



California High-Speed Rail **BRIEFING: May 16, 2024 AGENDA ITEM #3**

TO: Board Chair Richards and Board Members
FROM: Brian Kelly, Chief Executive Officer
DATE: May 16, 2024
RE: California High-Speed Rail Authority Construction Update

Summary

This Information Item is presented to update the Board of Directors on the Authority's construction activities throughout the Central Valley.

Background

This presentation reflects the Authority's commitment to brief the Board on program progress. This presentation expands on the monthly Central Valley Status Report to provide a broader picture of program activities and current project challenges. This program update aims to give the Board a look at where program activities are and what is on the horizon as construction advances, the Authority strives for full project definition, and we look toward advancing design and Track and Systems procurements.

Discussion

This informational item provides an update on major activities across the Program, including right-of-way (ROW) delivery, construction of the 119-mile segment in the Central Valley, and detailed information on the status of third-party utility relocations for CP 1 and CP 2-3. The presentation will include further information on the following topics:

1. Construction Management

In the Central Valley, the Program has made significant progress in our commitments to enhance construction project management. The primary areas in which the Program expects to improve construction management in 2024 include:

- a. Instituting a complete project definition.
 - ✓ All major commercial issues identified in 2023 have now been resolved, with the exception of Cross Creek which has a pending Change Order.
- b. Completing Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisitions.
 - ✓ The improvements made in ROW planning, forecasting, and management increased productivity and helped achieve the delivery of 99% of parcels needed for CP 1-4.
- c. Focusing efforts on finalizing third-party designs

- ✓ Increased engagement with third-party executives and workshops focused on process improvements have advanced third-party design approvals. A new goal of 150 utility relocations has been established for 2024.

d. Updating design and construction activities to finalize project schedules.

- ✓ Working with Design-Build (DB) contractors to re-sequence work and mitigate schedule impacts.
- ✓ Revised Baseline Schedules (RBSs) for Construction Package (CP) 1 has been accepted and RBS for CP 2-3 is currently under review.

2. Right-of-Way Progress

The new management approach to Right-of-Way (ROW) processes has significantly contributed to increased ROW acquisition and improved schedule forecasting. Currently, 99% (2,262) of parcels have now been delivered to the design-builder, and the remaining parcels now stands at 1% (26).

3. Construction Progress

In the Central Valley, construction continues to advance, with more than 13,000 jobs created since construction began in 2015. The completion of structures has also advanced with 5 more expected to be completed in 2024. Third-party requirements have also been largely identified, bringing the project scope into greater focus, and stabilizing the ROW footprint. This has progressed the work for utility relocations, with 202 utilities relocated in 2023. To obtain a full project definition, the Authority is advancing efforts to finalize the scope and schedule. Negotiations are underway that will finalize the new scope into the contracts and the potential for re-sequencing work to mitigate schedule impacts. Progress and remaining challenges in each of the construction packages (CPs) in the Central Valley will be detailed, including the following:

- a. CP 1: The Revised Baseline Schedule has been accepted, and all major commercial issues previously reported have now been resolved. The primary risks have been identified and mitigated; however, risks remain that include delays with third-party approvals and design approval.
- b. CP 2-3: The primary risk areas are delays with third-party design reviews and approvals and obtaining an agreement from DFJV on the Revised Baseline Schedule. The Authority is proactively managing these risks and working collaboratively with the respective parties to advance a resolution.
- c. CP 4: On January 8, 2024, the Authority achieved the substantial completion of CP 4. Of the 22.5-mile segment, the last 400-foot section at North Kern Water Storage District (NKWSD) is the only land conveyance issue that remains. The Authority is proactively working to find a resolution to advance the work in this area.

Additional key performance indicators for each construction package will be provided in the presentation.

4. Merced and Bakersfield Extensions

The Authority has continued to advance the Merced and Bakersfield extensions. Most recently, the Authority issued a Notice to Proceed to Stantec to advance to 100% design for the Merced Extension. In addition, a Limited Notice to Proceed was issued to HNTB to advance to 60% design in the City of Shafter area for the Bakersfield Extension. The Authority is also continuing to advance the right-of-way for both project sections, and the mapping process has commenced.

5. Fresno Station Early Works

The \$20 million Federal RAISE grant award the Authority received has supported the advancement of the Fresno Historic Depot early site activation. The work includes the renovation of the Historic Depot, a new Depot Plaza, and the Chinatown Mobility Hub. The Fresno Historic Depot seismic retrofit design has commenced and is expected to be completed and ready to bid in early 2025. The Authority's

outreach and coordination efforts with local agencies and stakeholders will remain ongoing as the early work activities advance.

Legal Approval

This is an informational item, and by itself, does not raise any legal concerns.

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:
Reviewer Name and Title: Alicia Fowler Chief Council	Signature verifying legal analysis:

Recommendations

This is an informational item.