



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

March 27, 2015 Board Meeting



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 1

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 2

Presentation by Fresno Council of Governments

Vice Chair Perea

National Park Transit



**FRESNO – YOSEMITE
FRESNO/SANGER - SEQUOIA & KINGS
CANYON**

Providing the Services



- Feasibility studies conducted in 2013
- Funding utilized:
 - CMAQ approx. \$3.15 Million
 - Air District approx. 400k
 - Caltrans approx. 100k
- JPA amended to allow for Fresno COG to act as lead agency (Sept. 2014), including:
 - Grant applications
 - Operational contracting

Services and Routes



- **Fresno to Yosemite:**

- Operated by Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) – a well-established and successful track record of transit service already in place providing routes to/from Mammoth Lakes, Sonora, Merced and Yosemite
 - ✦ Operating 365 days a year starting May 2015
 - ✦ Stops in Downtown Fresno at Greyhound and Amtrak, Airport, Fresno State, North Fresno Hotels, Mountain Communities of Coarsegold and Oakhurst
 - ✦ 5 runs per day connecting with an existing internal park transit system
 - ✦ \$30 roundtrip fare which includes park entrance fee

- **Fresno/Sanger to Sequoia & Kings Canyon:**

- Sponsored by the City of Sanger
- Operated by Fresno Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) – currently providing high-level transit services to the rural areas of Fresno County
 - ✦ Operating 102 days per year starting May 2015
 - ✦ Stops in Downtown Fresno at Greyhound and Amtrak, Airport, Sanger, Clingan's Junction (Squaw Valley), Grant Grove
 - ✦ 4 runs per day with plans for an internal park transit system to complement the existing system in the Kings Canyon National Park provided by Visalia Transit
 - ✦ \$15 roundtrip fare which includes park entrance fee

Launching Soon!!



Both services are scheduled to launch
Memorial Day 2015

[\(Click for ABC 30 video\)](#)



Item 3

Consent Calendar

- 3.1 Approve Minutes from January 23, 2015 Board Meeting

- 3.2 Approve Next SJJPA Board Meeting Location and Start Time
May 22, 2015: Stockton (SJ COG) at 12:30 pm



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 4

Public Comments



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 5

Letters of Support for Sustainable Communities Grant Applications

Dan Leavitt

Letters of Support for SC Grant Applications

- In 2014 California Legislature established new Cap and Trade funding programs including the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program.
- The AHSC Program was created by SB862 to:
 - reduce greenhouse gas emissions by funding projects that support more compact, infill development patterns
 - encourage active transportation and transit usage
 - protect agricultural land from sprawl development

Letters of Support for SC Grant Applications

- The AHSC Program is allocated \$120 million of 2014-15 funds.
- Primary objectives of the program include increasing affordable housing and providing benefits to disadvantage communities.
- Capital improvements can be funded through this program that results in the enhancement of:
 - public transit access
 - pedestrian network
 - bicycle network within the defined project area

Letters of Support for SC Grant Applications

- Project allocations will be selected through a competitive process based on the evaluation criteria outlined in the program guidelines.
- Project Concepts were due on February 19, 2015
- Final grant applications for those projects asked to submit full applications are due on April 20, 2015.
- There are at least three grant applications for transit-oriented development projects near San Joaquin stations.

Letters of Support for SC Grant Applications

Recommendation:

- Direction from the Board for staff to submit SJJPA letters of support to the Chair for his signature for applications which support San Joaquin stations, access to San Joaquin stations, or development near San Joaquin stations.



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 6

SJJPA Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Projects Grant Applications

Dan Leavitt

SJJPA TIRCP Grant Applications

- In 2014 California Legislature established new Cap and Trade funding programs including the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).
- The TIRCP was created by SB862 to fund:
 - capital improvements and operational investments that will modernize California's transit systems and intercity, commuter, and urban rail systems
 - to reduce greenhouse gases by reducing vehicle miles traveled throughout California.

SJJPA TIRCP Grant Applications

- TIRCP is allocated \$124.8 million of 2014-15 and expected 2015-16 funds.
- Project allocations will be selected through a competitive process.
- SJJPA can submit applications for a major (greater than \$3 million) and a minor (less than \$3 million) project.
- No single project can exceed \$41.18 million.

SJJPA TIRCP Grant Applications

- The SJJPA is eligible to apply for grant applications on behalf of the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service.
- Applications are due on April 10, 2015.
- There are limited options for “major” San Joaquin capital improvement projects which meet the TIRCP program guidelines and evaluation criteria and the single project cost limitations.

SJIPA TIRCP Grant Applications

- BNSF Stockton-Escalon Double Track Segment 4 project between mileposts 1106.8-1116.3 (5.7 miles) appears best suited for the SJIPA major project application for the San Joaquin service.
- This critical \$33.5 million project is:
 - ready to implement
 - will benefit freight and San Joaquin operations
 - will result in greenhouse gas reductions
 - is completely within an area identified as a disadvantaged community

SJJPA TIRCP Grant Applications

San Joaquin Capital Projects for 8th - 11th Daily Round Trips (\$ Millions)

| 8 Trains at 79 MPH (5/10 Year) | Segment | Milepost | Miles | Cost | Env | Funding |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|------|---------|
| Gregg Double Track | | 1008.9 - 1013.8 | 5 | \$23.4 | CEQA | |
| Merced-LeGrand Segment 1 | 1 | 1041.7 - 1050.1 | 8.4 | \$40.4 | CEQA | \$40.8 |
| Stockton-Escalon Segment | 3 | 1106.8 - 1110.6 | 3.8 | \$20.5 | CEQA | \$20.5 |
| Stockton-Escalon Segment | 4 | 1106.8 - 1116.3 | 5.7 | \$33.5 | CEQA | |
| Oakley-Port Chicago Segment 2 | 2 | 1152.7 - 1155.8 | 3.1 | \$55.0 | CEQA | |
| | Total 8 Trains at 79 MPH | | 26 | \$172.8 | | |
| | | Remaining | 13.8 | \$111.6 | | |

SJJPA TIRCP Grant Applications

- The Stockton-Escalon Double Track Segment 4 allows 3-5 minute travel time savings for San Joaquins and reduces freight idling/delay in disadvantage community.
- For the minor application staff proposes a fare subsidy program for low income residents which would include public outreach to disadvantaged communities in several languages.

SJJPA TIRCP Grant Applications

Recommendation:

- Approve Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Submit and Execute any and all grant applications, agreements, certifications and assurances and any other documents necessary to obtain financial assistance provided by the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) under the Cap and Trade Program.



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Item 7

Interagency Transfer Agreement

Stacey Mortensen



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

ITA Progress

- ❑ Based upon over 1 year of document development, a full draft Transfer Agreement and most associated appendices are now virtually complete

- ❑ Two key areas require further discussion and negotiation:
 - ❑ Liability and Indemnification
 - ❑ Assignment of Equipment

LOSSAN and SJJPA are working concurrently with CalSTA and Caltrans to complete these negotiations



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ITA Schedule

- ❑ Final Comments by LOSSAN and SJJPA on the ITA will be submitted on March 31st.
- ❑ CalSTA will be meeting with SJJPA staff on April 3rd to review the updated Budget submittal for FY 15/16.
- ❑ All Parties have committed to finalizing the transfer documents in April for a submittal to the CalSTA Secretary in early May. In-person meetings have been set for April 1st and April 24th.



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ITA Schedule

- It is anticipated that the SJJPA Governing Board would consider approving the ITA at the May meeting
- SJJPA staff are working with Caltrans on funding and payment logistics to begin Aug. 1st. Caltrans will bridge the July payments to Amtrak



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ITA Progress

- All of this is subject to the Approval of the Secretary of CalSTA.
- The letters in the staff report reflect the effort by our Senators and regional agencies to ensure the transfer takes place on June 30th



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Item 8

San Joaquin Rolling Stock and Operations Update

Brian Schmidt

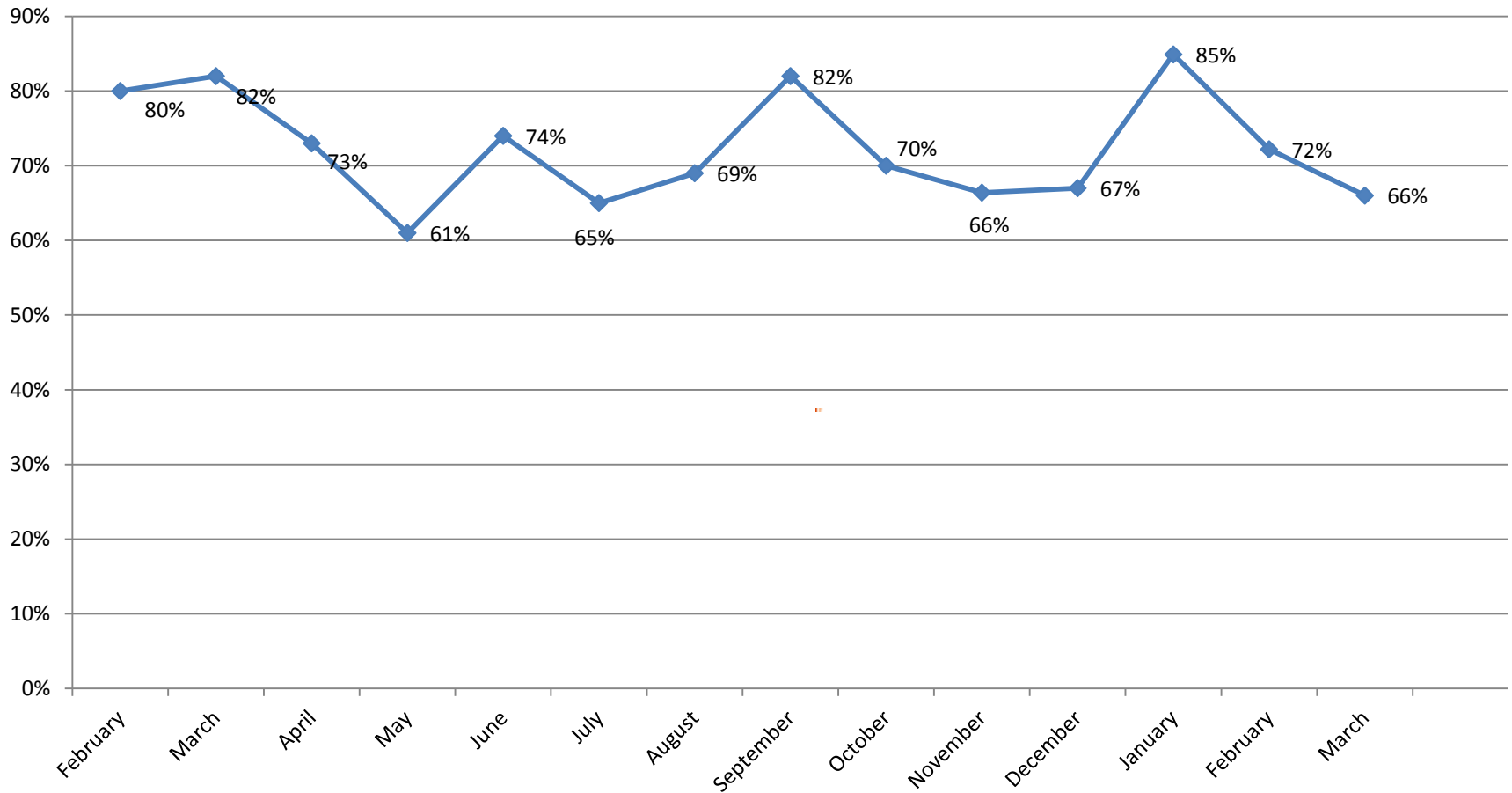
San Joaquin Rolling Stock Update

- At the last meeting staff reported recommending a thorough analysis of a 14 train rotation which would free up more bi-level equipment for the San Joaquins and allow the removal of the last Comet Car trainset.
- On March 2nd, a meeting was held to discuss the results of the 14 trainset analysis, and it was determined that unless major schedule changes were put in place on the San Joaquin Service the 14 train rotation would not work.
- As a result of the meeting, Amtrak has been directed to look at and bring back options on:

San Joaquin Rolling Stock Update

- Using available cars in fleet, evaluate opportunities to modify consist sizing using average peak loads by month for San Joaquin and CCJPA by train # and current consist cycle for the last 12 months
- Using current 15-consist weekday plan determine if consists can be interchanged between CCJPA and San Joaquin trains at either Sacramento or Oakland.
- Using ridership and revenue data from Amtrak, analyze and propose options on where to slot the 7th San Joaquin round trip train into the current schedule or propose a modified schedule.

San Joaquin On Time Performance



San Joaquin On Time Performance

- San Joaquin OTP Oct. 1 thru March 25, 2014
 - Trains Operated - 2,134
 - Trains On-Time - 1,520
 - Trains Late - 614
 - FY Year OTP - 71.2%
 - March OTP - 66.2%

FY 2015 Ridership

- Ridership Year-to-date vs. Projected

| | FY15 | Projected | % Diff |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| ▪ San Joaquin | 474,199 | 485,500 | -2.3 |
| ▪ Capitol Corridor | 595,642 | 570,300 | +4.4 |
| ▪ Pacific Surfliner | 1,070,963 | 1,036,700 | +3.3 |

Next Steps

- Meet and work with Caltrans, CCJPA and Amtrak to develop a non-Comet Car 15 trainset rotation using existing Bi-level equipment.
- Work with Caltrans and Amtrak on slotting the 7th Roundtrip.
- Monitor and develop strategies to increase ridership
- Next Corridor Improvement Team (CIT) meeting with the BNSF and UPRR is scheduled for May 6th, in Stockton



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Item 9

Letter to State Regarding Changes to San Joaquin Fare Policy

Dan Leavitt

Letter Regarding Changes to SJ Fare Policy

- The San Joaquin service ticketing is done by reservation.
- Amtrak's fare management policy on the San Joaquins is to increase the standard "value" fares as the San Joaquin trains start to reach capacity.
- Amtrak begins raising the San Joaquin prices once the train is shown to be 60% full.
- They have five levels of fare increase.

Letter Regarding Changes to SJ Fare Policy

- Since the San Joaquins have a very limited frequency of service a significant cost increase on any of the trains may result in a decrease in ridership.
- San Joaquin ridership has been below expectations for the last year and a half.
- Higher fares could be contributing to depressed ridership on the San Joaquins.

Letter Regarding Changes to SJ Fare Policy

- Staff recommends sending a letter to Caltrans requesting that they adjust their policy so that the San Joaquin trains are much closer to capacity before they begin to raise the fares

Recommendation:

- Approve draft letter to Caltrans for signature by the Chairperson.



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 10

CIPR Leadership Coalition Update

Dan Leavitt

CA Intercity Passenger Rail Leadership Coalition



San Joaquin
Joint Powers Authority



CIPR Leadership Coalition Update

- The CIPR Leadership Coalition worked hard to get Assembly and Senate Select Committees on Passenger Rail established.
 - Assemblymember Adam Gray (Merced) is the Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Rail.
 - Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson is Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Passenger Rail.
- Committees will work to protect and grow the investment in the State's conventional passenger rail network.

CIPR Leadership Coalition Update

- The Select Committees will work to increase state funding to improve and expand conventional intercity passenger rail services and commuter rail.
 - Leverage investments in these services by advocating for additional federal rail funds.

CIPR Leadership Coalition Update

- An initial joint-hearing for the Assembly and Senate Select Committees will be on May 14 at 10 am (or after the floor session) at room 4202 at the State Capitol.
- Agenda Items will include:
 - Overview of Rail Passenger Network: CalSTA
 - Funding for Intercity Passenger Rail
 - Improving Passenger Rail Safety
 - Transfer of Administrative Responsibility to JPAs
 - Impacts on Perata Law (RailPAC)

CIPR Leadership Coalition Update

- A second Assembly Select Committee hearing in the summer to be done with Congressman Denham (Chair of the House Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials).
- The second hearing will focus on improving and expanding the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) rail service and will be held in Modesto.

Assembly Select Committee on Rail:

- 1. Assemblymember Adam Gray, Chair (Merced)
- 2. Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez (Ontario)
- 3. Assemblymember Rudy Salas (Bakersfield)
- 4. Assemblymember Jim Frazier (Oakley)
- 5. Assemblymember Richard Gordon (Menlo Park)
- 6. Assemblymember Tom Daly (Anaheim)
- 7. Assemblymember Luis Alejo (Salinas)
- 8. Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian (San Luis Obispo)
- 9. Assemblymember Jimmy Gomez (Los Angeles)
- 10. Assemblymember Brian Maienschein (San Diego)
- 11. Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (Sacramento)

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- 11. **Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (Sacramento)**

Senate Select Committee on Rail:

- 1. Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson, Chair (Santa Barbara)
- 2. Sen. Jim Beall, Vice-chair (San Jose)
- 3. Sen. Benjamin Allen (Santa Monica)
- 4. Sen. Patricia Bates (Oceanside)
- 5. Sen. Anthony Cannella (Modesto/Salinas)
- 6. Sen. Cathleen Galgiani (Stockton)
- 7. Sen. Ricardo Lara (Bell Gardens)
- 8. Sen. Carol Liu (Los Angeles)
- 9. Sen. Richard Pan (Sacramento)

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CIPR Leadership Coalition Update

- The next Passenger Rail Summit is April 29, 2015 at Sacramento City Hall from 9 am – 4 pm.
 - <http://californiapassengerrailsummit.com>
- Reception for the Passenger Rail Summit on April 28, 2015 from 5 pm – 9 pm (Rail Museum).
- A CIPR Chairs/Vice-Chairs may be held after the Rail Summit on April 29, 2015
- The CIPR lobby day will be on April 28 in the afternoon.



Item 11

Administrative Matters or Announcements

- **Correspondence**
- **Update on Current Board Members**

Stacey Mortensen

Correspondence

- Expediting the transfer of the administrative service of the San Joaquin and Pacific Surfliner services to regional JPAs was one of the highlighted “Regional Priorities” of the 2015 San Joaquin Regional Policy Council’s “Valley Voice” lobby day in Sacramento held on March 4, 2015.
 - Chair Pedrozo, and Members Chiesa, Ishida and Rogers all participated as part of Valley Voice.

Correspondence

- The City of Oakley was successful in getting a Contra Costa Transportation Authority PDA Planning Grant.
- The SJJPA received several e-mails and phone calls from Jason Helton regarding the current fare policy on the San Joaquin service.
- The SJJPA was copied on several e-mails from Jim Spitze to Caltrans regarding his frustration with the Comet Cars.

Status of Board Vacancies

- Sacramento RT appointed Elk Grove Council Member Patrick Hume as their SJJPA Member and Sacramento Supervisor Don Nottoli as their Alternate.
- SJRRC appointed Michael Maciel, Mayor of Tracy, as their Alternate.



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 12

Board Members Comments



San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

Item 13

Adjournment



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March 27, 2015 Board Meeting