



CALIFORNIA
High-Speed Rail Authority

CEO Report

CEO Ian Choudri

April 29, 2026



Key Additions to Authority Executive Team



General Counsel Christine Ciccotti

- Ms. Ciccotti brings extensive legal and leadership experience to the position.
- She served as Chief Counsel for the Department of General Services since 2022, and previously as Chief Counsel for the Department of State Hospitals from 2018 to 2022.
- Before that, she was a Deputy Attorney General in the Correctional Law Section at the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General from 2014 to 2018.
- Her federal service includes roles as a Trial Attorney with the U.S. Department of Defense's Defense Contract Management Agency from 2012 to 2013 and as Assistant General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons from 2009 to 2012.
- Earlier in her career, she held multiple positions within the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps at Nellis Air Force Base and Travis Air Force Base.
- She holds a Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University Law Center and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and History from the University of California, Los Angeles.



Chief of Safety and Security Marilyn Norris

- Ms. Norris brings a wealth of experience in transportation and safety leadership and has held multiple positions at ConGlobal since 2021, including Director of Safety and Regulatory Compliance and Corporate Safety and Compliance Manager.
- She held several positions at REMPREX from 2012 to 2021, including Regional Manager of West Coast Automotive and Intermodal Operations.
- Ms. Norris was the Area Manager at Amazon from 2015 to 2016.
- She holds a Master of Science in Psychology and a Master of Business Administration in Human Resources from the University of Phoenix, and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from California State University, Stanislaus.



Chief of Infrastructure Maintenance Antonio Buelna

- Mr. Buelna brings extensive rail and capital project leadership experience to this position.
- He served as the Assistant Director of Capital Projects for the City of Fresno since 2024.
- He also held several positions at Union Pacific Railroad from 2007 to 2024, including Director of Rail Management, Senior Manager for Methods and Research, Manager for Track Assessment, and Manager for Track Maintenance.
- Mr. Buelna holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Systems Engineering from the University of California, Davis.



Plan the Work, Work the Plan

Procurement	Plan	Status
Commoditized Materials		
Long Welded Rail	Q1 2026	Under Contract ✓
Concrete Ties	Q1 2026	Under Contract ✓
OCS Poles	Q2 2026	In Progress
Ballast	Q2 2026	In Progress
Cable Troughs	Q2 2026	In Progress
Fresno Station Early Works	Q1 2026	In Progress
Track and Systems Construction Contract	Q2 2016	Board Approval – May 2026
Co-Development Agreement	Q2 2026	Board Notification – May 2026
Merced – Madera Progressive Design-Build	Q2 2026	In Progress
A&E IDIQ	Q3 2026	In Progress
Program Delivery Partner	Q3/Q4 2026	In Progress

Capital Procurement and Contract Management Policy adopted April 28. This will be the guiding capital procurement policy as the Authority moves forward on the Program's objectives.



Legislative Update

Legislative Concept	Current Status
Stable & Secured Funding	\$1 billion appropriated annually through 2045
CEQA Exemptions for Renewable Power	Unknown
Streamlined Permitting	Unknown
Provision of Dedicated Court Resources	Under discussion
Update Senate Bill 198	In progress
Third Party Streamlining	Unknown
Station Area Land Use and Value Capture	Unknown
Encroachment Permitting	In progress



Innovative Contracting Methods Deployed

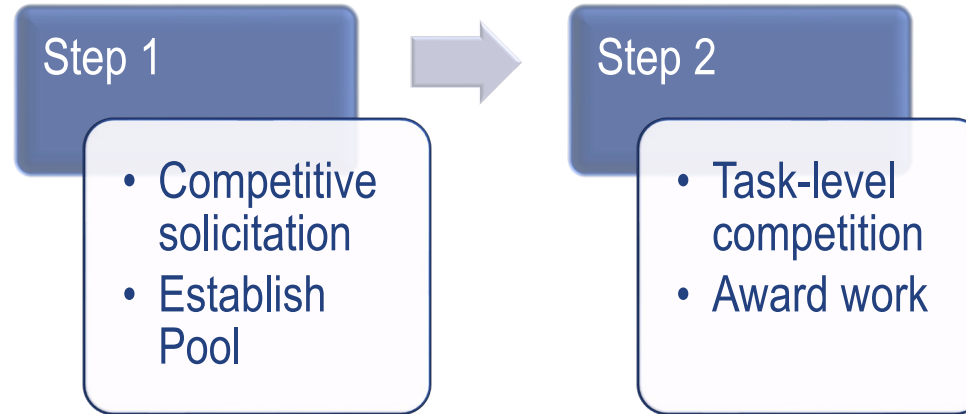
Efficient Delivery with Full Competition and Oversight



How MATOC & IDIQ Contracts Work

Establishing the Pool

- Full, open procurement
- Firms evaluated on:
 - Experience
 - Performance
 - Capability
 - Specialty work
- Multiple firms selected into pools
- No work or funding awarded at this stage



Task order competition

- Task order = project with defined scope
- Pool members submit proposals for tasks
- Proposals evaluated on:
 - Technical approach
 - Staffing and schedule
 - Cost
- Awarded to best value / most qualified

All work is competitively awarded at the task order level