



SAN JOAQUIN  
REGIONAL  
RAIL COMMISSION



CALIFORNIA  
High-Speed Rail Authority

*Press Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **High-Speed Rail Authority Approves Altamont Corridor Leadership and Funding Transfer to San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission**

**SACRAMENTO** – Today, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) Board of Directors voted to transfer full leadership and funding for rail planning in the Altamont Corridor to the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRRC). The SJRRRC operates the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE), which connects the Central Valley and Silicon Valley via the Altamont Corridor and serves a million commuters per year.

The approved Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) builds upon the partnership between the Authority and regional partner SJRRRC since 2008. This MOU will allow the SJRRRC to focus on near-term improvements to speed up and increase ACE service on the existing tracks and plan for regional service connections to Modesto and Merced. The Authority will remain a partner in the planning process and the long-term goal of tying into the high-speed rail system will continue to inform the planning process.

“The Authority continues to build constructive local partnerships to benefit the communities that will be served by improved rail service in the short term and ultimately connect to the high-speed rail system,” said Jeff Morales, CEO of California High-Speed Rail Authority. “The approval of today’s agreement will benefit those who travel between the Bay Area and San Joaquin Valley and will help realize our vision of a seamless and integrated rail system throughout the state.”

“We look forward to continuing our strong relationship with the Authority,” said Stacey Mortensen, Executive Director of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission. “With this signed MOU, we can expedite improvements at the local level while preparing ACE to be an important connecting service to high-speed rail.”

### ***About the 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. 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 [www.hsr.ca.gov](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).*

### ***About the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission***

*The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRRC) owns and operates, and is the policy-making body for the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) service. SJRRRC is governed by a Board of Directors, who is appointed by the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) based on nominations by the local elected government. Ex-officio members represent Caltrans District 10, the San Joaquin Regional Transit District (SJRTD), and SJCOG. To learn more visit the SJRRRC website at <http://www.acerail.com/SJRRRC/SJRRRCBoard.aspx> and join the conversation at [facebook.com/ACEforward](https://www.facebook.com/ACEforward).*

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