



STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 8, 2024
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Sarah Poe, Planner
SUBJ: SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY MEETING
SUMMARY OF MARCH 22, 2024

RECOMMENDATION

No Recommendation - For Information Only.

Chair Pat Hume was present for the regular meeting of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on March 22, 2024.

Meeting Notes

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

Item 2. Public Comments

- A future agenda item was requested for the SJJPA September 2024 meeting pertaining to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and future Amtrak service.
- A public participant commented on Amtrak services, specifically about the lack of passenger meal and restroom amenities.

Item 3. Consent Calendar

- All items were passed on consent.

Item 4. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving the Draft 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 (Michael Hanebutt)

Staff Comments:

- Staff provided an update on the Public Draft 2024 Business Plan, which covers the next two fiscal years and includes continued strategies and key focus areas.
- Staff have not received any public comments in response to the draft report.
- Plan approval is required to continue receiving and managing funds for SJJPA operations.
- Staff recommended Board approval so final report can be submitted to FTA.

Board Comments:

- Chair Hume shared his support for the proposed café car service.

Public comments:

- Amtrak employee commented about the lack of food on long trips on venture cars.

Board Vote:

- All approved

Item 5. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving the FY 2024 San Joaquin Intercity Passenger Rail Service Operating Agreement with Amtrak and Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute Any and All Documents Related to the Project including Approving any and all Amendments thereto within Her Spending Authority (Tamika Smith)

Staff Comments:

- Staff presented an operating agreement with Amtrak including forecasted costs and approved funding levels by CalSTA.
- Annual cost estimates and forecasted contribution will not exceed identified funding levels.
- Efforts will continue with Amtrak to control and reduce costs.
- Staff recommended Board approval.

Public comments:

- Charles Jackson, Union representative, provided comments.

Board Vote:

- All approved

Item 6. Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving Valley Rail Program Cost and Schedule Priorities to Ensure Valley Rail Program Delivery as follows: 1. Prioritize the completion of the Stockton Diamond project. 2. Pursue the earliest possible interim service delivery to the Stanislaus region, even if the full track and station projects are not complete. 3. Pursue earliest possible interim service delivery to the Sacramento region, provided this does not impede the priority for service to Stanislaus region. 4. Pursue new funding sources, bundle projects for cost savings, and transfer funds from projects that can be completed in later phases of the Valley Rail Program. (Valley Rail Program Delivery Team)

Staff Comments:

- Staff presented options related to setting priorities and evaluating trade-offs with various projects that are part of the Valley Rail Program after direction from the Station/Facilities Development Committee to prioritize the Stockton Diamond project and pursue interim service delivery to Stanislaus and Sacramento regions.
- No fiscal impact.
- Staff recommended approval of proposed program delivery.

Board Vote:

- All approved

Item 7. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute and Submit Any and All Agreements, Certifications, and Assurances and any other documents necessary to Obtain Financial Assistance Provided by the Capitol Area Community Development Corporation (CACDC) and Mutual Housing California Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program Grant Application for the 2000 16th Street Project in Sacramento (Dan Leavitt)

Staff Comments:

- Staff requested authorization to partner with Capitol Area Community Development Corporation (CACDC) and Mutual Housing California as part of the grant application for the affordable housing project located at 2000 16th Street in Sacramento.
- Project will provide strong GHG reductions and some funding for the Valley Rail expansion program.
- No fiscal impact.
- Staff recommended approval of proposed resolution.

Board Vote:

- All approved

Item 8. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) for the Construction Agreement for the Stockton Wye Project for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$16,010,587, Subject to Approval as to Form by General Counsel, 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 (Bryan Pennino)

Staff Comments:

- Staff provided information related to the Valley Rail Program, specifically improvements to the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) and the UPRR freight rail lines to provide additional San Joaquin round trips to and from Sacramento.
- Staff recommended approval to enter into a sole source agreement with BNSF subject to Rail Commission approval.
- Funding for construction phase - \$16,462,685; agreement amount - \$16,010,587
- Staff recommended approval, not to exceed the agreement amount.

Board Vote:

- All approved.

Item 9. Approve a Resolution of the Governing Board of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Approving an Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for Madera Station Relocation Project for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$6,427,615 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 (Tim Schmidt)

Staff Comments:

- Staff provided information related to the Madera Station Relocation project, specifically Phase I activities, to be divided into two separate procurements.
- The first procurement package will include building standard track and signal construction elements. The second procurement package will include building the station and all other remaining work (to be presented to the Board later for approval).
- Funding for this phase - \$32,000,000; agreement amount - \$6,427,615
- Staff recommended approval, not to exceed the agreement amount.

Board Vote:

- All approved.

Item 10. San Joaquins Service Update (David Lipari/Nathan Alastra)

Staff Comments:

- Staff provided an update on ridership and revenue increases during Q1 and Q2.
- Staff shared information related to service operations on new Venture cars, citing successful testing and trip completion in December 2023 and early March 2024.

Board Vote:

- Informational only.

Item 11. Venture Cars Launch Event Recap (David Lipari)

Staff Comments:

- Staff provided a recap of the Caltrans and SJJPA press event on March 5, 2024, at the Rail Maintenance Facility in Stockton to promote the launch of the new Siemens Venture Cars into service.

Board Vote:

- Informational only.

Item 12. Update and Discussion of Marketing and Outreach Efforts for Amtrak San Joaquins (Freddy Rodriguez/Winter Consulting)

Staff Comments:

- An update on grassroots outreach, partnership development, and community engagement was provided, including strategies used to grow interest in San Joaquins service and develop local partnerships, specifically college/university and student partnership programs.

Board Vote:

- Informational only.

Item 13. Board Member Comments

Item 14. Executive Director's Report

Item 15. Adjournment

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2024.