



*Press Release*

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## High-Speed Rail Authority Expands Executive Team to Move Project Forward

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – Days after the selection of new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Brian P. Kelly, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) today announced that Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. has appointed Joseph Hedges to the position of Chief Operating Officer and Pamela Mizukami as Chief Deputy Director, expanding the Authority’s executive team to continue the project’s rapid transition from the planning phases to construction and delivery.

“I’m excited to welcome Joe and Pam to the High-Speed Rail leadership team. I made a commitment to the Board of Directors to bring in highly-qualified professionals to continue the transformation of the Authority from a planning organization to a strong project oversight and delivery organization. Joe and Pam have the necessary qualifications to help us get this done,” said incoming Authority CEO Brian P. Kelly.

In the role of Chief Operating Officer, Hedges will ensure that all construction and engineering elements of the high-speed rail program are delivered within scope, quality standards, budget and schedule throughout the duration of the project. He joins the program from the Washington Department of Transportation, where he was Program Administrator of the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program and has been an integral part of improving project performance and advancing the progress of the project. Hedges has more than 35 years of experience in construction, engineering, and project management in both the private and public sector. Since retiring as Captain from the U.S. Navy, Corps of Civil Engineers, he served in numerous senior leadership capacities. The compensation for this position is \$337,008.

As the Chief Deputy Director, Mizukami will serve as chief advisor to the CEO on programmatic and administrative matters. Mizukami, who has been assisting the Authority and the California State Transportation Agency in improving the Authority’s administrative functions, will oversee its internal and personnel operations. Mizukami has served in various roles at the California Department of Motor Vehicles since 2006, most recently as Deputy Director, Administrative Services Division. The compensation for this position is \$169,560.

These appointments, along with the selection of Brian P. Kelly as CEO earlier this week, build upon a strong executive team to continue progress on construction of the first High-Speed Rail system in the nation.

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