



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 14, 2021 - 2:00 PM

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 Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82641275529?pwd=ZkZJeEdVL1pJN2trZmc4QzIjNNU9uQT09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 826 4127 5529 Passcode: 225936

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82641275529#,,,,*225936# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,82641275529#,,,,*225936# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 826 4127 5529

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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

October 14, 2021, Board of Directors

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
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 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 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 CORRESPONDENCE:** *San Bernardino Clerk of the Board, Lynna Monell*
- i. HDC JPA High Desert Corridor JPA Comments to CA High Speed Rail Authority August 18/19, 2021, Board of Directors meeting Agenda Items #2/5/6/7/8 Bakersfield to Palmdale Project Section Final EIR/EIS and Proposed Selection of the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 2 with the Refined César E. Chávez Design Option, Avenue M Maintenance Site and Maintenance of Way Facility, and Palmdale Station). Sent Via email. August 18, 2021.
 - ii. HDC JPA Letter to Federal Railroad Administration requesting the FRA environmental team initiate the Section 106 consultation process, August 23, 2021.
 - iii. HDC JPA letter from outside counsel Venable to Surface Transportation Board transmitting HDC JPA – Construction and Operation Exemption—Passenger Rail Line in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, CA, Surface Transportation Board Docket No. FD35941, including Verified Statement of Arthur Sohikian in Support of Petitioner’s Petition for Exemption September 24, 2021 (36 pages).
6. **MINUTES/RECAP OF PROCEEDINGS:** *San Bernardino Clerk of the Board, Lynna Monell*
Recommended Action: *Approve July 8, 2021, HDC JPA Board Meeting Minutes.*
7. **2022 HDC JPA Board Meeting Calendar**
Recommended Action: Approve HDC JPA Quarterly Board meetings as follows:
- A. January 13, 2022, 3pm
 - B. April 14, 2022, 2pm
 - C. July 14, 2022, 3pm
 - D. October 13, 2022, 2pm
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.*
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*
10. **HDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE REPORT** – Executive Director
Recommended Action: *Receive and File Executive Director Update Report*

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.*

12. HDC BOARD MEMBER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**13. ADJOURNMENT. Next Board of Directors meeting January 13, 2022, at 2:00pm.
Interim Special Meetings under AB 361 possibly TBD.**