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Dan Richard Re-Elected Chair of the California High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) Board of Directors today re-elected Dan Richard to be its Chair for the next six months. During Richard’s tenure as Chair, the Authority has taken several major steps in preparation for work on the nation’s first high-speed rail system to begin this summer. This includes hiring key staff, forging strong partnerships with local governments and regional rail providers, and certifying the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement on the Merced to Fresno project section.

As Chair, Richard also oversaw the production of the 2012 Business Plan, which contained large cost savings and the highly acclaimed blended approach while reimagining the high-speed rail project as an integrated part of a statewide rail modernization plan.

“When I was elected Chair of the Authority’s Board of Directors, I stated, ‘Our challenge now is to look at what it will take to actually bring this system forward.’ Since that time we have made significant progress toward that goal and are poised to begin construction this summer in the Central Valley and start creating thousands of jobs,” said Board Chairman Dan Richard. “I thank my colleagues on the Board, whose leadership has been critical to these recent successes. The Authority remains committed to transparency and accountability in the high-speed rail project and delivering a program which benefits all Californians.

“The Authority staff offers our sincere congratulations to Board Chair Richard,” said Authority CEO Jeff Morales. “As the chair, he has shown tremendous resolve, focus, and tenacity in putting California’s high-speed rail program, the biggest infrastructure project in the country, on sound footing. We look forward to his continued leadership as the project progresses to the construction phase.”

Richard was an elected member of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District from 1992 to 2004, where he served twice as president of the Board. At the Bay Area Rapid Transit District, Richard led efforts to secure \$4 billion in capital for system rehabilitation projects, the transit system’s expansion to the San Francisco Airport, and seismic retrofit programs.

Richard has been a principal of Dan Richard Advisors since 2010. He was managing partner and co-founder of Heritage Oak Capital Partners, an infrastructure finance firm, from 2007 to 2009 and was senior vice president of public policy and governmental relations at Pacific Gas and Electric Company from 1997 to 2006. Richard also served as Governor Brown's deputy legal affairs secretary from 1982 to 1983 and deputy assistant for science and technology from 1978 to 1979. He was advisor to the chairman of the California Energy Commission from 1978 to 1982.

About California High-Speed Rail Authority

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for planning, designing, building and operation of the first high-speed rail system in the nation. By 2029, the system will run from San Francisco to the Los Angeles basin in under three hours at speeds capable of over 200 miles per hour. The system will eventually extend to Sacramento and San Diego, totaling 800 miles with up to 24 stations. In addition, the Authority is working with regional partners to implement a statewide rail modernization plan that will invest billions of dollars in local and regional rail lines to meet the state's 21st century transportation needs. To learn more visit the Authority's website at cahighspeedrail.ca.gov and join us on [facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail) and follow us at twitter.com/cahsra/

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