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MEHDI MORSHED, Executive Director

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

September 6, 2002

Dear Stakeholder:

Senate Bill 1856, Authored by Senator Costa, was passed by the Legislature and is now scheduled to go before the Governor for his signature. SB1856 would authorize a \$9.95 billion general obligation bond for the November 2004 ballot. \$9 billion would create the State's share of the construction costs for the San Francisco to Los Angeles segment of the high-speed train system as presented in the Authority's business plan. The remaining \$950 million would be dedicated to feeder rail programs to the high-speed rail system. Attached is an SB1856 fact sheet prepared by Senator Costa.

Senate Bill 796, Authored by Senator Costa, was also passed by the Legislature and is currently before the Governor for his signature. This bill would eliminate the Authority's December 31, 2003 sunset date.

These two measures are extremely important to the efforts of building the proposed high-speed rail system in a timely manner. "High-Speed Rail is the Internet of surface transportation and will never be more needed nor less expensive than right now in CA", said Rod Diridon, High-Speed Rail Authority Chair. "The High-Speed Rail Authority and the people of California owe a great debt of thanks to Senator Costa for his long and strong leadership and to Assemblyman Florez for his great efforts in breaking the stalemate in the Assembly", said Rod Diridon, High-Speed Rail Authority Chair.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority's September 18, 2002 public Board Meeting will be held at the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), Committee Room 2-456 at 700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles. The MWD building is located at Union Station, directly adjacent to the historic station (see agenda attached).

This meeting will include presentations from the Cattelus Development Corporation on the Union Station Development Plan and HDR Engineering on the Union Station Run-Through Tracks project. In addition, representatives from Central Japan Railway Company and Japan Railway Technical Service will make presentations on the Japanese Shinkansen ("bullet train") system and their newest Shinkansen trains.



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I would also like to call your attention to a High-Speed Rail Forum being held on September 25, 2002 in San Jose. State Senator Jim Costa and Authority Chair Rod Diridon will be speaking at this community forum hosted by "BayRail Alliance". This public meeting will be held in the Morris Dailey Auditorium at San Jose State from 6:00 PM until 8:30 PM. For more information contact BayRail Alliance at (866) 267-8024 or via email (hsrforum@bayrailalliance.org) or their website (www.bayrailalliance.org/hsrforum).

Comments can be sent to our mailing address, via our website (www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov) or by attending our Authority meetings. The Authority looks forward to your input.

Sincerely,
Mehdi Morshed



Executive Director

