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**STATEMENT BY AUTHORITY ON
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION RAY LAHOOD**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The following are statements by the California High-Speed Rail Authority’s Chair Dan Richard and CEO Jeff Morales on the announcement by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood that he will leave his post this year.

“Ray LaHood has been one of the finest Secretaries of Transportation in our nation’s history,” said Authority Chair Dan Richard. “We not only appreciate his commitment to high-speed rail but also his many accomplishments including advancements of transportation safety measures.”

“We greatly appreciate Secretary LaHood’s tremendous leadership and focus in effectively advocating for President Obama’s plan to build a California high-speed rail system,” said Authority CEO Jeff Morales. “It was his personal commitment that helped move the high-speed rail project forward.”

About California High-Speed Rail Authority

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for planning, designing, building and operation of the first high-speed rail system in the nation. By 2029, the system will run from San Francisco to the Los Angeles basin in under three hours at speeds capable of over 200 miles per hour. The system will eventually extend to Sacramento and San Diego, totaling 800 miles with up to 24 stations. In addition, the Authority is working with regional partners to implement a statewide rail modernization plan that will invest billions of dollars in local and regional rail lines to meet the state’s 21st century transportation needs. To learn more visit the Authority’s website at cahighspeedrail.ca.gov and join us on [facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail) and follow us at twitter.com/cahsra/

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