workshops
- Explore options for governance agreement
- Seek funding for Palmdale Station Master Plan
- Publish Palmdale to Burbank Final EIR/EIS – End of 2023



# CALIFORNIA

## High-Speed Rail Authority

# Questions?



Southern California Regional Office

California High-Speed Rail Authority

355 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 2050

Los Angeles, CA 90071

[www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)



**AGENDA REPORT – BOARD ITEM 10**  
**High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency**

Date: April 20, 2023

To: Board of Director Members of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency (HDC)

From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director

**Subject: HDC JPA Executive Director Report**

**Recommended Action:** Receive and File Report

**Fiscal Impact:** Items mentioned in this report may have a future fiscal impact.

**1. High Desert Intercity High Speed Rail Project in Federal NEPA Environmental Process**

The HDC JPA submitted the High Desert Intercity High Speed Rail Project petition for Reevaluation to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Surface Transportation Board (STB) in April 2021. The FRA is the Lead Agency for the NEPA environmental clearance process which they launched in February 2023.

The High Desert Intercity High Speed Rail Project objective is to progress with the FRA National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to receive the Record of Decision (ROD) and Notice of Determination (NOD) approval in late FY24. With California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) concurrence, this will complete environmental clearance for the high-speed rail project to advance to the next phase of Project Development, which is to conduct 30% level of design engineering.

**2. Federal and State Grant Submittals Opportunities**

On January 26, 2023, The Metro Board of Directors approved \$8.5 million in Measure M HDC funds to use as a local match to the state and federal grant submittals.

On February 10, 2023, the HDC JPA submitted a Cycle 6 SB1 2022 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grant application seeking \$8 million in grant funds. TIRCP grant award announcements are expected April 24, 2023. TIRCP Information can be found at <https://calsta.ca.gov/subject-areas/transit-intercity-rail-capital-prog>.

On March 27, 2023, the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA), on behalf of the HDC JPA, submitted the HDC JPA Federal Railroad Administration Corridor Identification and Development Program grant application seeking \$500,000 and entrance into the Program. The HDC JPA acknowledges the AVTA and is very appreciative of the AVTA for their assistance in submitting the grant application on behalf of the HDC JPA. The Corridor ID Program Information can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/12/20/2022-27559/notice-of-solicitation-of-corridor-proposals-and-funding-opportunity-for-the-corridor-identification>

### 3. Metro HDC Intercity Rail Service Development Plan & Funding Plan

On January 30, 2023, the Metro HDC Intercity Rail Service Development Plan & Funding Plan was shared with the Federal Railroad Administration in Draft form. The Draft Service Development and Funding Plan is funded with \$3.5 million of HDC Measure M funds, \$1.375 million in CalSTA 2018 Transit Intercity Rail Capital Plan State grant funds under the Network Integration category, and \$625,000 from Brightline West (\$250K in cash and \$375K of in-kind contributions).

### 4. High Desert Intercity High Speed Rail Project Map & Project Highlights



2016: High Desert Corridor Multi-purpose corridor receives California CEQA clearance which included a highway and high-speed rail line.

2018: High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (HDC) supports study of an alternative to the HDC 2016 Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA), Highway Component and decides to focus on first phase as the High Desert Intercity High Speed Rail Project of the LPA.

2020: Caltrans declares No Build for the highway portion. Metro and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority focuses on widening SR18/SR138 as a continuous 4-lane highway between the Antelope and Victory Valleys.

April 2021: HDC JPA submits Reevaluation petition to Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Surface Transportation Board (STB) to receive NEPA clearance and receive the Rail Project Record of Decision (ROD/NOD).



The High Desert Intercity High Speed Rail Project proposes a 54-mile corridor (Palmdale to Victor Valley) that can be traveled in roughly 30-minutes with two-stations.

One Station in Palmdale and One Station in Victor Valley: Proposed integration with Palmdale California High Speed Rail Station and Brightline West Desert Xpress Victor Valley Station.

The estimated cost of the HDC Rail Project is \$5.54B in year of expenditure dollars, calculated based on the assumed service operations in 2031 and an escalation rate at 3% per year. Final Design and Construction is estimated at \$3.6B of the \$5.54B Project estimate. Environmental clearance could accommodate doubled track. Future design and cost considerations will determine.

Nealy all the 54-mile route of the HDC high-speed rail project is within Equity Communities in the high desert communities of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

The HDC Rail Project is consistent with the State Rail Plan's objectives to improve connectivity of California's statewide rail network.

The HDC Rail Project supports the state's greenhouse gas reduction efforts and provides economic development and equity benefits for a region with many historically underserved, low-income, and disadvantaged communities.