

San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Meeting
May 31, 2019

The Board of the San Joaquin JPA met on Friday May 31, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at Sacramento City Hall.

A presentation was made by Caltrans on new single-floor cars being procured for the San Joaquins and related construction of mini-high ramps for accessible level boarding. The new single-floor cars will replace the existing bi-level cars on the San Joaquins. Although they have fewer seats, the single-level cars feature semi-permanent couplers and open gangways for easier internal passenger circulation throughout the train.

A presentation was also made on the Valley Link project which is planned to build an approximate 12-mile rail line on former Southern Pacific right of way over the Altamont pass, connecting Lathrop/Manteca with BART and Dublin/Pleasanton and running along the I-580 corridor with service every 12-60 minutes.

A brief update was also made on Senate Bill 742 (Allen) on elimination of the Amtrak Thruway bus rule that currently prohibits customers from buying a ticket for an Amtrak bus without a connecting train ride being part of the ticket. The bill has passed the Senate but still needs to pass the Assembly and Senate Appropriations committee.