



CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL: INAUGURAL HIGH-SPEED SERVICE – MERCED EXTENSION

The California High-Speed Rail Authority is applying for a grant of \$450 million from the Federal Railroad Administration’s FY 2023 – FY 2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program. The grant will advance the Merced Extension element of the Inaugural High-Speed Service from Merced to Bakersfield, a crucial part of the California High-Speed Rail Phase 1 Corridor. California’s electrified high-speed rail will connect the mega-regions of the state, contribute to economic development and a cleaner environment, create jobs and preserve agricultural and protected lands.

- **Merced Extension – \$446 million** is requested to construct the first eight (8) miles of the extension from Madera to Merced (the Project). The Project includes utility relocation, civil construction, track and systems that will connect with the 119-mile Central Valley Segment already under construction. The Authority would provide state matching funds of **\$111 million** toward the Project. Other costs for the Project’s final design and right-of-way acquisition are being funded from the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program and state matching funds.
- **Workforce training programs in the Central Valley – \$4 million** is requested to continue funding for existing pre-apprenticeship training programs and expand to new programs to further support construction of the Project and all elements of high-speed rail in the region. These programs will prepare the next generation of skilled construction trades personnel for work on the high-speed rail project and other similar projects, offering living wage-jobs that will bring both immediate and long-term economic benefits to a disadvantaged area. The Authority would provide state matching funds of **\$1 million**.

This Project is consistent with federal priorities of equity, climate, sustainability, safety and transformation.

This application builds on the 2023 federal grant from the Federal-State Partnership Program that included funding for a 13-mile extension toward Bakersfield. The on-going federal-state partnership has, to date, provided approximately \$28.8 billion in combined funding for the California high-speed rail project - \$22.0 billion state (76%) and \$6.8 billion federal (24%). California is the only state in the country to have committed this level of funding to modernizing intercity passenger rail and the Authority is asking the federal government to match this level of commitment with strong grant support of the project with Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding.



Selma Training Center workers with former Selma Mayor Louis Franco



Conceptual rendering of California high-speed train



A worker operating a backhoe at Church Avenue CP1 construction site