

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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High-Speed Rail Nears 1,100 Daily Workers at Central Valley Job Sites

FRESNO, Calif. – The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is now averaging a daily record of nearly 1,100 workers dispatched to construction sites throughout the Central Valley. This milestone comes as the country celebrates Labor Day and the contributions of the American worker.

“The Authority is proud to keep hardworking men and women on the job and in the field during this worldwide pandemic,” said Authority CEO Brian Kelly. “These individuals are more than ‘essential.’ Each day, these skilled workers are out building for California and the nation’s future, and their contribution is invaluable.”



(Click to see video)

In partnership with local trade unions, the State Building and Construction Trades Council and the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board, the Authority is proud to work alongside such skilled laborers. Electricians, cement masons, steel workers and others are helping bring

the nation's first high-speed rail system to life while contributing to the local economy across five counties.

"The High-Speed Rail Authority continuously lives up to its promise by providing opportunities to disadvantaged communities," said State Building and Construction Trades Council of California President Robbie Hunter. "As more construction sites open, the opportunities grow for our growing workforce and apprentices eager to make high-speed rail a reality."

Since the beginning of the high-speed rail project, the Authority has worked to ensure jobs created on the project benefit disadvantaged areas through the execution of a Community Benefits Agreement. The agreement includes a Targeted Worker Program that requires 30 percent of all project work hours be performed by individuals who come from disadvantaged communities where household income ranges from \$32,000 to \$40,000 annually.

Each of the project's design-builders is implementing the Targeted Worker Program. Out of the more than 4,300 workers dispatched to the project, 226 reported living in Madera County, 1,791 living in Fresno County, 128 living in Kings County, 406 living in Tulare County, and 580 in Kern County.

"It's neat to be part of one of the biggest projects in California," said Nicholas Godbey, a laborer working on an overpass at Davis Avenue in Fresno County. "I work with great people every day and I take a lot of pride in being a laborer. There's not many who can say they are part of building high-speed rail."

The Authority currently has 119 miles under construction within three construction packages. Design-builder contractors Tutor-Perini/Zachry/Parsons, Dragados-Flatiron/Joint Venture, and California Rail Builders have 32 active construction sites with more expected to open in the coming months. This work totals more than \$4.8 billion in construction commitments.

For more information on careers with the California High-Speed Rail Authority, visit: www.hsr.ca.gov/about/careers/index.html.

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