

**CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2004
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA**

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority was called to order on November 10 at 10:15 a.m. at the State Capitol, Assembly Hearing Room 4202, Sacramento, CA.

Members Present: Joseph E. Petrillo, Chair
 Marc Adelman, Vice Chair
 Donna Andrews, Vice Chair
 Fran Florez, Vice Chair
 Rod Diridon, Sr.
 Bob Giroux
 Lynn Schenk
 T.J. Stapleton

Opening Comments

Vice Chair Florez called the meeting to order stating Chair Petrillo would be arriving shortly.

Authority Members' Meetings for Compensation

Vice Chair Florez presented the list of meetings for compensation for approval. Member Adelman moved to approve the list of meetings for compensation. Member Andrews seconded the motion, which carried, 7-0.

Members Reports

Rod Diridon reported on federal funding activity in Washington and the HSGTA's efforts to obtain funding for high-speed rail projects throughout the US.

Vice Chair Florez reported on her meeting with the City of Visalia and tour of the Visalia.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Morshed reported that the Authority submitted the 2005/06 Budget Request to the Administration. Executive Director Morshed stated he has had conversations with MTC regarding the Regional Measure 2 funds available for a statewide ridership/revenue study. A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued by MTC for this study. MTC will also be reviewing the regional rail system in order to coordinate rail improvements including how to coordinate with the high-speed train system.

Executive Director Morshed presented a proposed 2005 calendar for Authority meetings for board review and comment.

Identification of Preferred Alignment and Station Locations

Deputy Director's Carrie Pourvahidi and Dan Leavitt presented part 2 of staff recommendations identifying preferred alignments and station locations for portions of the high-speed train system for board consideration. A copy of this report is available on the Authority website www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov or upon request.

Public Comment

Sam Cannon, Assemblymember Bill Maze

Mr. Cannon presented a letter from Assemblymember Maze supporting the UPRR alignment between Fresno and Bakersfield with a station stop in Visalia.

Olin Woods, Sacramento Area Council of Governments

Mr. Woods stated SACOG supports the selection of the Sacramento Rail Depot station location and the UPRR alignment. However, SACOG requests a modification to the UPRR alignment with a bypass around Galt as well as looking a whole range of options to minimize the impacts of sprawl in the Valley. Additionally, SACOG expressed concern over the cost of the system and the impact it may have on traditional transportation funding sources.

Mayor Bob Link, City of Visalia

Mayor Link, Councilmember Jesus Gamboa, Glen Morris – Visalia EDC, and Steve Salomon – City Manager presented information regarding Visalia and the support for the high-speed rail alignment along the UPRR with a station in Visalia.

Authority Comments

Chair Petrillo stated that the Authority will be taking a straw vote (preliminary non-binding) on the staff's recommendations to provide staff direction for preparation of responses to comments. Vice Chair Florez made a motion to accept the staff recommendations with the exception of the alignment between Fresno and Bakersfield, to allow for the representatives of Visalia to provide further information to the Authority. Member Diridon seconded the straw vote motion, which carried 7-1.

Implementation Plan Presentation

Nick Brand from Systra presented an overview of the Implementation Plan with discussion on selected areas of the Plan. A copy of this presentation is available on the Authority website www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov or upon request.

Public Comment**Robert Patrie, Advocates for Coe Park**

Mr. Patrie thanked the Authority for the removal from consideration of the alignment alternatives through Coe Park. The Advocates for Coe Park group remains concerned about indirect impacts to Coe Park and the ecosystem and would like to be part of a stakeholder group to analyze the impacts.

Alan Miller, TRAC

Mr. Miller stressed the need for an objective study of the future Northern Mountain Crossing study.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.