

STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 10, 2024
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Sarah Poe, Planner
SUBJ: SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY MEETING
SUMMARY OF MAY 17, 2024

RECOMMENDATION

No Recommendation - For Information Only.

Chair Pat Hume was present for the regular meeting of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority on May 17, 2024.

Meeting Notes

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

Item 2. Public Comments

- No Public Comments were prepared.

Item 3. Presentation by the City of Hanford on the Kings-Tulare HSR INFORMATION Connectivity and Land Use Planning (Dan Leavitt/Jason Waters)

Staff Comments

- In 2023, SJJPA partnered with CHSR and surrounding municipalities and transit authorities on the Caltrans Sustainable Communities Planning Grant
- This effort goes toward and is in tandem with the ongoing Cross Valley Corridor Phase 1 study (Lead: Tulare CAG) as well as SJJPA's support for \$33.8M in TIRCP towards electric buses and shuttles on the corridor and securement of operating funds to enable Kings Area Regional Transit to run service between Hanford and Visalia.

Board Comments:

- Member Verboon appreciates the work put into the cross-valley corridor project and looks forward to the 20-40 years of work ahead of them.

Public Comments:

- A public participant expresses disappointment in downgrading from café cars to vending machines.
- A conductor representative asks about service cuts due to state budgetary issues and why, during one trip, a venture car was taken out of service.

Item 4. Consent Calendar

- All items were passed on consent.

Item 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 (Michael Hanebutt)

Staff Comments:

- Staff presented the final update to the 2024 Business Plan which covers the next two fiscal years and includes continued strategies and key focus areas.
- Funding for SJJPA operations is contingent on Plan approval.

Public Comments:

- A public participant inquired about a plan to reinstate the 7th round trip
 - Chair Hume responds that there is no plan as it is not included in the SJJPA Business Plan

Board Vote:

- All approved

Item 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. (Stacey Mortensen/Janice D. Magdich)

Staff Comments:

- In 2013, SJJPA issued an RFP for managing agency services that support the Authority. The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission was recommended and approved.
- Staff recommends passing third amendment to extend agreement for an additional 5 years.

Public Comments:

- A public participant recommends passing the third amendment.

Board Comments:

- Member Chiesa expresses support for 5-year extension
- Member Verboon expresses support for an 8:30p trip in light of approving third amendment.

Board Vote:

- All Approved

Item 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 (Tamika Smith)

Staff Comments:

- The Lake to West Escalon project will add 3.8 miles of double track, modify 6 at-grade crossings, and extend 9 culverts on the BNSF Stockton Subdivision.
- Design documents are 100% complete.

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) 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 (Nathan Alastra)

Staff Comments:

- BNSF will manage construction of a 700-foot-long platform through the City of Oakley between 2nd Street and Norcross Lane.
- BNSF will receive notice to begin construction in October 2024 with the projected completion of August 2025.

Board Comments:

- Chair Hume asks if the roadways are funded.
 - Staff responds that they are funded by the city.
- Member Burgis expresses support for resolution.

Public Comments:

- Public Participant asks if the Oakley Station is meant to be in addition to or replacing the Antioch Station.
 - Staff responds that it is in addition to the Antioch Station.

Board Vote:

- All approved

Item 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 (Cameron Paler)

Staff Comments:

- Amendment refers to additional fencing at W Ashlan Ave, N West Ave, and E Weldon Ave to E Shields Ave in Fresno, CA.
- Fencing has been a deterrent to trespassing by unauthorized persons.
- Construction of the fencing will be funded by the state.

Board Comments:

- Member Young recommends approving resolution.

Board Vote: All approved

Item 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)

Staff Comments:

- In 2023 SJJPA approved a Revenue Management Pilot to last from November 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
- Analysis yielded that San Joaquins fare was priced at the upper end of what passengers were willing to pay.
- Reductions in pricing have resulted in positive trends in ridership since the launch of the Revenue Management Pilot

Board Vote:

- All approved

Item 11. Presentation on San Joaquins Rebranding (David Lipari)

Staff Comments:

- When SJJPA first partnered with Amtrak, they moved forward with the branding 'Amtrak San Joaquins'.
- San Joaquins has begun work to rebrand with the support of Caltrans

Board Vote:

- Informational only

Item 12. Update on the Cross Valley Corridor Phase 1 Bus Service (Bee Thao)

Staff Comments:

- In 2021, SJJPA completed the South Merced Integration Study which assessed how best to serve Hanford, Corcoran, and Wasco once the first segment of CAHSR opens
- The Authority has entered an MOU to develop the Cross Valley Corridor Phase 1 Bus Service

Board Vote:

- Informational Only

Item 13. Update and Discussion of Marketing and Outreach Efforts for Amtrak San Joaquins (Marques Cook, Gaby Rodriguez)

Staff Comments:

- SJJPA staff has delegated four outreach teams by location to facilitate outreach efforts

Board Vote:

- Informational Only

Item 14. Board Member Comments

Item 15. Executive Director's Report

Item 16. Adjournment

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2024.