



**CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY**

BRIEFING: MAY 2010 MEETING AGENDA ITEM #6

TO: Chairman Pringle and Authority Board Members

FROM: Dan Leavitt, Deputy Director

DATE: 04/29/10

RE: San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission MOU

Staff of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (“SJRRC”), the operator of the Altamont Commuter Express, and of the Authority have been engaged in discussions concerning cooperation in the region that includes the Merced to Sacramento portion of the planned high-speed rail line and the Altamont Corridor Rail Project connecting the northern San Joaquin Valley with the Bay Area (collectively, the “Region”).

The Authority and SJRRC are cooperating in evaluating the Altamont Corridor Rail Project, an improvement to the current ACE service which might serve as a feeder to the Statewide HST system. Additionally, SJRRC and the Authority have a mutual interest in the development of the HST system from Merced to Sacramento, and SJRRC has been serving as a local partner to the Authority for the development of that section of the HST system. In order to assist the Authority in its work in the Region, SJRRC is agreeing to provide initial funding in the sum of \$300,000 or more, if available, for the current fiscal year, and additional funds in subsequent years. The money would be applied to the ongoing planning and environmental work within the Region and now underway by the Authority.

Staff and legal counsel for both parties to the proposed MOU are still discussing certain details of the draft MOU. Authority staff expects to make a final recommendation as to language of the proposed MOU at the May 5 and May 6 committee and board meetings. Staff expects to be recommending approval of the MOU at those meetings.

Staff Recommendation

Staff requests approval of Resolution **HSRA10-020**

Attachments:

- SJRRC MOU
- Resolution HSRA10-020