



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604

[www. CityofSacramento.org](http://www.CityofSacramento.org)

Consent
August 6, 2009

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

Title: High Speed Rail Memorandum of Understanding

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Sacramento and the California High Speed Rail Authority.

Contact: Fedolia "Sparky" Harris, Senior Planner (916) 808-2996

Presenters: None

Department: Transportation

Division: Office of the Director

Organization No: 150001041

Description/Analysis

Issue: The California High-Speed Rail Authority has proposed high-speed train service for intercity travel in California between the major metropolitan centers of the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento in the north, through the Central Valley, to Los Angeles and San Diego in the South. A memorandum of understanding has been prepared to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the City of Sacramento and the California High Speed Rail Authority to ensure that efforts taken to promote and implement the high speed rail system are performed efficiently and in a coordinated manner.

Policy Considerations: The City shall consider a variety of transit types including high speed rail, inter-city rail, regional rail, light rail transit, bus rapid transit, trolleys (streetcars), enhanced buses, express buses, local buses, neighborhood shuttles, pedicabs, and jitneys to meet the needs of residents, workers, and visitors. (Sacramento 2030 General Plan Policy M 3.1.3)

The City shall encourage and promote passenger rail service to and through the Sacramento area. (Sacramento 2030 General Plan Policy M 3.2.1)

The City shall support and advocate extension of High Speed Rail service to Sacramento. (Sacramento 2030 General Plan Policy M 3.2.5)

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, continuing administrative activities do not constitute a project and are therefore exempt from review.

Sustainability Considerations: None

Other: On September 23, 2008 the City Council adopted Resolution 2008-658, which established the City of Sacramento's support for Proposition 1A on the November 4, 2008 General Election Ballot. The passage of Proposition 1A gave the State of California the authority to release \$9.95 billion in General Obligation Bonds to support the establishment of High Speed Passenger Rail in the State.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: The recommended action is consistent with the adopted goals and policies of the 2030 General Plan to extend high speed rail to the Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Station and to promote a variety of transportation modes for travelers. The recommended action also furthers the City's commitment to achieving high speed passenger rail in the State of California consistent with the Council's decision to support the issuance of bond financing towards this end.

Financial Considerations: None.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Not Applicable.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
Francesca Lee Halbakken
Operations Manager

Approved by: 
Jerry Way
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:



Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

HIGH SPEED RAIL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BACKGROUND

- A. The California High-Speed Rail Authority has proposed high-speed train service for intercity travel in California between the major metropolitan centers of the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento in the north, through the Central Valley, to Los Angeles and San Diego in the South.
- B. Although Sacramento is not a destination for the initial phase of High Speed Rail, an extension to Sacramento is planned.
- C. On September 23, 2008 the City Council adopted Resolution 2008-658, which established the City of Sacramento's support for Proposition 1A on the November 4, 2008 General Election Ballot to raise \$9.95 billion in bond proceeds for high speed rail.
- D. The adopted Sacramento 2030 General Plan includes policy language that promotes the provision of various transportation modes including high speed rail and encourages the extension of such a system to Sacramento.
- E. A memorandum of understanding has been prepared to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the City of Sacramento and the California High Speed Rail Authority to ensure that efforts taken to promote and implement the high speed rail system are performed efficiently and in a coordinated manner.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. The City Council approves the Memorandum of Understanding (attached as Exhibit A) between the City of Sacramento and the California High Speed Rail Authority

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- Exhibit A Memorandum of Understanding

Exhibit A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
California High Speed Rail Authority – City of Sacramento

This Memorandum of Understanding between the California High Speed Rail Authority (“Authority”) and the City of Sacramento (“the City”) concerns the parties’ respective efforts to undertake planning and design activities for certain passenger rail projects in a cooperative manner as described below. The parties to this Memorandum of Understanding share the common understanding that is stated below:

A. The Authority is responsible for preparing a plan and design for the High Speed Train (HST) system, conducting environmental studies and obtaining necessary permits, and undertaking the construction and operation of a high-speed train passenger network in California. Included in the Authority’s work is planning for HST service between Sacramento and Merced and between the Merced area and San Francisco via the Pacheco Pass. Pursuant to its statutory duties, the Authority will be acting as a lead agency in preparing project level environmental impact reports (“EIRs”) for high-speed train service in the above-described areas.

B. The City has been developing plans and conducting various environmental studies pertaining to the Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility (SITF) project.

C. The City’s plans for this multi-modal transportation facility will accommodate several transportation and transit systems, and will allow for the Authority to add high-speed rail to this facility in the future.

D. Given the foregoing, the parties agree that the location of the high speed rail Sacramento station at the SITF, and the operation of the high-speed train system, particularly between Sacramento and Merced and between the Central Valley and the Bay Area, are matters which concern both parties. It is each parties’ objective to contribute to enhanced passenger rail transportation opportunities for the public in the Sacramento region.

The parties, therefore, intend to undertake their respective planning and environmental studies in a cooperative manner as follows:

1. The parties will cooperate fully in their respective work in planning their respective projects and throughout the preparation of the parties’ respective technical studies, reports, and environmental documents, and other directly related planning and project activities.

2. The parties will share the results of their work, including technical studies, and will confer at regular and frequent intervals, so that each party has the opportunity to share its views and comments with the other party and so that the parties may identify additional areas in which they can work cooperatively for the planning and implementation of their respective projects.

3. Each party will encourage public awareness and undertake public outreach efforts to

involve the public in the planning and environmental review processes in which the parties are engaged for their respective projects.

4. Each party may use the products of any technical studies and reports generated by the other party in a manner consistent with its respective obligations. Each party is responsible for making its own determination as to the usefulness or as to the propriety of its use of or reliance upon the work product of the other party. Neither party represents or warrants that its work product is or will be sufficient for the purposes to which the other party may wish to apply that work product. This MOU does not reduce, expand, transfer, or alter in any way any of the statutory or regulatory authorities or responsibilities of any party hereto. Neither party is delegating any rights, duties, or responsibilities to the other party.

5. This agreement is effective upon execution by both parties and shall continue in effect until and unless terminated by both parties through mutual agreement or upon 30 days' written notice delivered by the party seeking to terminate the agreement to the other party.

California High Speed Rail Authority

Mehdi Moreshed
Executive Director

Date: _____

City of Sacramento

Mayor Kevin Johnson

Date: _____

Approved as to Form:

City Attorney

ATTEST

City Clerk