



CALIFORNIA
High-Speed Rail Authority

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL CEO Report

Brian Kelly
Chief Executive Officer
July 27, 2023

CEO REPORT

Legislative Update

ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Senate Bill (SB) 146 – Extension of NEPA Assignment**
 - » SB 146 extends the sunset date of NEPA authorization from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2033
 - » Provides a 10-year extension whereas previous legislation provided a 2 to 4-year extension
 - » Provides certainty to the renewal process of the NEPA MOU that expires July 27, 2024, between the State and the Federal Government
- **Senate Bill (SB) 147 – California Endangered Species Act**
 - » SB 147 authorizes by permit the take of certain species, including the Blunt Nosed Leopard Lizard (BNLL)
 - » The BNLL has been identified in the vicinity of the Authority's alignment
 - » SB 147 allows safe relocation of certain species from the construction site to a location outside of the Authority's ROW
 - » Without SB 147, the Authority would risk construction delays and cost increases

CEO Report

STATUS OF THE SELECTION OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

- Last year's legislation, SB 198, established the position of the Inspector General to provide greater oversight of the project
- The Governor is tasked with appointing an Inspector General to a 4-year term from a list of three qualified individuals nominated by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC)
- On June 19, 2023, JLAC nominated three candidates
- The Governor will make final appointment

CEO REPORT

Program Update – CP 4

- **Target for Guideway Completion:**
 - » August 2023
- **Target for Substantial Completion:**
 - » Includes civil works and guideway
 - » Fall 2023
- **Schedule Pressures: Two Canal Relocations**
 - » Semitropic Water Storage District
 - *Old Canal seeping water & complicating work, being assessed*
 - » North Kern Canal
 - *Conflict with underground fiber optic cable*

CEO REPORT

September 2023 Board Meeting

- **WHERE:**

- » San Diego

- *DoubleTree Hotel San Diego - Hotel Circle*

- **WHEN:**

- » Wednesday, September 20th

- *F&A and Board Meeting will take place in the afternoon*

- » Thursday, September 21st

- *Workshop with Brightline will take place in the morning*



Questions?