



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 14, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.

Members of the public may participate in the virtual meeting via Zoom info below.
Please mute phones/computer audio, until you are called to speak.

HDC JPA Board Virtual Meeting Info:

Join HDC JPA Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom, click link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82196076030?pwd=NXE3dnNReGJnYWVvU0dpSnNtTDdyQT09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 821 9607 6030 Passcode: 290430

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,82196076030#,,,,*290430# US (Tacoma)

+13017158592,,82196076030#,,,,*290430# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 821 9607 6030 Passcode: 290430

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82196076030?pwd=NXE3dnNReGJnYWVvU0dpSnNtTDdyQT09&from=addon>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Chair)

Darrell Dorris

Council Member, City of Lancaster

Steven D. Hofbauer

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Ara Najarian

Council Member, City of Glendale

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Vice Chair)

Scott Nassif

Council Member, Town of Apple Valley

Debra Jones

Mayor, City of Victorville

Gabriel Reyes

Mayor, City of Adelanto

HDC JPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

Chair, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, Los Angeles County
Vice Chair Colonel Paul Cook (Retired), Supervisor, 1st Supervisorial District, San Bernardino County
Steve Hofbauer, Mayor, City of Palmdale/Los Angeles County
Darrell Dorris, Council Member, City of Lancaster /Los Angeles County
Ara Najarian, Council Member, City of Glendale, Metrolink Chair, Metro First Vice Chair/Los Angeles County
Debra Jones, Mayor, City of Victorville/San Bernardino County
Scott Nassif, Council Member, Town of Apple Valley/San Bernardino County
Gabriel Reyes, Mayor, City of Adelanto/San Bernardino County
Vacant, Joint Appointment, San Bernardino County/Los Angeles County

HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER ALTERNATES

Richard Loa, Council Member, City of Palmdale/Los Angeles County
Dave Perry, 5th Supervisorial District Transportation Deputy, Los Angeles County
Christopher Porter, 1st Supervisorial District Deputy, San Bernardino County
Curt Emick, Mayor, Town of Apple Valley/San Bernardino County
Elizabeth Becerra, Council Member, City of Victorville/San Bernardino County

HDC JPA STAFF

Executive Director: Arthur V. Sohikian
Clerk: Lynna Monell, San Bernardino Clerk of the Board
Auditor-Controller: Jessica Trillo, San Bernardino County
Legal Counsel: John Tubbs II, Deputy County Counsel, San Bernardino County

OPEN SESSION

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Kathryn Barger, Chair
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** HDC JPA is conducting business remotely. HDC JPA is committed to ensuring that our public meetings are accessible to the public and that the public can observe and address the meeting and to participate by providing written and oral comment on HDC matters. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Executive Director Arthur Sohikian at arthur@avsconsultinginc.com.

At this time members of the public can address the HDC JPA Board of Directors regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the agency that are not separately listed on this agenda. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Board in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

5. HDC JPA VIRTUAL/REMOTE BOARD MEETING OPT-IN UNDER AB 361 – Legal Counsel

Recommended Action: *Adopt findings and approve April 14, 2022, virtual meeting under AB 361 during Proclaimed State of Emergency with findings as follows:*

1. *There exists a “proclaimed state of emergency”, pursuant to the Governor’s State of Emergency Declaration, issued on March 4, 2020.*
2. *State and/or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.*

Future Meetings – Discussion and potential setting of special meetings.

If HDC JPA wishes to consider invoking AB 361 virtual meetings for subsequent meetings:

- a. *The proclaimed state of emergency must remain active; or*
- b. *State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing;*

AND

- c. *Not later than 30 days after teleconferencing for the first time under the AB 361, and every 30 days thereafter, the board shall again make the following findings by majority vote:*

The board has reconsidered the circumstances of emergency, and at least one of the following circumstances exist:

- a) *The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; or,*
- b) *State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.*

6. MINUTES/RECAP OF PROCEEDINGS: Executive Director

Recommended Action: *Approve October 21, 202, HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes and February 28, 2022 HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes.*

7. HDC JPA RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 AND METRO FUNDING AGREEMENT – Executive Director

Recommended Action:

- a) Approve the High Desert Corridor JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget of \$927,069 to enable the HDC JPA to close out the pending items to complete the CEQA Addenda and NEPA environmental clearance, Surface Transportation Board Filing, and HDC JPA Administration for dissolution of the HDC JPA.
- b) Approve the HDC JPA – Metro Funding Agreement for Metro to transfer funds in the amount of \$902,970 to HDC JPA to fund the completion of the NEPA environmental clearance, Surface Transportation Board Filing, and HDC JPA Administration for dissolution of the HDC JPA.

8. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR HDC JPA DISSOLUTION – Executive Director

Recommended Action: For the purpose of HDC JPA dissolution, it is necessary to complete and close out items pertaining to the Federal Railroad Administration application and Surface Transportation Board petition for the federal NEPA environmental clearance process, including the Record of Decision, and other relevant items: therefore, it is recommended the Board of Directors take the following actions:

- a) **Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 8 and Funding:** Approve the Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 8, including subcontractors, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$720,000 including the extension of the contractual performance period from December 31, 2022, to June 30, 2023, with funding included in the HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget effective July 1, 2022, and authorize the Executive Director/County of San Bernardino to execute the Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 8; and,
- b) **HDC JPA Executive Director and Administration Support Services (AVS Consulting, Inc.) Contract Extension and Funding:** Approve the AVS Consulting, Inc. Contract Extension with funding in the HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget of a not-to-exceed amount of \$182,970 to conduct the work as the Executive Director and Administration Support Services for the HDC JPA for FY 2022-2023.

9. HDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – Executive Director

Recommended Action: *Receive and file report.*

10. HDC JPA CORRESPONDENCE: San Bernardino Clerk of the Board, Lynna Monell

11. HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. ADJOURNMENT. There will be no HDC JPA Board meetings after June 30, 2022. Interim Special Meetings TBD.



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD AGENDA REPORT 6

The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Date: April 14, 2022

To: The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors (HDC)

From: Arthur V Sohikian, Executive Director/Board Secretary

Subject: **OCTOBER 14, 2021 HDC JPA BOARD MEETING & FEBRUARY 28, 2022 SPECIAL BOARD MINUTES/MEETING RECAP OF PROCEEDINGS**

Recommended Action: Approve October 21, 2021, HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes and February 28, 2022, Special HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes.

October 14, 2021, HDC JPA Board Meeting

Directors Present/Voting:

Chair, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, Los Angeles County

Vice Chair Colonel Paul Cook (Retired), Supervisor, 1st Supervisorial District, San Bernardino County

Steve Hofbauer, Mayor, City of Palmdale/Los Angeles County

Darrell Dorris, Council Member, City of Lancaster /Los Angeles County

Ara Najarian, Council Member, City of Glendale, Metrolink Chair, Metro First Vice Chair/Los Angeles County

Debra Jones, Mayor, City of Victorville/San Bernardino County

Scott Nassif, Council Member, Town of Apple Valley/San Bernardino County

Gabriel Reyes, Mayor, City of Adelanto/San Bernardino County

HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER ALTERNATES Present/NON VOTING

Richard Loa, Council Member, City of Palmdale/Los Angeles County

Dave Perry, 5th Supervisorial District Transportation Deputy, Los Angeles County

Curt Emick, Mayor, Town of Apple Valley/San Bernardino County

Elizabeth Becerra, Council Member, City of Victorville/San Bernardino County

HDC JPA STAFF

Executive Director: Arthur V. Sohikian

Clerk: Lynna Monell, San Bernardino Clerk of the Board

Auditor-Controller: Jessica Trillo, San Bernardino County

Legal Counsel: John Tubbs II, Deputy County Counsel, San Bernardino County

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Kathryn Barger called the meeting to order at 2:00pm
2. **ROLL CALL** – Quorum Present
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Director Jones
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No Public Comments were received

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Chair)

Darrell Dorris

Council Member, City of Lancaster

Steven D. Hofbauer

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Dave Perry

Los Angeles County

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Vice Chair)

Gabriel Reyes

Mayor, City of Adelanto

Scott Nassif

Council Member, Town of Apple Valley

Debra Jones

Mayor, City of Victorville

5. HDC CORRESPONDENCE – Receive and File Report, Motion by Director Jones, Seconded Director Hofbauer

VOTING LEGEND

Y=YES ABS=Abstain N=NO C=Conflict A=Absent

KB	PC	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

6. MINUTES/RECAP OF PROCEEDINGS: San Bernardino Clerk of the Board, Lynna Monell

Recommended Action: Approve July 8, 2021, HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes. Motion by Director Jones, Seconded Director Hofbauer

KB	PC	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

7. 2022 HDC JPA Board Meeting Calendar

Recommended Action: Approve HDC JPA Quarterly Board meetings. Motion Director Dorris, Seconded Director Nassif

KB	PC	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

8. HDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SUPPORT SERVICES (AVS CONSULTING, Inc.)

CONTRACT EXTENSION - Executive Director and Legal Counsel

Recommended Action: *Approve and exercise option to extend AVS Consulting, Inc. contract for an additional one-year period from November 1, 2021, through October 31, 2022, under the same terms and conditions as the existing contract, with funding included in the current FY 2021/2022 budget to June 30, 2022, and subject to funding in the FY 2022/2023 budget to complete the remaining extended contract term from July 1, 2022, through October 31, 2022.*

Motion Chair Barger Dorris, Seconded Director Jones

KB	PC	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

9. METRO HIGH DESERT INTERCITY HIGH-SPEED RAIL SERVICE AND FUNDING PLAN UPDTAE AND METRO/SBCTA SR138/SR18 HIGHWAY UPDATE – Jeanet Owen/Metro, Vincent Chio/Metro, Isidro Panuco/Metro, Steve Smith/SBCTA

Recommended Action: Receive and File Report
Motion Director Dorris, Seconded Director Nassif

KB	PC	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

10. HDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE REPORT – Executive Director

Recommended Action: Receive and File Executive Director Update Report
Motion Director Dorris, Seconded Director Nassif

KB	PC	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

11. HDC JPA VIRTUAL/REMOTE BOARD MEETING OPT-IN UNDER AB 361 – Legal Counsel

Recommended Action: *Adopt findings and approve October 14, 2021 virtual meeting under AB 361 during Proclaimed State of Emergency with findings as follows:*

1. *There exists a “proclaimed state of emergency”, pursuant to the Governor’s State of Emergency Declaration, issued on March 4, 2020.*
2. *State and/or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.*

Future Meetings – Discussion and potential setting of special meetings.

If HDC JPA wishes to consider invoking AB 361 virtual meetings for subsequent meetings:

- a. *The proclaimed state of emergency must remain active; or*
- b. *State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing;*
AND
- c. *Not later than 30 days after teleconferencing for the first time under the AB 361, and every 30 days thereafter, the board shall again make the following findings by majority vote:
The board has reconsidered the circumstances of emergency, and at least one of the following circumstances exist:*

1. *The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person;*
or
2. *State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.*

Motion Director Dorris, Seconded Director Nassif

KB	PC	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

12. HDC BOARD MEMBER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

February 28, 2022, HDC JPA Board Meeting

Directors Present/Voting:

Chair, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, Los Angeles County
 Steve Hofbauer, Mayor, City of Palmdale/Los Angeles County
 Darrell Dorris, Council Member, City of Lancaster /Los Angeles County
 Ara Najarian, Council Member, City of Glendale, Metrolink Chair, Metro First Vice Chair/Los Angeles County
 Debra Jones, Mayor, City of Victorville/San Bernardino County
 Scott Nassif, Council Member, Town of Apple Valley/San Bernardino County
 Gabriel Reyes, Mayor, City of Adelanto/San Bernardino County
 Christopher Porter, 1st Supervisorial District, County of San Bernardino, Alternate VOTING

HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER ALTERNATES Present/NON VOTING

Richard Loa, Council Member, City of Palmdale/Los Angeles County
 Dave Perry, 5th Supervisorial District Transportation Deputy, Los Angeles County
 Curt Emick, Mayor, Town of Apple Valley/San Bernardino County
 Elizabeth Becerra, Council Member, City of Victorville/San Bernardino County

HDC JPA STAFF

Executive Director: Arthur V. Sohikian
 Clerk: Lynna Monell, San Bernardino Clerk of the Board
 Auditor-Controller: Jessica Trillo, San Bernardino County
 Legal Counsel: John Tubbs II, Deputy County Counsel, San Bernardino County

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Kathryn Barger called the meeting to order at 2:00pm
2. **ROLL CALL** – Quorum Present
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Barger
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No Public Comments were received

VOTING LEGEND

Y=YES ABS=Abstain N=NO C=Conflict A=Absent

5. HDC JPA VIRTUAL/REMOTE BOARD MEETING OPT-IN UNDER AB 361 – Legal Counsel

Recommended Action: *Adopt findings and approve February 28, 2022, virtual meeting under AB 361 during Proclaimed State of Emergency with findings as follows:*

1. *There exists a “proclaimed state of emergency”, pursuant to the Governor’s State of Emergency Declaration, issued on March 4, 2020.*
2. *State and/or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.*

Future Meetings – Discussion and potential setting of special meetings.

If HDC JPA wishes to consider invoking AB 361 virtual meetings for subsequent meetings:

- a. *The proclaimed state of emergency must remain active; or*
- b. *State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing;*
AND
- c. *Not later than 30 days after teleconferencing for the first time under the AB 361, and every 30 days thereafter, the board shall again make the following findings by majority vote:*

The board has reconsidered the circumstances of emergency, and at least one of the following circumstances exist:

- a) *The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; or,*
- b) *State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.*

Motion Director Jones, Seconded Director Dorris

KB	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR	CP
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

6. POTENTIAL COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO WITHDRAWAL FROM HDC JPA –Executive Director

Recommended Action:

1. *Consider a request be made to the County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors strongly urging them to grant a sixty-day review period before action is taken on March 1, 2022, to withdraw from the HDC JPA.*
2. *Authorize the Executive Director to immediately consult with the Los Angeles County and its County Counsel Office in cooperation with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to review options and alternatives for a new HDC JPA agreement.*

Motion Director Hofbauer, Seconded Director Jones

KB	SH	DD	AN	DJ	SN	GR	CP
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

7. HDC JPA CORRESPONDENCE:

8. HDC JPA BOARD MEMBER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9. ADJOURNMENT. Next HDC JPA Board of Directors meeting April 14, 2022, at 2:00 pm



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD AGENDA REPORT 7A The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Date: April 14, 2022
To: The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors (HDC)
From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director
Subject: **HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget**

Recommended Action: Approve the High Desert Corridor JPA (HDC JPA) Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget of \$927,069 to enable the HDC JPA to close out the pending items to complete the CEQA/NEPA environmental clearance, Surface Transportation Board Filing, and HDC JPA Administration for dissolution of the HDC JPA.

The HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget of \$927,069 will be the last annual budget for the HDC JPA due to the dissolution of the HDC JPA resulting from the County of San Bernardino deciding not to be a member of the HDC JPA (Attachment A). Due to this action, the HDC JPA is left with pending items that need to be completed prior to the dissolution of the HDC JPA. These pending items include funding the consultant, Transportation Solutions, to complete the CEQA addenda/NEPA environmental clearance process with the FRA as the federal lead and the petition that has been filed with the Surface Transportation Board. With the completion of these items the HDC JPA high speed rail project will be positioned to pursue federal, state, and local funds for the next phase of development which is preliminary engineering and Right-of-Way acquisition. In addition, the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget includes funding for the Executive Director consultant, AVS Consulting, Inc., to manage and administer the work that needs to be completed during the fiscal year.

Highlights of Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget/Background:

- It is estimated that \$720,000 will fund the contract agreement with Transportation Solutions to complete the NEPA environmental clearance and Surface Transportation Board petition.
- It is anticipated that the agreement with AVS Consulting, Inc. will be renewed in July 2022 for an amount not-to-exceed \$15,250 per month.
- San Bernardino County provides in-kind staff time from the Clerk of the Board, County Administrative Office, and County Counsel for \$24,099 until Dec. 31, 2022.
- Website start-up costs and annual hosting fee are budgeted at \$2,720 and \$250, respectively. Internal staff time will be utilized for website maintenance.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Chair)

Darrell Dorris

Council Member, City of Lancaster

Steven D. Hofbauer

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Ara Najarian

Council Member, City of Glendale

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Vice Chair)

Scott Nassif

Council Member, Town of Apple Valley

Debra Jones

Mayor, City of Victorville

Gabriel Reyes

Mayor, City of Adelanto

ATTACHMENT A

High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority FY 2022-2023 Recommended Budget			
Task	Task Description + Contractor	Budget by Category	
1	<p>Complete CEQA Addenda and NEPA Re-evaluation/RE-validation and Record of Decision (ROD) tasks including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Addressing FRA comments, provide revised version for FRA review, Prepare final version for NEPA Re-evaluation and prepare a ROD for FRA final approval. -Draft a Letter of Concurrence summarizing design changes and formal re-initiation of Section 7 consultation -Complete Section 106 process, including Tribe Consultation -Prepare CEQA addendum for state funding <p>Contractors: Transportation Solutions: \$81,000 Circlepoint: \$433,000 Venable LLP: \$90,000 AECOM: \$21,000</p>	\$625,000	
2	<p>Conclude Surface Transportation Board Petition: Conclude STB petition approval process and application waiver request.</p> <p>Contractors: Venable LLP</p>	\$50,000	
3	<p>Update Service Development Plan: Provide service planning and operational expertise to modify and/or update the Service Development Plan due to the JPA structural changes.</p> <p>Contractor: Transportation Solutions</p>	\$45,000	
	Sub-Total	\$720,000	
4	HDC JPA Management: JPA Dissolution, Executive Management, Legal Counsel, Planning Support		
4.1	<p>Executive Management, Planning, Engagement & Administration</p> <p>Contractors: AVS Consulting Inc.: \$138,000</p>	\$138,000	
4.2	<p>San Bernardino County Staff Assistance - In Kind. To assist with closing out items for existing JPA.</p>	\$24,099	
4.3	<p>Planning & Administration Staff Support: Coordinate Planning & Engagement to support Record of Decision and STB petition and other closing out issues of the JPA.</p> <p>Contractors: AVS Consulting, Inc.: \$10,000 Cal Strategic Management, LLC: \$25,000</p>	\$35,000	
4.4	Audit Services	\$7,000	
4.5	Website Support	\$2,720	
4.6	Software Update	\$250	
	Sub-Total	\$207,069	
	Total FY 2022-2023 Recommended Budget	\$927,069	

High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority					
2022-23 Recommended Budget		2021-22 Adopted Budget	2021-22 Estimated Actuals	2022-23 Recommended Budget	Variance
	Audit Services	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 7,000	\$ 500
	Software Costs (host)	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ -
	Website Costs	\$ 2,720	\$ -	\$ 2,720	\$ -
	Professional Services (Transportation Solutions)	\$ 410,985	\$ 324,094	\$ 720,000	\$ 309,015
	Professional Services (AVS Consulting, Inc.)	\$ 138,000	\$ 131,980	\$ 182,970	\$ 44,970
	San Bernardino County Staff Time - In Kind	\$ 20,215	\$ 20,315	\$ 24,099	\$ 3,884
	Total Requirements	\$ 578,670	\$ 482,889	\$ 937,039	\$ 358,369
	Los Angeles County	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$ -	\$ (85,000)
	LA Metro	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ 902,970	\$ 902,970
	San Bernardino County - In Kind	\$ 20,215	\$ 20,315	\$ 24,099	\$ 3,884
	Interest Income	\$ 4,350	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500	\$ (2,850)
	Total Sources	\$ 109,565	\$ 507,315	\$ 928,569	\$ 819,004
	Balance	\$ (469,105)	\$ 24,426	\$ (8,470)	\$ 460,635
	Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 58,159	\$ 58,159	\$ 82,585	
	(Use of)/Contribution To Fund Balance		\$ 24,426	\$ (8,470)	
	Ending Fund Balance (Short)		\$ 82,585	\$ 74,115	

Budget Highlights:

* San Bernardino County provides in-kind staff time from the Clerk of the Board, County Administrative Office, and County Counsel.

* For 2022-23: Website costs of approximately \$250, for an annual hosting fee. Internal staff time will be utilized for website maintenance.



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD AGENDA REPORT 7B The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Date: April 14, 2022
To: The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority
Board of Directors (HDC)
From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director
Subject: **HDC JPA RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023
AND METRO FUNDING AGREEMENT**
Metro - HDC JPA Funding Agreement

Recommended Action: Approve the Metro - HDC JPA Funding Agreement for Metro to transfer funds in the amount of \$902,970 to HDC JPA to fund the completion of the NEPA environmental clearance, Surface Transportation Board Filing, and HDC JPA Administration for dissolution of the HDC JPA.

Background:

This funding agreement between Metro and HDC JPA in the amount of \$902,970 is for the purpose of funding the completion of the additional tasks needed by the Federal Railroad Administration related to the NEPA environmental clearance, and for the Surface Transportation Board filing, as well as the executive management and administration that is necessary for the dissolution of the existing HDC JPA. Upon completion of the environmental work and Surface Transportation Board filing, the project will be positioned to seek funding at the federal, state, and local levels with the next entity that will be responsible for development of this project.

The Metro Funding Agreement for High Desert Intercity Rail Corridor Environmental Work states there will be a one-time transfer of \$902,970 to the HDC JPA upon receipt of the necessary documentation related to the work tasks that are identified and included in Attachment A.

ATTACHMENT A: Funding Agreement Between Metro and HDC JPA for High Desert Corridor Intercity Rail Corridor Environmental Work, Surface Transportation Board Filing, and HDC JPA Administration

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Chair)

Darrell Dorris

Council Member, City of Lancaster

Steven D. Hofbauer

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Ara Najarian

Council Member, City of Glendale

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Vice Chair)

Scott Nassif

Council Member, Town of Apple Valley

Debra Jones

Mayor, City of Victorville

Gabriel Reyes

Mayor, City of Adelanto

HDC April 14, 2022 Board Report 7B Metro Funding Agreement ATTACHMENT A

FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR HIGH DESERT INTERCITY RAIL CORRIDOR ENVIRONMENTAL WORK, SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FILING, AND HDCJPA ADMINISTRATION

This Funding Agreement (“AGREEMENT”) is made and entered into as of April 14, 2022 by and between the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (hereinafter referred to as “HDCJPA”) and The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (hereinafter referred to as “Metro”), and jointly referred to as the “Parties” and each as a “Party”:

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, HDCJPA is a joint powers authority consisting of the County of San Bernardino, County of Los Angeles, as members and directors, and the Cities of Adelanto, Victorville, Lancaster, Palmdale, and the Town of Apple Valley, as appointed directors. The HDCJPA was created to develop a new freeway/expressway from State Route 14 freeway to Interstate 15 freeway. In 2016, the High Desert Corridor (HDC) evolved into a multi-purpose corridor that is currently focused on designing and implementing a high-speed rail line that connects Antelope Valley in Los Angeles County with Victor Valley in San Bernardino County. This funding agreement is specific to the High Desert Corridor (“HDC Rail Project”) that connects Antelope Valley in Los Angeles County with Victor Valley in San Bernardino County.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the HDC Rail Project is to improve east-west mobility within the High Desert region of Southern California by addressing present and future travel demands and mobility needs. The HDC Rail Project also aims to improve travel safety and reliability, while connecting residential, commercial and industrial areas in the Antelope and Victor Valleys, including the cities of Palmdale, Lancaster, Adelanto, Victorville, Hesperia and the Town of Apple Valley;

WHEREAS, the HDC Rail Project, as part of the High Desert Corridor, was environmentally certified with a joint EIS/EIR lead by Caltrans in partnership with Metro on June 20, 2016;

WHEREAS, a joint CEQA Addenda and NEPA Re-evaluation/Revalidation is being prepared by the HDCJPA to address changes to the rail alignment, station location and other related infrastructure. The Revaluation/Revalidated environmental documentation was submitted to the FRA in April 2021 with the revised goal to receive final CEQA Addenda and NEPA Record Of Decision (ROD) by Fall 2022;

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2021, the HDCJPA Board approved the principal terms and scope of work on the contract amendments with their environmental consultant, “Transportation Solutions”, and their Executive Director consultant “AVS Consulting, Inc. to complete the work scope for Amendment 6 and 7 for the Transportation Solutions contract. Amendment 8 to the Transportation Solutions contract is to conduct the additional work scope that has been called for by the Federal Railroad Administration in their letter to the HDCJPA in February 2022 and the corresponding HDC JPA administration tasks related to this work. This additional scope includes work consisting of conceptual engineering and related environmental work including Section 106, noise, biological, and cultural resources, and technical studies needed for the CEQA Addenda and Re-

evaluation/Revalidation of the NEPA Record of Decision (ROD), and prepare a petition to seek and secure approval from the Surface Transportation Board to take jurisdiction over the HDC Rail Component from the Federal Railroad Administration. A copy of the updated Transportation Solutions scope of work to complete the re-evaluation/revalidation NEPA ROD, the Surface Transportation Board filing, and the scope of work for AVS Consulting, Inc. is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

WHEREAS, the total cost of the contract amendments is \$902,970. Metro, as a partner of the HDC High Speed Rail Project in north Los Angeles County, is prepared to contribute funding needed to complete the CEQA Addenda and re-evaluation/revalidation of NEPA ROD, Surface Transportation Board filing, and the HDC JPA administration items described in Exhibit A in an amount not to exceed \$902,970 of Measure M funds;

WHEREAS, the \$902,970 in funds shall be distributed directly to the HDCJPA to complete the NEPA addenda, petition filing to the Surface Transportation Board, and administration of the HDC JPA.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Term.

The term of this AGREEMENT shall commence on the date the AGREEMENT is fully approved and executed by the Parties, and shall terminate upon the occurrence of all of the following: (i) the agreed upon scope of work described in Exhibit A has been completed; and (ii) all Metro audit and reporting requirements have been satisfied;

2. Payment.

Metro shall make a one-time advance payment of \$902,970 in in Measure M funds (the "Funds") to HDCJPA to pay for the costs for its contracts with Transportation Solutions and AVS Consulting, Inc. to complete the NEPA addenda, Surface Transportation Filing, and HDCJPA executive management and administration as described in Exhibit A. Metro shall make this payment to HDCJPA within 30 days of receipt of an invoice from HDCJPA. The funds shall be used by HDCJPA solely to fund the completion of the NEPA addenda, petition to the Surface Transportation Board, and executive management and administration as described in Exhibit A.

3. Responsibility for Project.

HDCJPA shall be solely responsible for managing the completion of the joint CEQA addenda/NEPA Re-evalutaion/Revalidation for the HDC Rail Project and remains responsible for obtaining all necessary environmental clearances for the HDC Rail Project. Metro will receive a copy of any completed deliverables described in Exhibit A. HDCJPA shall deliver any such requested deliverables to Metro within 10 business days.

4. Notices.

All notices, demands, consents, requests or other communications required to or permitted to be given pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall be in writing, shall be given only in accordance with the provisions of this Section, shall be addressed to the Parties in the

manner set forth below, and shall be conclusively deemed to have been properly delivered: (i) upon receipt when hand-delivered during normal business hours (provided that notices which are hand-delivered shall not be effective unless the sending Party obtains a signature of a person at such address that the notice has been received); (ii) upon receipt when sent by facsimile prior to 5:00 p.m. of a given business day (otherwise, such receipt is deemed as of the following business day) to the number set forth below (provided, however, that notices given by facsimile shall not be effective unless the sending Party's machine provides written confirmation of successful delivery thereof); (iii) upon the day of delivery if the notice has been deposited in an authorized receptacle of the U.S. Postal Service as first-class, registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, with a return receipt requested (provided that the sender has in its possession the return receipt to prove actual delivery); or (iv) one (1) business day after the notice has been deposited with either FedEx or United Parcel Service to be delivered by overnight delivery (provided that the sending Party receives a confirmation of actual delivery from the courier). The addresses of the Parties to receive notices are as follows:

To HDCJPA: High Desert Corridor JPA
San Bernardino County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 2nd Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0130
Attention: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director, HDCJPA
Email: arthur@avsconsultinginc.com

To Metro: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza 99-10, 17th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attention: Vincent Chio, Senior Director,, Program Management
email: ChioM@metro.net

5. **Governing Law and Venue.**

This AGREEMENT, and the exhibits hereto, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California. In the event of any legal action to enforce or interpret the AGREEMENT, the sole and exclusive venue shall be a court of competent jurisdiction located in the County of Los Angeles and the Parties hereto agree to and do hereby submit to the jurisdiction of such court.

6. **Entire Agreement.**

The AGREEMENT is the final expression of, and contains the entire agreement of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior understandings with respect thereto. This AGREEMENT may not be modified, changed, supplemented, superseded, canceled or terminated, nor may any obligations hereunder be waived, except by a written instrument signed by the Party to be charged or by its agent duly authorized in writing or as otherwise expressly permitted herein. The Parties do not intend to confer any benefit hereunder on any person, firm or entity other than the Parties hereto and their lawful assignees.

7. **Eligible Expenses/Audit.**

HDCJPA shall only use the Funds to pay invoices from Transportation Solutions and AVS Consulting, Inc. for the work described in Exhibit A. The Funds are not eligible for any other project or expense. Metro, and/or its designee, shall have the right to conduct audits as deemed appropriate to verify Funds were used for eligible expenses. HDCJPA shall properly document and maintain all costs, charges and invoices and accounting records related to the work described in Exhibit A to enable an audit without further explanation or summarization. HDCJPA shall reimburse Metro for any expenditure not related to the work described in Exhibit A and/or not in compliance with other terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT. Findings of the Metro audit are final. When Metro audit findings require HDCJPA to return monies to Metro, HDCJPA agrees to return the monies within thirty (30) days of a demand from Metro. Metro will commence a final audit within six months of the completion of the scope of work described in Exhibit A.

8. **Indemnity.**

Neither Metro nor any officer or employee thereof shall be responsible for any damage or liability occurring by reason of anything done or committed to be done by HDCJPA under or in connection with any work performed by and or service provided by HDCJPA, its officers, agents, employees, contractors and subcontractors under this AGREEMENT. HDCJPA shall fully indemnify, defend and hold Metro and its subsidiaries, and its officers, agents and employees harmless from and against any liability and expenses, including without limitation, defense costs, any costs or liability on account of bodily injury, death or personal injury of any person or for damage to or loss of risk of property, any environmental obligation, any legal fees and any claims for damages of any nature whatsoever arising out of the HDC Rail Project, including without limitation: (i) use of the Funds by HDCJPA, or its officers, agents, employees, contractors or subcontractors; (ii) breach of HDCJPA's obligations under this AGREEMENT; or (iii) any act or omission of HDCJPA, or its officers, agents, employees, contractors or subcontractors in the performance of the work or the provision of the services, in connection with the HDC Rail Project including, without limitation, the scope of work described in Exhibit A.

9. **Counterparts.**

This AGREEMENT may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which, together, shall constitute one and the same instrument. The Parties shall be entitled to sign and transmit an electronic signature of this AGREEMENT (whether by facsimile, PDF or other email transmission), which signature shall be binding on the Party whose name is contained therein. Each Party providing an electronic signature agrees to promptly execute and deliver to the other Party an original signed AGREEMENT upon request.

10. Authority.

Each Party signing below represents that it has the authority to enter into this AGREEMENT and consents to its terms.

~~In Witness Whereof~~, the Parties have caused this AGREEMENT to be executed by their respective officers, duly authorized by the HDCJPA on 2022 and by Metro on 2022.

High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

By: _____

Kathryn Barger, Chair

Approved as to Form

JOHN TUBBS II

Deputy County Counsel

By: _____

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan
Transportation Authority

By: _____

Approved as to Form

RODRIGO A. CASTRO-SILVA

County Counsel

By: _____

EXHIBIT A
Transportation Solutions Scope of Work Services

Transportation Solutions and subcontractors Amendment 8 Scope of Work:

1. NEPA Re-evaluation and Record of Decision

- (a) NEPA Re-evaluation – Address FRA comments and provide a revised version for NEPA cooperating agency review and prepare final review/revisions to the NEPA Re-evaluation, for FRA final approval of the document.
- (b) Section 7 Consultation - Draft a Letter of Concurrence summarizing the design changes and how they align with the previously permitted project description, authorized listed species impacts, and requirements for formal re-initiation of Section 7 consultation. The desert tortoise habitat impacts and density calculations provided in the BA and BO will be updated based on the current project design and results of biological work done to date. The updated impacts will be presented in the Letter of Concurrence.
- (c) Completion of Section 106 Process -The remaining work activities and assumptions relative to Section 106 compliance include the following that are known to be required at this time:
 - i. Update reports to FRA standards with no major revisions
 - ii. Complete notices of entry for pedestrian surveys of Supplemental APE areas
 - iii. Minor APE updates (LOD/ADI of Supplemental areas)
 - iv. Surveys of Supplemental APE areas
 - v. Complete DPRs of any resources in Supplemental APE areas
 - vi. Reach out to D7 staff for any archaeological work completed for the project per date.
 - vii. Finish responses to comments on Section 106 letter and send out to built and archaeological contacts
 - viii. Continue to attend consultation
- (d) Record of Decision -Upon completing the Section 106 process, updating Section 7 and completing the NEPA reevaluation and assuming FRA determines that no supplemental or subsequent NEPA review is needed, we will prepare a draft Record of Decision for FRA review.
- (e) CEQA Compliance - Prepare a CEQA addendum for state funding. The addendum would utilize data and information collected and used in the NEPA Re-evaluation discussed above.

2. Surface Transportation Board Filing

Consultant team shall conduct the work related to concluding the STB petition approval and application waiver request.

AVS Consulting, Inc., Administration Support Services Scope of Work:

1. Schedule and administer HDCJPA Board Meetings to consider policy positions and participate in discussions with Project Development Team and/or the Policy and Technical Advisory Committee on items to move the Project forward.
2. Provide professional analysis, governmental relations and/or other services for the HDCJPA as directed by the HDCJPA Board Members.
3. Educate and build political, business and stakeholder coalitions in support of the Project; identify and coordinate meetings with key federal elected officials and agency officials to develop and advance the Project.
4. Identify funding opportunities, form coalitions of support and work with funding agencies to secure financing for the HDCJPA project.
5. Oversee and provide direction to contracted consultants hired by the HDCJPA in such areas as specialized legal, financial and environmental services to ensure work is performed in accordance with contract requirements.
6. Act as spokesperson; provide input to determine press strategy and content; prepare presentations, speeches, and authorship of articles on the Project.
7. Maintain routine communication with HDCJPA's governing board and key staff regarding issues of importance to the HDCJPA.
8. Actively participate, coordinate and monitor appropriate coalitions and working groups of other agencies/entities as well as their respective activities to help further the interests and objectives of HDCJPA (i.e. Metro, Metrolink, CHSRA, SBCTA, Caltrans, Nevada Rail Authority, etc.).
9. Respond expeditiously to HDCJPA inquiries and/or requests.
10. Monitor Regional, State, and Federal activities related to transportation programs and funding, and report these activities to the HDCJPA member agencies.
11. Prepare position papers on proposed activities representing the HDCJPA's position.
12. Provide technical information and planning assistance to the HDCJPA regarding transportation matters.
13. Prepare meeting agendas and minutes.
14. Other duties as assigned and/or deemed necessary by the HDCJPA.



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD AGENDA REPORT 8 A

The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Date: April 14, 2022
To: The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors (HDC JPA)
From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director
Subject: **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR HDC JPA DISSOLUTION
Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 8**

Recommended Action: Approve Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 8, including subcontractors, for a not to exceed amount of \$720,000, including the extension of the contractual performance period from December 31, 2022, to June 30, 2023, with funding included in the HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget effective July 1, 2022; and authorize the Executive Director/County of San Bernardino to execute the Transportation Solutions Contract Amendment 8.

Fiscal Impact:

The HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget includes funding for a not to exceed amount of \$720,000 through June 30, 2023.

Background: This Amendment No. 8 ("Amendment") to the Professional Services Agreement for Rail Connector Implementation Study, effective as of July 1, 2022, is made and entered into by and between the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority ("HDC JPA") and Transportation Solutions ("Consultant").

I. Most Recent Prior Amendments

On December 8, 2018, the HDC JPA entered Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Services Agreement for Rail Connector Implementation Study with Consultant for the purpose of obtaining the services of consultant to prepare the HDC Rail Component Record of Decision (ROD). Section III of Amendment No. 5 to the Agreement provided that the Term of the Agreement period was to commence upon issuance of a written Notice to Proceed issued by the HDC JPA and was to continue in full force and effect through December 31, 2019, or upon completion of the final Transportation Solutions interim report, whichever is sooner.

On July 8, 2020, the HDC JPA entered Amendment No. 6 to continue work to obtain a Rail Component ROD from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). The Term of the Agreement period was extended to December 31, 2021.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Chair)

Darrell Dorris

Council Member, City of Lancaster

Steven D. Hofbauer

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Ara Najarian

Council Member, City of Glendale

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Vice Chair)

Scott Nassif

Council Member, Town of Apple Valley

Debra Jones

Mayor, City of Victorville

Gabriel Reyes

Mayor, City of Adelanto

Amendment 7 extended Amendment No. 6 to continue work on the FRA ROD, as well as environmental clearance from the Surface Transportation Board (STB). The Term of the Agreement was extended to December 31, 2022, or upon completion of the final ROD from FRA with environmental clearance from the STB, whichever is first.

II. Scope of Work

Paragraph V of the original Agreement, Scope of Work, is hereby amended and will supplement the existing Scope of Work with the following Scope of Work:

Complete Re-evaluation/RE-validation and Record of Decision (ROD) tasks including:

- Addressing FRA comments, provide revised version for FRA review, prepare final version for NEPA Re-evaluation and prepare a ROD for FRA final approval.
- Draft a Letter of Concurrence summarizing design changes and formal re-initiation of Section 7 consultation
- Complete Section 106 process, including Tribe Consultation
- Prepare CEQA addendum for state funding

Conclude Surface Transportation Board Petition approval process and application waiver request and other related tasks to complete this phase of project development for the HDC high speed rail project. This would close out one of the major pending items for dissolution of the HDC JPA.

III. Compensation and Invoicing

Paragraph VI of the original Agreement set forth the compensation and invoicing for the original Scope of Work and is hereby amended to add the following:

The method of payment for the expanded Scope of Work set forth in this Amendment will be based on a total sum, subject to availability and receipt of funding, not to exceed \$720,000.

In addition, Consultant will also be authorized to subcontract for Financial, Legal, and Engineering upon approval of the HDC JPA staff. Progress payments may be made monthly in arrears based on the percentage of Work completed by consultant or subcontractors.

Consultant shall submit progress reports with its invoices. Payments to Consultant shall be made within sixty (60) calendar days after receipt and approval by the HDC JPA.

Amendment 8 not to exceed \$720,000 budget breakdown is as follows:

Transportation Solutions -- \$126,000

Venable LLP- \$140,000

AECOM - \$21,000

CirclePoint - \$433,000

IV. Other Terms of the Agreement

All other terms of the Agreement remain in full force and effect.

Electronic Signatures

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same Agreement. The parties shall be entitled to sign and transmit an electronic signature of this Agreement (whether by facsimile, PDF or other mail transmission), which signature shall be binding on the party whose name is contained therein. Each party providing an electronic signature agrees to promptly execute and deliver to the other party an original signed Agreement upon request.

All other terms, conditions and covenants remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority ("HDC JPA") and Transportation Solutions ("Consultant") have each caused this Amendment to be subscribed by its respective duly authorized officers, on its behalf.

HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JPA

TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

Arthur Sohikian
Executive Director

Neil Peterson

Date
-

Date



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD AGENDA REPORT 8B The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Date: April 14, 2022
 To: The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors
 (HDC JPA)
 From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director
 Subject: **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR HDC JPA DISSOLUTION
 HDC JPA Executive Director and Administration Support Services (AVS
 Consulting, Inc.) Contract Extension and Funding**

Recommended Action: Approve the AVS Consulting, Inc. Contract Extension with funding in the HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget of a not-to-exceed amount of \$182,970 to conduct the work as the Executive Director and Administration Support Services for the HDC JPA for FY 2022-2023.

Fiscal Impact:

The HDC JPA Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Recommended Budget includes Executive Director and Administration Support Services through June 30, 2023. The AVS Consulting, Inc. monthly invoice for Executive Director and Administration Support Services not-to-exceed yearly amount of \$182,970 or \$15,248 monthly.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AND
 AVS CONSULTING, INC.

HDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SUPPORT SERVICES
 (AVS CONSULTING, Inc.) CONTRACT AMENDMENT

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

AVS Consulting, Inc. Contract Amendment

IN THAT CERTAIN Contract Amendment by and between HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR (HDC) JPA and AVS CONSULTING, INC., to provide services for the general purpose of planning, operation, and maintenance of transportation and utility corridors throughout the Counties' high deserts, as more specifically stated in the HDC Joint Powers Agreement, which contract first became effective October 29, 2020, changes were made July 1, 2022, with approval of funds in the FY21/22 Budget.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Chair)

Darrell Dorris

Council Member, City of Lancaster

Steven D. Hofbauer

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Ara Najarian

Council Member, City of Glendale

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Vice Chair)

Scott Nassif

Council Member, Town of Apple Valley

Debra Jones

Mayor, City of Victorville

Gabriel Reyes

Mayor, City of Adelanto

Section 3. is amended to read:

3. Term and Budget

Subject to compliance with all terms and conditions, this Contract Amendment is effective as of July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, for a not-to-exceed yearly amount of \$182,970 or \$15,248 monthly. All other terms, conditions and covenants remain in full force and effect.

Section 17. is added to read:

17. Electronic Signatures

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same Agreement. The parties shall be entitled to sign and transmit an electronic signature of this Agreement (whether by facsimile, PDF or other mail transmission), which signature shall be binding on the party whose name is contained therein. Each party providing an electronic signature agrees to promptly execute and deliver to the other party an original signed Agreement upon request.

All other terms, conditions and covenants remain in full force and effect.

Signatures on next page

HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JPA

HDC JPA Chair
Kathryn Barger

Date

AVS CONSULTING, Inc.

Arthur V Sohikian

Date



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD AGENDA REPORT 9 The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Date: April 14, 2022
 To: The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors (HDC)
 From: Arthur V. Sohikian, Executive Director
 Subject: **HDC Executive Director Update Report**

Recommended Action: Receive and File Executive Director Update Report

Fiscal Impact: There is no Fiscal Impact. Items discussed in this report have future Fiscal Impact.

The HDC should continue to educate and advocate for transportation infrastructure investments from all government and private sector sources to deliver critical mobility options to reverse the decades long transportation equity gap created in the high desert communities of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. Toward that end, the Authority has taken major steps advancing the SR18/SR138 Highway Alternative and Rail Component projects.

HDC Highway Alternative (SR18/SR138) Update

High Desert Corridor



Original Project

- 63 miles - Highway, Expressway, Tollway, High Speed Rail, Bikeway, and energy production/transmission corridor concepts
- Connecting North Los Angeles County and San Bernardino County (Victorville)
- Transit connection between the CHSR and the XpressWest
- In Measure M for ROW and related services in 2019
- Final EIR/EIS completed in 2016
- No Funding

Alternatives being Considered

- Alternative highway alignment being studied on SR-138 and SR-18 to accommodate continuous 4 lane connection
- PSR started in 2021
- PSR completion Fall 2022



Metro



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Chair)

Darrell Dorris

Council Member, City of Lancaster

Steven D. Hofbauer

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Ara Najarian

Council Member, City of Glendale

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Vice Chair)

Scott Nassif

Council Member, Town of Apple Valley

Debra Jones

Mayor, City of Victorville

Gabriel Reyes

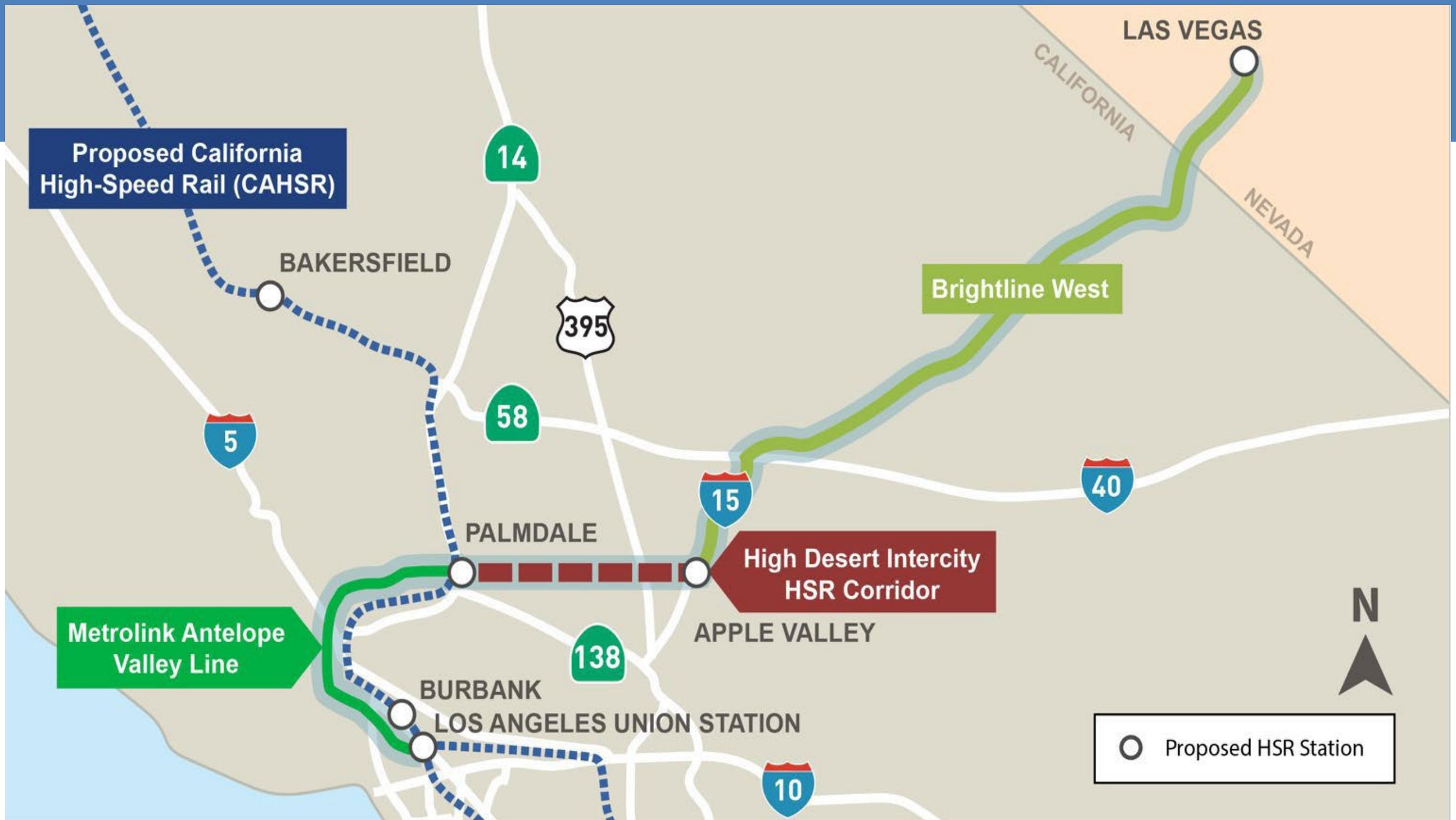
Mayor, City of Adelanto

- Metro, SBCTA, Caltrans Districts 7/8 focused on widening SR18/SR138 as a continuous 4-lane highway between the Antelope and Victory Valleys (Victorville/Palmdale) connecting high desert communities in San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties. SBCTA allocated Measure I funds and Metro allocated Measure M HDC funds for the focused PSR-PDS project development documents with Metro as the lead agency. Study started in June 2021 and is scheduled to conclude Fall 2022.

HDC Rail Component Status Update

- April 2021, HDC submits Reevaluation petition to Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Surface Transportation Board (STB) with positive meetings. HDC objective is to receive the Rail Project Record of Decision (ROD/NOD), Notice of Determination approval in late 2021/early 2022. This will complete clearance for the high-speed rail project component and put the HDC Rail Project in position to advance to the next phase, Preliminary Engineering.
- The HDC Rail Project includes changes from the design evaluated in the HDC EIR/EIS document. These changes are necessary to connect to the currently planned California HSR station in the City of Palmdale and to the redesigned Brightline West station in the Town of Apple Valley. The April 2021 Reevaluation will be used by FRA to determine if the prior results set forth in the 2016 HDC EIR/EIS remain valid. HDC staff and consultant team met with FRA in June, August, and September and the HDC Consultant Team has had numerous meetings with the various FRA staff to discuss the Reevaluation.
- September 2021, Metro pays the Surface Transportation Board HDC Petition fee to allow the JPA to formally submit the petition with Verified Statement submitted by Executive Director Arthur Sohikian.
- December 9, 2021, STB issues an order instituting an exemption proceeding in response to the JPA's petition. STB accepted comments on the Petition for Exemption through January 10, 2022, and responses to those comments through February 8, 2022. The National Rail Passengers Association wrote a support letter for the exemption. The STB is statutorily required to issue a decision within 9 months of instituting a proceeding.
- February 2022, FRA sends correspondence as NEPA lead to agencies to continue the environmental review process. Coordinating meetings with FRA staff are on-going. FRA to begin formal consultation process meetings.
- Metro Board HDC Intercity Rail Service Development Plan & Funding Plan including \$3 million of HDC Measure M funds, \$1.375 million in CalSTA 2018 Transit Intercity Rail Capital Plan State grant under the Network Integration category, and \$625K from Brightline West (\$250K in cash and \$375K of in-kind contributions) continues. The Final Draft of the Development and Funding Plans are scheduled for release in Spring/Summer 2022.
- March 8, 2022, San Bernardino County and Cities Stakeholders Meeting held with strong participation.

HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR HIGH SPEED RAIL PROJECT



High Desert Corridor High Speed Rail Project



Proposed 54-mile corridor (Palmdale to Apple Valley)

Two stations: Proposed Palmdale HSR Station and Brightline West's Apple Valley Station

Proposed maximum allowable speed of 220 mph where feasible, less than a 30-minute trip
36 miles of single-track (67%) and 18 miles of double-track (33%)

Track on embankment section on average 10 feet above existing grade to address drainage requirements for 90% of the corridor.

The estimated cost of the High Desert Intercity HSR Project is \$3.9B in year of expenditure dollars, calculated based on the assumed service operations in 2029 and an escalation rate at 3% per year.

Measure M Expenditure Plan

Los Angeles County Transportation Expenditure Plan

(2015 \$ in thousands)

ATTACHMENT A

Groundbreaking Sequence
(Exceptions Noted)

For Reference Only	Project (Final Project to be Defined by the Environmental Process)	Notes	Schedule of Funds Available		Subregion*	2016 - 2067 Local, State, Federal, Other Funding 2015\$	Measure M Funding 2015\$	Most Recent Cost Estimate 2015\$**	Modal Code
			Ground- breaking Start Date†	Expected Opening Date (3 year range)					
	Expenditure Plan Major Projects		1 st yr of Range						
1	Airport Metro Connect 96th St. Station/Green Line Ext LAX®	a,p	FY 2018	CY 2021	sc	\$233,984	\$347,016	\$581,000	T
2	Westside Purple Line Extension Section 3®	b	FY 2018	FY 2024	w	\$986,139	\$994,251	\$1,980,390	T
3	High Desert Multi-Purpose Corridor (HDMC)®	q	FY 2019	FY 2021	nc	\$100,000	\$170,000	\$270,000	H
4	I-5 N Cap. Enhancements (SR-14 to Lake Hughes Rd)®		FY 2019	FY 2023	nc	\$544,080	\$240,000	\$784,080	H
5	Gold Line Foothill Extension to Claremont®	c	FY 2019	FY 2025	sg	\$78,000	\$1,019,000	\$1,097,000	T
6	Orange Line BRT Improvements	n	FY 2019	FY 2025	sf	\$0	\$286,000	\$286,000	T
37	I-405 South Bay Curve Improvements		FY 2045	FY 2047	sd	\$250,840	\$150,000	\$400,840	H
38	Green Line Eastern Extension (Norwalk)	p	FY 2046	FY 2052	sc	\$570,000	\$200,000	\$770,000	T
39	SF Valley Transportation Improvements	m	FY 2048	FY 2050	sf	\$0	\$106,800	\$106,800	T
40	Sepulveda Pass Westwood to LAX (Ph 3)	p	FY 2048	FY 2057	sc	\$3,800,000	\$65,000	\$3,865,000	T
41	Orange Line Conversion to Light Rail		FY 2051	FY 2057	sf	\$1,067,000	\$362,000	\$1,429,000	T
42	City of San Fernando Bike Master Plan		FY 2052	FY 2054	sf	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	H
43	Historic Downtown Streetcar		FY 2053	FY 2057	cc	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000	T
44	Gold Line Eastside Ext. Second Alignment	p	FY 2053	FY 2057	sc	\$110,000	\$2,890,000	\$3,000,000	T
45	High Desert Multi-Purpose Corridor - LA County Segment	p	FY 2063	FY 2067	sc	\$32,982	\$1,845,718	\$1,878,700	H
46	Expenditure Plan Major Projects Subtotal					\$19,581,027	\$20,989,941	\$40,570,969	

LA Metro's Measure M Expenditure Plan includes \$170million in 2019 and \$1.846 billion in 2063 for High Desert Corridor.

High Speed Rail Operations Travel Time Modeling



HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR HIGH SPEED RAIL PROJECT

Ridership

There are approximately 56 million annual trips by air and auto that travel between Las Vegas and Southern California. The current demand for HSR travel between Southern California and Las Vegas is estimated at 27.5 million round trips, most of whom currently drive to/from Las Vegas along the I-15, I-10 and SR-138. This is composed of 22.6 million annual round trips by auto, 3.1 million annual round trips by air and 1.8 million annual round trips by bus.

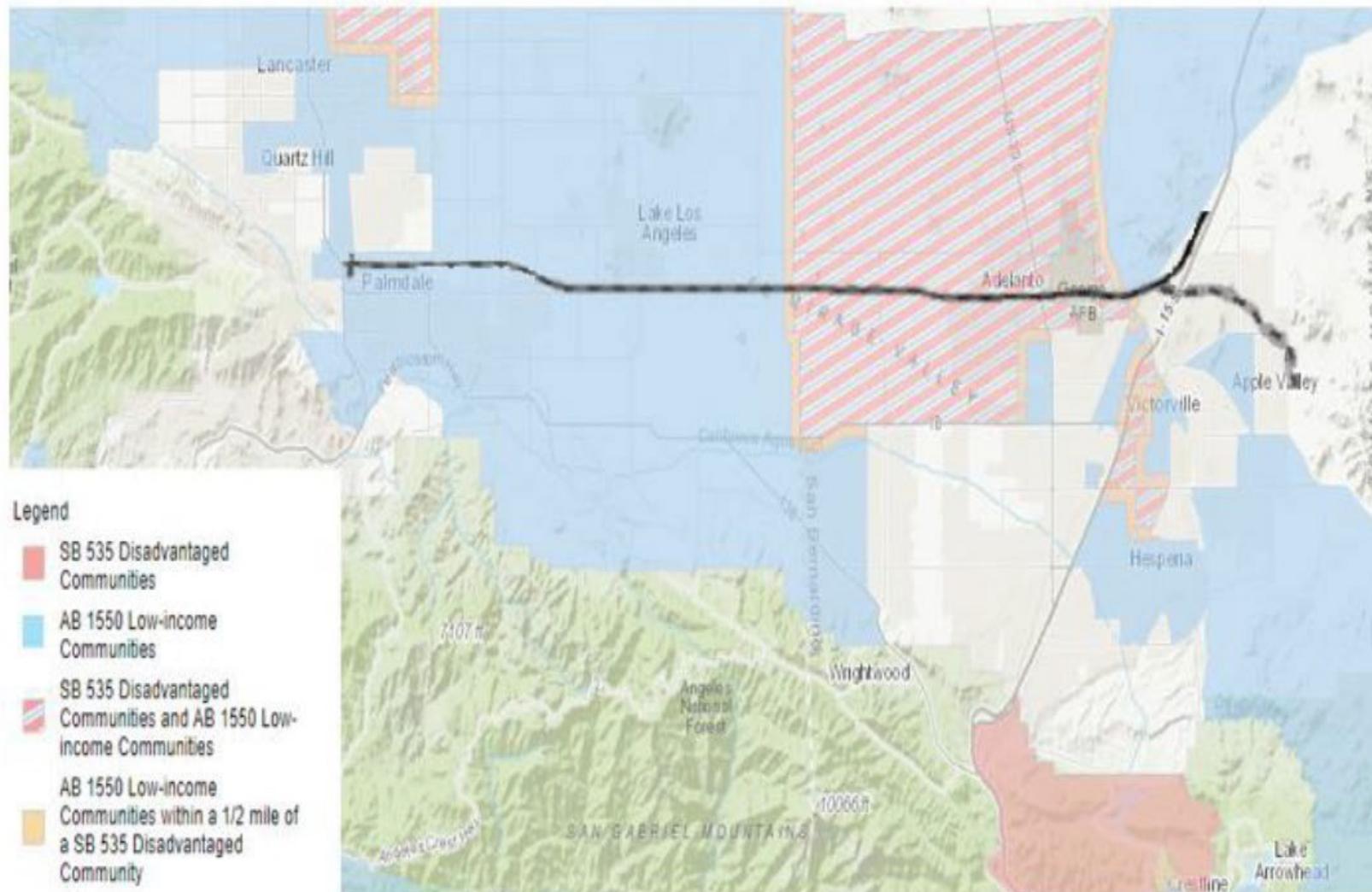
The estimated ridership on the High Desert HSR Corridor with initial service is estimated to start at **3.1 million riders per year**, growing to **14 million riders per year** by 2050 with the full service.

Based on the estimated trips captured by HSR service, the reduction in VMT is estimated to start at **371 million vehicles miles per year** and grow to over **1.4 billion vehicle miles per year** from California and Nevada freeways and highways in the region by 2050.

HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR HIGH SPEED RAIL PROJECT

Economic Impact/Equity

Figure 4: Disadvantaged and Low-Income Communities. (Source: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/auctionproceeds/535investments.htm>)



Approximately 90 percent of High Desert Intercity HSR corridor between Palmdale and the Victor Valley is rural and the Cities of Adelanto and Victorville are designated as high poverty areas by the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.

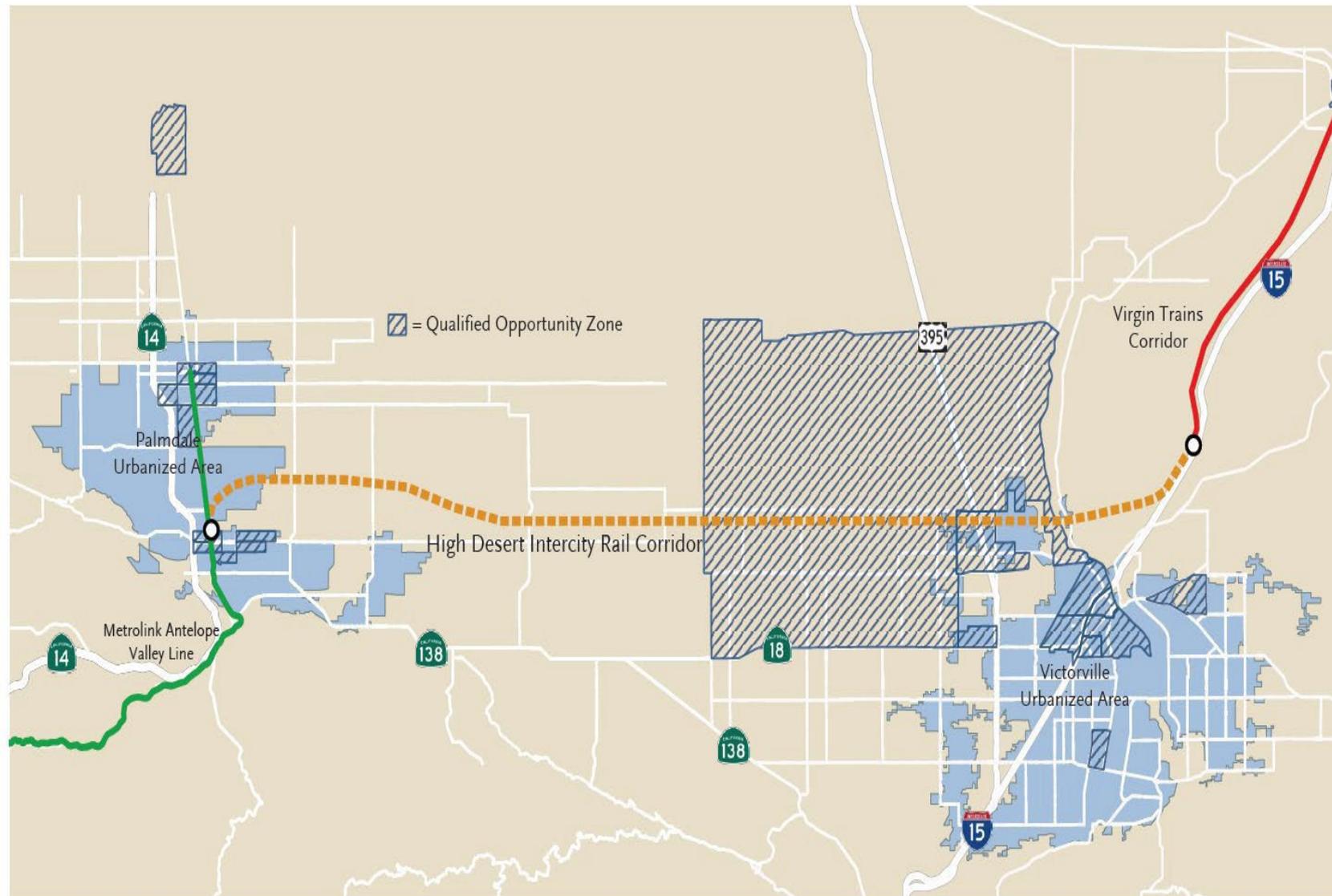
The entire area of the Project falls within the low-income communities and households as defined by AB 1550, with a significant portion also falling within the disadvantaged and low-income communities as defined by SB 535.

There are fifteen qualified opportunity zones in the area of the High Desert Intercity HSR Corridor— nine qualified opportunity zones in San Bernardino County and six in Los Angeles County.

HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR HIGH SPEED RAIL PROJECT

Economic Impact/Equity

Figure 5: Urbanized Areas and Qualified Opportunity Zones



The High Desert Intercity HSR Corridor Project will stimulate economic development in one of the fastest growing areas in California. The growing population of the High Desert has major implications for transit usage and greenhouse gas emissions. Populations in both the Victor and Antelope Valleys spend significant time commuting to employment centers outside of the High Desert region.

As these regions which have been underserved by transportation options and are heavily reliant on single-person automobile traffic continue to grow, it will be essential to provide a new HSR service. With the addition of the new HSR service, many of these communities will be incentivized to eliminate long drives into Los Angeles and other urban centers and capitalize on growing economic opportunities in the High Desert region. The connectivity of Metrolink and a high-speed rail service will ultimately provide reduced commute times for those still commuting into Los Angeles and nearby jurisdictions, while increasing economic prosperity in the Antelope and Victor valleys

Metrolink Antelope Valley Line Improvements Projects

Existing Conditions and Proposed Improvements

