



Press Release

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## Thea Selby Appointed to High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) Board of Directors Chair Dan Richard issued the following statement today upon Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez’s appointment of Thea Selby to the Authority’s Board of Directors:

“Ms. Selby’s appointment to the Board of Directors represents a continuation of the Authority’s commitment to working with a variety of stakeholders. She brings a long legacy of supporting transportation projects in the Bay Area, particularly high-speed rail, and will be a valuable asset to the Board,” said Chair Dan Richard.

Selby is currently a principal at Next Steps Marketing in the San Francisco Bay area. She also serves as Executive Committee Member and Board Member with the San Francisco Transit Riders Union and as an Advisory Board Member of Californians for High-Speed Rail. She was Content Chair of Exceptional Woman in Publishing’s 2014 Women’s Leadership Conference and is a co-founder of the Lower Haight Merchant + Neighbor Association. She has been active in Bay Area political and advocacy for many years, with a special emphasis on social and community issues.

Selby will replace Tom Umberg on the Board of Directors effective today.

Umberg was appointed to the Board by Speaker Nunez in February 2008. He served as Chairman of the Board from June 2011 to February 2012.

“Tom has been a tremendous asset to the high-speed rail program, and we can’t possibly thank him enough for his years of service to the Board of Directors and the public at large,” said Richard. “During his tenure on the Board, he helped guide the project from the design and planning stages to the work that is being done in the Central Valley today, and he has always been committed to making the project transparent and accessible to the public.”

Umberg is currently a partner at Umberg Zipser LLP and is a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. He has been a strong advocate for veterans and veteran-owned business involvement on the high-speed rail project.

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### ***About California High-Speed Rail Authority***

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for planning, designing, building and operation of the first high-speed rail system in the nation. California 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. By 2029, the system will run from San Francisco to the Los Angeles basin in under three hours at speeds capable of over 200 miles per hour. The system will eventually extend to Sacramento and San Diego, totaling 800 miles with up to 24 stations. In addition, the Authority is working with regional partners to implement a statewide rail modernization plan that will invest billions of dollars in local and regional rail lines to meet the state’s 21st century transportation needs. To learn more visit the Authority’s website at <http://www.hsr.ca.gov> and join us on [facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail) and follow us at [twitter.com/cahsra](https://twitter.com/cahsra)