

California Inaugural High-Speed Service Grant

The California High-Speed Rail Authority has received nearly \$3.1 billion in grant funding from the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program (FSP-National).

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE PROJECT?

The grant would specifically be used for the:

- Design and procurement of six electric trainsets for testing and passenger service
- Design and construction of trainset facilities
- Design and construction of the Fresno Station
- Final design and right-of-way acquisition for the Merced extension – Madera to Merced
- Final design and right-of-way acquisition for the Bakersfield extension – Poplar Ave. to Bakersfield
- Construction, including track and systems, for the Merced-Bakersfield Initial Operating Segment



Conceptual rendering

In December 2023, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) received nearly \$3.1 billion in Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program grant funding for elements of the California Inaugural High-Speed Service (Project) – an electrified high-speed passenger rail line connecting the cities of Merced, Fresno, and Bakersfield. The grant funds will be matched by approximately \$768 million in state Cap-and-Trade funds, for a total of about \$3.8 billion. The Authority will continue to pursue another **\$4.7 billion** from the FSP-National Program in future grant cycles and other Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) programs with the total target of about **\$8 billion** in new grants.

The above funding includes construction of the initial operating segment. This segment would be ready to demonstrate high-speed trains operating at 220 miles per hour. This grant funding will improve the health, safety, access, connectivity and economic vitality of underserved communities in California's Central Valley. Implementing the California Inaugural High-Speed Service between Merced and Bakersfield is a critical milestone of the State's rail modernization plan, linking key regional passenger rail systems and building toward the future Phase 1 High-Speed Rail Corridor from San Francisco to Los Angeles and Anaheim. The projected ridership for the California Phase 1

Corridor would make it the most traveled intercity passenger service in the nation. This FSP-National grant application is part of an on-going federal-state partnership that, to date, has provided approximately **\$28.3 billion** in funding for California High-Speed Rail (**\$21.7 billion / 76% state, and \$6.8 billion / 24% federal**). California is the only state in the country to have committed this level of funding to modernizing rail, and the Authority is asking the federal government to match this level of commitment with strong project grant support from IIJA funding.

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