



TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Adam Van de Water • Executive Director

April 11, 2022

Mr. Brian Kelly, Chief Executive Officer
California High-Speed Rail Authority
Attn: Draft 2022 Business Plan
770 L Street, Suite 1180
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support from the Transbay Joint Powers Authority
California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) Draft 2022 Business Plan**

Dear Mr. Kelly:

On behalf of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA), I want to take this opportunity to express our support for the CHSRA Draft 2022 Business Plan (Draft Plan).

The TJPA commends the CHSRA for your dedicated work on this Draft Plan and for continuing to advance this important statewide project. TJPA is pleased to support the CHSRA in delivering high-speed rail (HSR) service to the multimodal Salesforce Transit Center (Center) in downtown San Francisco as the northern terminus of HSR, ultimately connecting to ten transit systems in the Bay Area: AC Transit, BART, Caltrain, Golden Gate Transit, Muni, SamTrans, WestCAT Lynx, Amtrak, Paratransit, and Greyhound. Through this partnership with CHSRA, the Center will provide seamless connections among local, regional, and statewide transportation systems under one roof.

As you know, after over 20 years of planning, and nearly ten years of construction, the Salesforce Transit Center is open – and the State’s support, as well as the partnership with the CHSRA, has been instrumental. This partnership between CHSRA and TJPA continues to also be realized at the regional level, with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) prioritizing funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) for both HSR and the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) project to the Center. The delivery of high-speed rail to the Center will be a transformational project of regional, state, and national importance and significance.

The Draft 2022 Plan continues to set forth a strategic plan to get electrified high-speed trains running as soon as possible while continuing to advance the entire HSR from San Francisco to the Los Angeles Basin. As such, we strongly support the emphasis on advancing construction on the “bookend” projects that CHSRA has committed funding to in the Bay Area and the Los Angeles Basin. We also commend the focus and direction articulated in the Draft Plan in advancing the implementation of the HSR in the Central Valley and the electrified rail connecting Merced, Fresno, and Bakersfield as an interim operating segment as the rest of the project is completed.

We strongly support the Governor's proposal to allocate the remainder of the Proposition 1A dollars in the amount of \$4.2 billion to advance the statewide system, and respectfully urge the Legislature to approve this request through this year's budget process. This funding is critical to the advancement of the HSR Program, and we hope to see the finalization of an agreement, while the TJPA simultaneously pursues key state and federal funding sources to secure dollars for the DTX. The project is now in the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Grants New Starts program and is also seeking funding from State programs such as the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. We remain enthusiastic about the steady continuation and build out of both HSR and DTX and look forward to our continued collaboration and partnership.

Once again, we are pleased to see the updated Draft Plan reflect the valued partnership between the CHSRA and TJPA; and our joint commitment to extend high speed rail service to downtown San Francisco, creating world class infrastructure that offers unparalleled environmental, social, and economic benefits throughout the state.

Thank you for your ongoing work and dedication to expanding mobility options through the statewide HSR system. We look forward to the upcoming release of the environmental document for the entire Phase I system including connection to the Center in San Francisco later this year. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,



Adam Van de Water
Executive Director
Transbay Joint Powers Authority

cc: Governor Gavin Newsom
Senate Budget Chair, Nancy Skinner
Assembly Budget Chair, Phil Ting
Senate Transportation Chair, Lena Gonzalez
Assembly Transportation Chair, Laura Friedman
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