



## **CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

### **Commission Consent to the Department of Transportation's Ten-Year California State Rail Plan 2007-08 Through 2017-18 Resolution G-08-01**

- 1.1 WHEREAS, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) is required by Government Code Section 14036 to give its advice and consent on the Department of Transportation (Department) ten-year State Rail Plan; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the Department has prepared the California State Rail Plan for FY 2007-08 through FY 2017-18 in order to provide a comprehensive ten-year plan; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, the Commission has reviewed the California State Rail Plan at its December 2007 meeting; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the Commission advised the Department that it should:
- Include in its California State Rail Plan that the Department will work on providing limited express service (at least one round trip/day) between San Diego and Los Angeles. The Department shall include a report on the feasibility study in its 2008 Annual Corridor Business Plan for the Pacific Surfliner. Should the Annual Corridor Business Plan be delayed, the Department will report on the feasibility study not later than May 31, 2008 to the Commission.

The feasibility study shall include a plan, schedule, and estimate of cost to implement roundtrip limited-express service from San Diego to Los Angeles. The express service should have a transit time goal of about two hours on both the morning and evening trains. This would be accomplished by changing the existing schedule of the trains that run between San Diego and Los Angeles, using current intercity rolling stock and locomotives to provide the service.

The Department is directed to describe in its feasibility plan the benefits to be gained from changing the service such as advancing AB 32 green house gas emission reduction goals, traffic reduction and relief, shorter travel times, increased ridership and increased revenues. The Department should also address in the feasibility plan the policy, financial, inter-agency and operational challenges that may prevent it from meeting the goal of providing express service between San Diego and Los Angeles.

- Investigate providing internet access on its intercity rail trains. Specifically, the Department should determine the feasibility of offering a franchise to the private sector with agreed upon service performance measures, profit margins and the term length of the franchise. The Department will report back semi-annually on its progress to bring wireless broadband internet capabilities to its intercity rail trains and include the results in its next California State Rail Plan.
- Work with SanDAG (San Diego Association of Governments) to identify a suitable place for a layover facility. The Department will report semi-annually to the Commission on its progress in finding a suitable site. Once a suitable site has been identified, the Department should inform the Commission about the funding partnership formed to provide local, state and federal funds for the project, the contributions from each agency, and a schedule for delivering the layover facility. The Department will include the results in its next California State Rail Plan.
- Seek more innovative ways to market the State's intercity rail service, including tying its marketing contract to performance goals for increasing ridership by corridor. On new service, the Department should be able to increase ridership and farebox in a matter of months, rather than taking 2.5 years to return to the ridership/car and farebox levels established prior to expansion. The Commission requests that the Department seek its input and advice on the provisions to be included in the next marketing request for proposal.
- Establish short-term (2 years), intermediate-term (5 years), intermediate- to long-term (7 years) and long-term goals (10 years) for accomplishing its passenger rail element and freight rail element of its State Rail Plan. The Commission requests that the Department report on its goals as part of its quarterly progress report and that the progress be included in its next update of the 10-year plan, as well as in the Department's Annual Corridor Business Plans.

1.5 WHEREAS, the Department has agreed to incorporate the Commission's advice into its final California State Rail Plan.

1.6 WHEREAS, the Department has also agreed to report on its progress in implementing its State Rail Plan:

- by May 31, 2008 regarding limited express service between San Diego and Los Angeles;
- semi-annually on investigating the provision of internet access on intercity rail trains;
- semi-annually on working with SanDAG to identify a suitable place for a layover facility;
- quarterly on meeting its short-term, intermediate-term, intermediate- to long-term, and long-term goals for its passenger rail element and freight rail element.

2.1 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission does hereby consent to the information contained in the California State Rail Plan and directs the Department to transmit to the Legislature, the Governor, and the Public Utilities Commission the State Rail Plan for FY 2007-08 through FY 2017-18.