



Press Release



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Patrick W. Henning, Sr., Appointed to California High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors Chair Dan Richard issued the following statement today upon Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez’s appointment of Patrick W. Henning, Sr. to the Authority’s Board of Directors.:

“We are pleased with the appointment of Patrick W. Henning, Sr. to the Authority Board of Directors by Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez. Patrick’s experience includes years of distinguished public service, both at the state level and in his community. A hallmark of Mr. Henning’s career has been his outreach to local chambers of commerce, labor councils and community organizations. We appreciate the unique experience he will bring to the Board to help move the high-speed rail project forward. We thank Speaker Pérez and welcome Mr. Henning to the Board.”

Patrick W. Henning, Sr., 66 of Fair Oaks, was the Director of the Employment Development Department (EDD) before his retirement in 2010. Prior to his appointment to EDD by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Henning was the key labor and employment policy committee consultant to the California Legislature for 17 years, first in the Assembly, and then later in the Senate. Henning also served as Labor Commissioner, the state’s chief labor law enforcement officer, for then-Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. He was a member of the state Commission on the Status of Women and was appointed as a Member of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board. As a labor representative in the 1970s, Henning represented workers on behalf of three labor organizations: the Service Employees International Union, the Hotel and Restaurant employees and Bartenders’ Union in Los Angeles, and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 12, in Southern California.

In addition, Henning was appointed to membership on the California Workforce Investment Board, and served as Chair of the state’s multi-agency Joint Enforcement Strike Force on the Underground Economy. Major community involvement included his tenure as chair of the state Developmental Disabilities Area Board for Los Angeles County. Henning also served several years in the United States Marine Corps Reserve.

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.

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