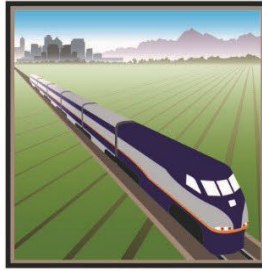


Supervisor **Diane Burgis**, Contra Costa County  
Supervisor **Vito Chiesa**, Stanislaus County  
Supervisor **Rodrigo Espinosa**, Vice-Chair, Merced County  
Supervisor **Leticia Gonzalez**, Madera County  
Supervisor **David Haubert**, Alameda County  
Supervisor **Patrick Hume**, Chair, Sacramento County  
Supervisor **Sal Quintero**, Fresno County  
Supervisor **Amy Shuklian**, Tulare County  
Supervisor **Doug Verboon**, Vice-Chair, Kings County  
Mayor **Nancy Young**, City of Tracy



## **San Joaquin** Joint Powers Authority

Alternate **Aaron Meadows**, City of Oakley  
Alternate **Richard O'Brien**, City of Riverbank  
Alternate **Josh Pedrozo**, Merced County  
Alternate **Jose Rodriguez**, City of Madera

Alternate **Bobbie Singh-Allen**, Sacramento County  
Alternate **Rey León**, City of Huron  
Alternate **Eddie Valero**, Tulare County

Alternate **Miguel Villapudua**, San Joaquin County

### **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING** **Thursday, July 18, 2024 – 9:30 AM**

San Joaquin Council of Governments  
555 East Weber Avenue  
Third Floor  
Stockton, CA 95202

#### **Teleconference Locations** 📞

Scott Haggerty Heritage  
House  
4501 Pleasanton Ave.  
Pleasanton, CA 94566

2800 W. Burrel Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291

El Capitan Room  
156 S. Broadway, Suite 230  
Turlock, CA 95380

5018 E Townsend  
Fresno, CA 93727

Kings County  
Government Center  
Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
1400 W. Lacey Blvd.  
Hanford, CA 93230

**Members of the public may attend the meeting at the above addresses, or may observe the meeting by using the link or dial-in information below:**

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86976694548?pwd=ckwgs1sxt7Wp4lLxcsUiKed3a9P6gH.1>**

**Passcode: 269519**

**Or Telephone: +1 669 444 9171 US**

**Webinar ID: 869 7669 4548**

**Passcode: 269519**

#### MEMBER AGENCIES

Alameda County - Contra Costa County Transportation Authority - Fresno Council of Governments - Kings County Association of Governments - Madera County Transportation Commission  
Merced County Association of Governments - Sacramento Regional Transit - San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission - Stanislaus Council of Governments - Tulare County Association of Governments

Persons wishing to address the Authority on any item of interest to the public regarding SJJPA and the San Joaquins Rail Service shall state their names and address and make their presentation. The Authority cannot take action on matters not on the agenda unless the action is authorized by Section 54954.2 of the Government Code. If a member of the public wishes to make a public comment:

1. Submit written comments to SJJPA staff via email at [publiccomments@sjrrc.com](mailto:publiccomments@sjrrc.com), in which staff will read the comment aloud during the public comment period.
2. Complete a Request to Speak form (available at the entrance to the meeting room) and give it to the SJJPA Secretary before the Item is considered by the Board.
3. Join from the Zoom meeting link and notify Staff by alerting them via the “Raise hand” or “Chat” function; call +1 669 444 9171, enter Webinar ID: 869 7669 4548#, enter Meeting Passcode: 269519#, dial \*9 to raise your hand when you wish to speak, and dial \*6 to unmute when you are requested to speak. Please note that if participating using Zoom, all members of the public will be placed on mute until such times allow for public comments to be made.

**Public comments should be limited to three (3) minutes per comment.**

*This Agenda shall be made available upon request in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132) and the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code § 54954.2). Persons requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission staff, at 209-944-6220, during regular business hours, at least twenty-four hours prior to the time of the meeting.*

*All proceedings before the Authority are conducted in English. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Authority regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission located at 949 E. Channel Street, Stockton, California, 95202 during normal business hours or by calling (209) 944-6220. The Agenda and meeting materials are also available on the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Website: <http://www.sjipa.com/Home>.*

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

Chair Hume

**2. Public Comment**

*Persons wishing to address the Authority on any item of interest to the public regarding SJJPA and the San Joaquins Rail Service shall state their names and address and make their presentation. The Authority cannot take action on matters not on the agenda unless the action is authorized by Section 54954.2 of the Government Code. If a member of the public wishes to make a public comment:*

1. *Submit written comments to SJJPA staff via email at [publiccomments@sjrrc.com](mailto:publiccomments@sjrrc.com), in which staff will read the comment aloud during the public comment period.*
2. *Complete a Request to Speak form (available at the entrance to the Board Room) and give it to the SJJPA Secretary before the Item is considered by the Board.*

3. Join from the Zoom meeting link and notify Staff by alerting them via the “Raise hand” or “Chat” function; call +1 669 444 9171, enter Webinar ID: 869 7669 4548#, enter Meeting Passcode: 269519#, dial \*9 to raise your hand when you wish to speak, and dial \*6 to unmute when you are requested to speak. Please note that if participating using Zoom, all members of the public will be placed on mute until such times allow for public comments to be made.

Public comments should be limited to three (3) minutes per comment.

3. **Consent Calendar**
  - 3.1 Approve Minutes of May 17, 2024 Board Meeting **ACTION**
4. **Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving Amendment 02 to the Agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Preliminary Engineering (PE) Consulting Services for the Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project Increasing the Compensation Amount by \$3,715,455 for a New Amount Not-To-Exceed \$6,936,250 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**  
(Dan Leavitt/Autumn Gowan) **ACTION**
5. **San Joaquins Rebranding Update** **INFORMATION**  
(David Lipari/Marques Cook)
6. **Adjournment**  
The next regular meeting is scheduled for:  
Friday, September 20, 2024 – 11:00 am

**SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**  
Special Meeting of July 18, 2024

**Item 3.1**

**ACTION**

**Minutes of San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority May 17, 2024 Board Meeting**

The regular meeting of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (Authority) was held at 11:00 am on May 17, 2024. Board Members attended this meeting via teleconference, videoconference, or in person.

**1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call**

Vice Chair Verboon called the meeting to order at 11:01 am.

Vice Chair Verboon led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff announced that the noticed teleconference location at 700 H. Street in Sacramento was open to the public for viewing and participating in the meeting.

Board Members Present: Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume

Board Members Absent: Haubert, Quintero

**2. Public Comment**

Chair Hume arrived at 11:21 am.

Rose Shapley, a Hanford resident, expressed her concern over the lack of overpass or underpass crossings at Hanford City Railroad Crossings and highlighted the health and safety concerns for the residents of Hanford.

Doug Kerr, a representative from the Rail Passenger Association of California, expressed his sentiments regarding the replacement of café cars with the current food services offered on board.

Johnathan Esposito, a Legislative and Safety Representative for Amtrak Local 1732 representing conductors and assistant conductors, asked if the Authority would have to cut trains or other services with the recent budget deficits. Additionally, Mr. Esposito asked for clarification on why a new Venture coach car has been taken out of service to store checked bags when a baggage car is already part of the train set. The final question posed by Mr. Esposito was why the Authority restricts the carriage of checked firearms when other transportation carriers, such as airlines and bus services, still allow this service. In regard to all of his questions, Mr. Esposito asked if these policies will still be in effect when the Venture car cab baggage care are placed in service.

Chair Hume stated staff will address comments offline.

**3. Presentation by the City of Hanford on the Kings-Tulare HSR Connectivity and Land Use Planning**

Dan Leavitt and Jason Waters presented this item.

There were no public comments.

**4. Consent Calendar**

- 4.1 Approve Minutes of March 22, 2024 Board Meeting
- 4.2 SJJPA Operating Expense Report
- 4.3 Washington Update
- 4.4 Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Ratifying And Affirming the Executive Director’s Action in Negotiating and Executing the Grant Application and Further Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate and Execute any Additional Grant Agreements, Standard Agreements, Program Supplemental Agreements, Fund Exchange Agreements, and/or Fund Transfer Agreements to Obtain Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Funding in the Amount of \$54,500,000 Towards the Madera High-Speed Rail Station Phase 2 Project

**ACTION  
INFORMATION  
INFORMATION  
ACTION**

There were no comments on the Consent Calendar.

**M/S/C (Verboon/Shuklian) to approve Items 4.1-4.4 of the Consent Calendar. Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024, by the following vote to wit:**

- AYES: 8 Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume
- NOES: 0
- ABSTAIN: 0
- ABSENT: 2 Haubert, Quintero

**5. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Adopting the Final 2024 San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Business Plan Update and Authorizing and Directing the Executive Director to Execute Any and All Documents Associated with the Master Fund Transfer Agreement Supplements for Operations, Administration, and Marketing Budgets for Fiscal Year 2024/2025**

**ACTION**

Michael Hanebutt gave a presentation on this item.

Michael Barnbaum, a member of the public, asked if there was a date for reinstating the seventh round-trip.

Mr. Hanebutt stated there is no set date at this time but will keep Mr. Barnbaum informed as more information becomes available.

**M/S/C (Verboon/Espinosa) to Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Adopting the Final 2024 San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Business Plan Update and Authorizing and Directing the Executive Director to Execute Any and All Documents Associated with the Master Fund Transfer Agreement Supplements for Operations, Administration, and Marketing Budgets for Fiscal Year 2024/2025**

**Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024, by the following vote to wit:**

AYES: 8 Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair  
Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 2 Haubert, Quintero

- 6. Approve and Authorize Executive Director to Execute Third Amendment to Agreement Between the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority and the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission for Managing Agency Services in the Oversight of the San Joaquin Intercity Rail Service.**

**ACTION**

Stacey Mortensen presented this item.

Mr. Barnbaum praised the working relationship that has been developed.

Director Chiesa stated that continuity of the agreement is the only viable option.

**M/S/C (Chiesa/Verboon) to Approve and Authorize Executive Director to Execute Third Amendment to Agreement Between the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority and the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission for Managing Agency Services in the Oversight of the San Joaquin Intercity Rail Service.**

**Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024, by the following vote to wit:**

AYES: 8 Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair  
Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 2 Haubert, Quintero

- 7. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for Construction for the Lake to West Escalon Project for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$19,650,000 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

**ACTION**

Tamika Smith and Autumn Gowan gave a presentation on this item.

There were no public comments.

**M/S/C (Young/Shuklian) to Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for Construction for the Lake to West Escalon Project for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$19,650,000 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

**Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024, by the following vote to wit:**

AYES: 8 Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair  
Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 2 Haubert, Quintero

8. **Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for Construction for the Oakley Station Platform Project for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$6,374,508 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

**ACTION**

Nathan Alastra and Ms. Gowan gave a presentation on this item.

Director Chiesa asked if any of the excess roadway improvements were funded.

Director Burgis stated the project location is beautiful and believes this investment will get more riders on board.

Mr. Barnbaum asked for clarification if this project will be in addition to the Antioch station or if it would be replacing the current Antioch station.

Chair Hume stated questions will be addressed offline.

**M/S/C (Burgis/Verboon) to Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for Construction for the Oakley Station Platform Project for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$6,374,508 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

**Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024, by the following vote to wit:**

AYES: 8 Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair  
Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 2 Haubert, Quintero

9. **Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Amendment 01 to the Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for Construction of the Metal Security Fencing Increasing the Amount by \$1,400,000 a New Not-To-Exceed \$1,889,000 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

**ACTION**

Cameron Paler and Ms. Gowan gave a presentation on this item.

Vice Chair Verboon asked for clarification on where funding was coming from.

Stacey Mortensen explained funding is coming from the state.

Director Young stressed the importance of this project providing safety barriers around railroad tracks.

Johnathan Esposito, a Legislative and Safety Representative for Amtrak Local 1732 thanked Director Young for recognizing the safety factors needed.

**M/S/C (Verboon/Young) to Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Amendment 01 to the Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for Construction of the Metal Security Fencing Increasing the Amount by \$1,400,000 a New Not-To-Exceed \$1,889,000 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

**Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024, by the following vote to wit:**

AYES: 8 Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair  
Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 2 Haubert, Quintero



- 10. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Extending the Revenue Management Pilot for the San Joaquins Intercity Passenger Rail Service to December 31, 2024, and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project Including Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

David Lipari gave a presentation on this item.

Director Chiesa asked for clarification on what the bus issue was about.

Mr. Lipari stated due to peak pricing revenue set in place, performance on the thruway buses was affected.

There were no public comments on this item.

**M/S/C (Verboon/Shuklian) to Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Extending the Revenue Management Pilot for the San Joaquins Intercity Passenger Rail Service to December 31, 2024, and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project Including Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

**Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024, by the following vote to wit:**

AYES: 8 Burgis, Chiesa, Gonzalez, Shuklian, Young, Vice Chair  
Espinosa, Vice Chair Verboon, Chair Hume  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 2 Haubert, Quintero

- 11. Presentation on San Joaquins Rebranding**

INFORMATION

Mr. Lipari gave a presentation on this item and asked the board for their input on rebranding name possibilities.

Vice Chair Verboon and Director Burgis asked how the phrase “Golden State” tested among surveyors.

Mr. Lipari shared challenges with local sports teams using “Golden State.”

Director Young expressed that she likes utilization of the word ‘golden’ but mentioned it needs to connect to the services being provided.

Ms. Mortensen suggested that staff can form an additional focus group regarding branding and bring the item back for discussion.

Director Chiesa also suggested the phrase “Gold Rush” be presented to the focus group.

Director Young stated the connecting factors between the train and the bus services provided through Amtrak is important.

John Andoh with the Redding Area Bus Authority asked how the rebranding would link to thruway buses and if those would be rebranded to stay consistent with the train.

Chair Hume confirmed it would be rebranded as one system based on the information provided on this item.

Mr. Barnbaum suggested starting up an apparel storefront where passengers can get apparel or other goods to promote the rebranding efforts.

**12. Update on the Cross Valley Corridor Phase 1 Bus Service**

**INFORMATION**

Bee Thao and Angie Dow, the Kings County Regional Transit Executive Director, gave a presentation on this item.

Director Chiesa commended Vice Chair Verboon for being an advocate for the Cross-Valley Corridor Project.

There were no public comments on this item.

**13. Update and Discussion of Marketing and Outreach Efforts for Amtrak San Joaquins**

**INFORMATION**

Marques Cook and Gabby Rodriguez gave a presentation on this item.

Mr. Barnbaum asked for clarification on what efforts were being made in reference to the frequency in route 10 between Las Vegas and UC Santa Barbara in Bakersfield.

Ms. Thao stated that she will reach out to address questions and concerns offline.

**14. Board Member Comments**

Director Young asked for the San Joaquins to come out to Tracy events for outreach efforts and announced her last state of the city event on May 29, 2024 at 10:00 am at the Grand Theater in Tracy.

Director Shuklian asked for clarification for the next scheduled meeting

Ms. Mortensen confirmed July 18, 2024 will be the date of the Joint SJRRC and SJJPA board meeting.

**15. Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Mortensen thanked Chair Hume and Director Young for the letters of support provided for recent projects.

Ms. Mortensen discussed how the relationship between partner agencies has evolved over time.

## **16. Adjournment**

Chair Hume adjourned the meeting at 12:04 pm.

The next joint SJRRC and SJJPA meeting is scheduled for:  
July 18, 2024 – 10:00 am

# SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Special Meeting of July 18, 2024

## STAFF REPORT

### Item 4

### ACTION

**Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving Amendment 02 to the Agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Preliminary Engineering (PE) Consulting Services for the Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project Increasing the Compensation Amount by \$3,715,455 for a New Amount Not-To-Exceed \$6,936,250 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority**

#### Background:

The Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project is located in Merced, CA and will enable the San Joaquins to connect with interim High-Speed Rail (HSR) operations at Merced by creating a direct link between the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) alignment and the Merced HSR Station. The MITC Project includes expanding the Merced Maintenance Facility that will be used by both ACE® and San Joaquins services.

The San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (Authority) has been coordinating and partnering with the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) on the development of the Merced-Bakersfield High Speed Rail (HSR) Interim Service. Integration with the San Joaquins rail and Thruway Bus services maximizes the ridership and benefits of the Merced-Bakersfield HSR Interim Service. The Authority's plan is to connect to the HSR interim operating segment at a multi-modal station at downtown Merced (R Street). Once the HSR interim operating segment is operating, the San Joaquins rail service would terminate at Merced and would provide rail connectivity for the HSR interim operating segment to Sacramento and the Bay Area until HSR is extended. Future San Joaquins service improvements focus on increasing service from Merced to the North.

The Authority released a Request for Proposals (RFP) in May 2022 for a Consultant to assist in completing the California Environmental Quality Action (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) & Preliminary Engineering (PE) for the MITC Project. The scope of work would include but is not limited to:

- Preparation and/or review of all CEQA/NEPA documentation and supporting planning and engineering work (including 30% preliminary engineering) according to all applicable state, federal and local requirements.
- Advise and assist staff with questions related to the MITC Project; attend and coordinate meetings with staff, public agencies, organizations, and the public.
- Consult with Authority staff and consultants and provide input relating to CEQA/NEPA procedures, requirements, and substantive issues, including the public noticing process, filings with state and local agencies, and the feasibility of specific mitigation measures.
- The Consultant/Team will be required to prepare, initiate and process all applicable documentation as required for the appropriate level of environmental review.

- Develop preliminary engineering and planning documents for the MITC Project to assist in the development, funding, and implementation of this project.

The RFP stated that due to available funding only three (3) out of the ten (10) tasks required would be awarded to initiate the project efforts and that when more funding became available, the additional tasks would be amended into the agreement.

On October 20, 2022, the Authority approved an agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Preliminary Engineering (PE) Consulting Services for the MITC Project. The agreement was for \$3,220,795.

In March 2023 Amendment 01 was executed at zero cost to clarify the relative scopes of the Agreement and the Software License Agreement.

At this time, funding has been allocated from the State to allow the Authority to amend the contract to include the full scope of work needed to complete this phase of the MITC Project. This second amendment will increase the current contract amount of \$3,220,795 by \$3,715,455 for a new Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$6,936,250.

Procurement Approach:

The amendment was handled in accordance with the Rail Commission’s Procurement Manual. This amendment will be effective upon execution by both parties and shall continue until October 24, 2024, unless extended in writing.

Procurement and Contracts Staff have confirmed that the price of the amendment is fair and reasonable and that the additional services are reasonable and necessary.

Fiscal Impact:

<b>Project</b>	Merced Integrated Track Connector (MITC)
<b>Capital Project Budget Line Item</b>	SJJPA – Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC)
<b>Phase for this Amendment</b>	Project Approval and Environmental Documentation (PA&ED)
<b>Funding Sources for this Phase</b>	SJJPA Public Transportation Account (PTA) SJJPA State Rail Assistance (SRA)
<b>Budget for this Phase</b>	\$11,010,000
<b>Encumbrances for this Phase</b>	\$3,398,059
<b>Budget Remaining for This Phase</b>	\$7,611,941
<b>Amendment Amount</b>	\$3,715,455
<b>Budget Remaining For this Phase if Approved</b>	\$3,896,486

Recommendation:

Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving Amendment 02 to the Agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Preliminary Engineering (PE) Consulting Services for the Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project Increasing the Compensation Amount by \$3,715,455 for a New Amount Not-To-Exceed \$6,936,250 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority.

## **SJJPA RESOLUTION 24/25-**

**APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY APPROVING AMENDMENT 02 TO THE AGREEMENT WITH AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC. (AECOM) FOR CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)/NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA), AND PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING (PE) CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE MERCED INTERMODAL TRACK CONNECTION (MITC) PROJECT INCREASING THE COMPENSATION AMOUNT BY \$3,715,455 FOR A NEW AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$6,936,250 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE, AWARD, AND EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE PROJECT INCLUDING APPROVING ANY AND ALL AMENDMENTS THERETO WITHIN HER SPENDING AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, the Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project is located in Merced, CA and will enable the San Joaquins to connect with interim High-Speed Rail (HSR) operations at Merced by creating a direct link between the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) alignment and the Merced HSR Station; and

WHEREAS, the MITC Project includes expanding the Merced Maintenance Facility that will be used by both ACE® and San Joaquins services; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (Authority) has been coordinating and partnering with the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) on the development of the Merced-Bakersfield High Speed Rail (HSR) Interim Service; and

WHEREAS, integration with the San Joaquins rail and Thruway Bus services maximizes the ridership and benefits of the Merced-Bakersfield HSR Interim Service; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's plan is to connect to the HSR interim operating segment at a multi-modal station at downtown Merced (R Street); and

WHEREAS, once the HSR interim operating segment is operating, the San Joaquins rail service would terminate at Merced and would provide rail connectivity for the HSR interim operating segment to Sacramento and the Bay Area until HSR is extended; and

WHEREAS, the Authority released a Request for Proposals (RFP) in May 2022 for a Consultant to assist in completing the California Environmental Quality Action (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) & Preliminary Engineering (PE) for the MITC Project; and

WHEREAS, the RFP stated that due to available funding only half of the tasks required would be awarded so that the project to progress and that when more funding became available, the additional tasks would be amended into the agreement; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2022, the Authority approved an agreement, for \$3,220,795, with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) for California Environmental Quality Act CEQA/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Preliminary Engineering (PE) Consulting Services for the MITC Project; and

WHEREAS, in March 2023 Amendment 01 was executed at zero cost to clarify the relative scopes of the Agreement and the Software License Agreement; and

WHEREAS, at this time, funding has been allocated from the State to allow the Authority to amend the contract to include the full scope of work needed to complete this phase of the MITC Project; and

WHEREAS, this amendment will increase the current contract amount of \$3,220,795 by \$3,715,455 for a new Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$6,936,250.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority hereby approves Amendment 02 to the Agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Preliminary Engineering (PE) Consulting Services for the Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project Increasing the Compensation Amount by \$3,715,455 for a New Amount Not-To-Exceed \$6,936,250 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate, Award, and Execute Any and All Agreements and Documents Related to the Project including Approving Any and All Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority this 18<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS  
AUTHORITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
STACEY MORTENSEN, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICK HUME, Chair



# SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Special Meeting of July 18, 2024

## STAFF REPORT

Item 5

INFORMATION

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### San Joaquins Rebranding Update

#### Background:

At the May 17, 2024, San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (Authority) meeting, staff provided an introductory presentation related to rebranding the San Joaquins. Staff recommended several principles related to the business case for this effort:

- **From Management to Ownership:** For the last nine years, the Authority has been managing the San Joaquins brand. The Authority creates its own messaging, creative, and voice that differs from the Amtrak brand. The San Joaquins brand is focused on appealing to infrequent leisure travelers who are largely disadvantaged along with those making aspirational trips across the state. It makes strategic sense for the Authority to move from managing the brand to owning the service brand.
- **The Importance of the Bus:** As the Authority has performed market and brand research, the San Joaquins' vast Thruway Bus network is intriguing to research participants when introduced, but also, a bit unknown to them prior to the introduction. Focus groups encouraged the Authority to move away from "train-oriented" branding and identity to inclusive branding for the bus and train. An Authority-owned brand would provide the opportunity to refocus the market on all of the services associated with the brand. Currently, over 60% utilize buses on one end of their trip.
- **Investment in the Present and Future:** As the Authority manages the San Joaquins service and marketing, it is investing an average of \$1.5M annually in marketing and advertising. In future years, the marketing and advertising figure is anticipated to grow. The Authority should strategically invest in a brand it has future planning, initiatives, and vision to support.
- **Shared Valley Rail Program:** As ACE® and San Joaquins develop together and, in the near-term, share corridors, an Authority-owned brand would provide flexibility in its branding for the San Joaquins. The Authority and San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (Rail Commission) plan for these two services to be interconnected and provide seamless travel. Brand ownership will help the Authority become more nimble, flexible, and lean into its partnership with ACE®.
- **A Brand that Matches Service Ownership:** The Authority, along with Caltrans and other Joint Powers Authority partners, are looking to deeply invest and increase areas of direct oversight. As the Authority moves in this direction, it makes sense that the brand would match this new level of oversight and accountability.

- **CJPA Alignment:** Owning the San Joaquins service brand will put the Authority in alignment with Capital Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA) and its ownership of the Capitol Corridor name and trademarks. As the Authority and CCJPA continue to work collaboratively in Northern California, the branding arrangements will be more similar.

The Authority provided direction to staff to continue to pursue the initiative based on the business case principles. Additionally, feedback was received related to the brand pillars, preferred mark elements, and future naming concepts. Staff will provide an update presentation related to the rebranding initiative.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact.

Recommendation:

This is an informational item. There is no action requested.