

**To:** Chairperson and Authority Members      **Date:** January 4, 2002  
**From:** Mehdi Morshed, Executive Director  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 6 – Tunneling Summit Report

**Discussion:**

To provide a forum to address the complex issues associated with the tunneling required for the statewide high-speed train system, a staff and consultant technical conference was held on December 3 and 4, 2001, in the Los Angeles area. Tunneling contractors, specialized tunnel engineers, geologists/geotechnical engineers, and representatives of the Program Management and Regional Study Teams attended the conference as well as Authority staff. In addition, two Board members were in attendance for part of the conference. The conference focused on gaining insights/input regarding feasibility, construction methods and cost assumptions associated with the proposed tunneling. The attendees confirmed the overall feasibility of the tunneling proposed for the statewide high-speed train system. No ‘fatal flaws’ were identified in the tunneling assumptions applied to date. Other more specific conclusions were also drawn from the conference as presented in the attached summary.