



CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

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Board Puts Out a Call to Local Governments and Private Entities In Central Valley for Heavy Maintenance Facility Locations

Sacramento – The California High-Speed Rail Authority Board today approved issuance of a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) to identify locations for maintenance facilities along the planned high-speed train route.

The Authority set a January 15, 2010, deadline for proposals from local governments, public transportation agencies, private companies and others interested in offering proposals for both heavy and other maintenance facilities that could meet the Authority's requirements, minimize environmental impacts and offer the financial incentives and other economic benefits to the State and local communities.

Maintenance centers will be required throughout the state, but a heavy maintenance facility is expected to be situated in the Central Valley because of its central location at the heart of the system.

"The maintenance facilities needed to help operate our planned high-speed rail system will be job creators and economic engines in the communities in which they are built," said Board Chairman Curt Pringle. "We expect that across the state there will be competition for these facilities, and we're saying that that competition has begun – bring us your ideas."

Site requirements for the heavy maintenance depot between Merced and Bakersfield include availability of at least 154 acres located within proximity to the mainline trunk of the system, with connections to highways and utilities.

"The availability of a local labor force to support the facility's employment needs and possible economic incentives associated with a potential site are critical components," said Board Member Fran Florez.

Expressions of interest are to be addressed to Mr. Mehdi Morshed, Executive Director, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814 and must be received by the Authority by 2:00 pm Pacific Times on Friday, January 15, 2010. Questions regarding the RFEI should be addressed to Mr. John Harrison, Deputy Program Director, 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 384-1469.

Potential sites for the location of the heavy maintenance facility will be evaluated as part of the project-level environmental review now underway. The RFEI can be accessed on the Authority's website: www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov. The guidelines for the heavy maintenance facility may be accessed at the Authority's website at the link:

www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/news/terminalguidelines.pdf

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