



Press Release

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## High-Speed Rail Authority Regional Director Honored by the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – California High-Speed Rail Authority’s (Authority) Diana Gomez was presented with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) highest honor, the Jamie Oaxaca Award. Gomez, the Authority’s Central Valley Regional Director, is being recognized for her contributions and dedication in helping Hispanic students and professionals advance in their pursuit of careers in science, technology, engineering, and math.

“This is the highest and most prestigious award offered by SHPE. Honoring Diana this year is in recognition of her selfless and outstanding contributions in the engineering and science fields” said Pilar Montoya, SHPE CEO.

Gomez has been the Authority’s Central Valley Regional Director since 2012. The region is home to many of California’s fastest growing Hispanic communities. She is credited with building and developing new partnerships with high-speed rail stakeholders in the Valley. Gomez is also spearheading the expansion of the Authority’s Central Valley field office. Prior to her work with the Authority, Gomez was part of the California Department of Transportation’s Executive Team in Los Angeles. She has more than 25 years of experience in California transportation policy.

“I’m always talking to students about how rewarding my job is” said Gomez. “Part of my responsibility as a professional is giving back to the community I am a part of. Hopefully, one day, some of them will be working alongside me as we build the first high-speed rail project in the country.”

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers was founded in 1974 with the objective of forming a national organization of professional engineers to serve as role models in the Hispanic community. The award was presented at the SHPE National Conference on November 2 in Indianapolis.

### ***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)*

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