



## **California High-Speed Rail** **BRIEFING: November 18, 2021 AGENDA ITEM #2**

**TO:** Board Chair Richards and Board Members  
**FROM:** Brian Kelly, Chief Executive Officer  
**DATE:** November 18, 2021  
**RE:** Central Valley Construction Update

---

### **Summary**

Information Item to update the Board of Directors on activities in the Central Valley.

### **Background**

This presentation reflects the Authority's commitment to brief the Board periodically on construction progress in the Central Valley. This Central Valley Progress Update aims to give the Board a look at where the project is and where it is headed as construction advances, and as the Authority strives for full project definition. This presentation expands on the monthly Central Valley Status Report to provide a broader picture of construction activities and final project challenges.

Design packages are nearing completion and third-party requirements are largely identified, bringing the project scope into greater focus and stabilizing the Right-of-Way (ROW) footprint. To obtain a full project definition, the Authority is advancing efforts to finalize scope and schedule. A new management approach to ROW processes has contributed to increased ROW acquisition, and a more conservative ROW acquisition schedule is in review to improve schedule forecasting. Further, negotiations are underway that will finalize new scope into the contracts, and on the potential for re-sequencing work to mitigate schedule impacts. Finally, progress is being made in multiple partnerships with third-parties to cooperatively finalize agreements, resolve long-standing issues, and plan for the future. These efforts will result in the Authority being able to clearly define and present the final elements needed to complete the remainder of the 119-mile segment from Madera, California to Poplar Avenue in Kern County.

### **Discussion**

This information item provides an update on activities in the Central Valley Region, including construction on the 119 miles. The presentation will include:

1. Steps to strive toward full project definition:
  - a. Defining all scope and executing change orders to include into contracts
  - b. Reforming management and expediting ROW
  - c. Implementing a more conservative ROW plan to improve schedule forecasting
  - d. Establishing Third-Party Task Force approach to expedite and complete approvals and agreements

- e. Working with Design-Build Contractors to re-sequence work and mitigate schedule impacts
- 2. Updates on the status of the Central Valley partnerships and issue resolutions
- 3. Other important updates on the Authority’s station planning activities

**Legal Approval**

The Legal Office has reviewed, and this item complies with Authority policy.

**Budget and Fiscal Impact**

This is an informational item, and by itself, does not have a budget or fiscal impact.

REVIEWER INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Reviewer Name and Title: Brian Annis Chief Financial Officer	Signature verifying budget analysis: Signed November 12, 2021
Reviewer Name and Title: Alicia Fowler Chief Council	Signature verifying legal analysis: Signed November 12, 2021.

**Recommendations**

This is an informational item.

**Attachments**

Presentation