



A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

SUPPORT FOR THE 2007-2008 STATE BUDGET FUNDING FOR THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY SO IT MAY MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPOSAL SUITABLE FOR PLACING A BOND MEASURE BEFORE THE VOTERS, AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO ENSURE THAT THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY IS INCLUDED IN THE FIRST PHASE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the California High Speed Rail Authority was created in 1996 for the purpose of constructing a high-speed train capable of traveling up to 220 mph from San Francisco in the north, with stations in key cities in the San Joaquin Valley, to Los Angeles in the south, with an express trip taking less than 2 1/2 hours; and

WHEREAS, a high-speed train network will improve mobility and increase accessibility throughout the San Joaquin Valley, with independent ridership studies projecting more than 100 million passengers by 2030, utilizing the train for long distance travel and daily, inter-regional commutes; and

WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger has pledged to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases, and the high-speed train would reduce CO₂ emissions that cause global warming equivalent by removing a million vehicles from roads each year; and

WHEREAS, high-speed trains will effectively advance the governor's call to reduce greenhouse gasses and reduce other harmful emissions such as NO_x and PM as well as alleviate traffic congestion as a cheaper and more environment-friendly alternative to the equivalent expansion of freeways and airports; and

WHEREAS, a high-speed train system will reduce dependence on foreign oil consumption by up to five million barrels per year; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley is one of the fastest growing areas of California, with vehicle miles traveled (VMT) increasing at 2-1/2 times the rate of population growth and the high-speed train would significantly reduce this rate of VMT growth; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley has the most challenging air quality attainment problem in the nation, with mobile sources representing 80% of the nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions, and the high-speed train would contribute significantly to the mitigation of these emissions; and

SECRETARIAT:
California State University, Fresno
Office of Community and Economic Development

5010 N Woodrow Ave.
2nd Floor, M/S WC 142
Fresno, California 93740
559.294.6021 T
559.294.6024 F

WHEREAS, the European and Japanese experience has shown that high-speed rail connects communities, spurs economic growth and sustainable development, and that high-speed trains require a narrower corridor than the space required to expand highways, ensuring farmland is preserved and regional impact is minimized; and

WHEREAS, developing a high-speed train system will strengthen California's economy, creating more than 450,000 permanent jobs and will help ignite a new industry for skilled workforce and Career Technology Education programs, and

WHEREAS, fully funding the High-Speed Rail project will provide funds for immediate improvements, such as rail-grade separations along the proposed corridor; and

WHEREAS, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley was created through Executive Order by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2005 and is an eight-county public-private partnership focused on improving the San Joaquin Valley's economic vitality and quality of life for the 3.4 million residents that call it home. The Partnership Board developed a Strategic Action Proposal to provide actionable strategies for sustainable economic growth that will create jobs and improve environmental quality in the region, and was approved by the governor in November 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership has ten work groups each assigned to carry out the goals and recommendations in the Strategic Action Proposal; and

WHEREAS, this project is consistent with the objectives of Goal 5 and 10 of the Partnership's Transportation Work Group's Strategic Action Proposal to "develop a sustainable region-wide transit system," and "assure the high-speed rail system, if implemented, supports the San Joaquin Valley in achieving its economic, environmental, land use, and mobility goals." This project is also consistent with Goal 5 of the Air Quality Work Group's Strategic Action Proposal to "improve transportation mobility and goods movement."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY that the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley hereby supports funding for the California High-Speed Rail Authority at a level sufficient:

- a) to meet requirements for the development of a proposal suitable for placing a bond measure before the voters at the earliest possible opportunity, and
- b) to provide the necessary facilitation, consensus building and staff support to develop a plan for inclusion of the San Joaquin Valley in the first phase of the implementation of the high-speed rail system.

Suitable copies of this resolution shall be provided to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Senate President pro Tem Don Perata, Speaker Fabian Nuñez, Senate Republican Leader Dick Ackerman, and Assembly Republican Leader Mike Villines.

PASSED APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 29 day of June 2007, by the board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.