



California High-Speed Rail **BRIEFING: INSERT DATE AND AGENDA ITEM**

TO: Chairman Richards and Board Members
FROM: Brian P. Kelly, Chief Executive Officer
DATE: January 21, 2021
RE: Issues Framing the Draft 2020 Business Plan

Summary

Section 185033 of the California Public Utilities Code lays out the requirements for the development and adoption of the biennial Business Plan for the California High Speed Rail Authority. Typically, the Business Plan is required to be submitted to the Legislature on or before May 1st in even-numbered years. Accordingly, the 2020 Business Plan, under normal circumstances, would have been submitted to the Legislature on May 1, 2020. The COVID-19 global pandemic changed that.

The 2020 Business Plan's adoption and submittal has been delayed three times this year under agreements between the Authority, the Newsom Administration and the Legislative leadership. Primarily, the delays to the adoption and submittal of the 2020 plan have been due to COVID-19 impacts on the Legislature's schedule and due to specific requests by members of the Legislature and their Peer Review Group for the Authority to conduct certain reviews or take other certain actions relative to the Business Plan development.

The current schedule for the 2020 Business Plan's adoption assures the release of a Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan followed by a 30-day period for public comment. The schedule also provides sufficient time for legislative oversight hearings prior to the plan's final adoption by the Authority Board.

The current schedule for the adoption of the Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan is as follows:

- **Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan to be released no later than February 12, 2021**
- **Final 2020 Business Plan to be submitted to the Legislature no later than April 15, 2021**

Background

The Authority CEO will provide a presentation to the Board at the January 21st Board Meeting that will describe the key issues framing the Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan, a plan that will be fully presented to the board for discussion at the February Board meeting. The presentation will include information relating to the following issues:

- COVID-19 impacts on the Authority's work;
- Project Advancement;
- Project Schedule;
- Results of the Independent Review of the Authority's Ridership Projections;

- The Memorandum-of-Understanding (MOU) executed between the Authority, the California State Transportation Agency and the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA);
- A new Federal Partner

Related documents and presentations will be reviewed at the January 21st meeting.

Prior Board Action

The Board received a Draft 2020 Business Plan in February 2020. Status updates have been provided at each of the last few Board Meetings.

Discussion

N/A

Legal Approval

This is an informational item, and by itself, does not have a legal impact

Budget and Fiscal Impact

This is an informational item, and by itself, does not have a budget or fiscal impact

REVIEWER INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Reviewer Name and Title: Brian Annis Chief Financial Officer	Signature verifying budget analysis: Original Signed January 14, 2021
Reviewer Name and Title: Alicia Fowler Chief Counsel	Signature verifying legal analysis: Original Signed January 14, 2021

Recommendations

This item is informational

Attachments

MOU between the Authority, San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA) and the California State Transportation Agency