

Wasco RAISE Grant Award

The California High-Speed Rail Authority was awarded grant funding from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) for the construction of the Wasco SR 46 Grade Separation Improvement Project.



The grant will rebuild the existing freight grade separation at the top right to accommodate four lanes of traffic underneath and a sidewalk, in addition to other improvements.

This award is for \$24 million. The funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation will provide approximately 30 percent of the \$84 million cost for the grade separation. The project focuses on the four-mile length of the SR 46, which is a two-lane highway underpass beneath the BNSF Railway (BNSF) and California high-speed rail lines in Wasco, California. The project will:

- Expand this segment to a four-lane cross-section with a total width of 123 feet,
- Lower the roadway to create a 16-foot 6-inch clearance for freight,
- Add a 10-foot sidewalk eastbound,
- Replace the current signalized intersection at SR 43/SR 46 with a roundabout, and
- Improve intersections at both ends.

The project also includes the cleanup of former farmworker housing. Residents moved into newly built facilities with 226 units of affordable housing in 2018, and the site will be repurposed for construction staging and storage. Upon project completion, the property will be redeveloped, adding economic vitality to this disadvantaged community.

This grant is part of an on-going federal-state partnership that, to date, has provided approximately \$28.3 billion in funding for California High-Speed Rail (\$21.7 billion / 76% state, and \$6.8 billion / 24% federal). California is the only state in the country to have committed this level of funding to modernizing rail, and the Authority is asking the federal government to match this level of commitment with strong project grant support from IJA funding.

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