



Merced Intermodal Track Connection



San Joaquin
Joint Powers Authority

Project Overview

What is the MITC Project?

The proposed Merced Intermodal Track Connection (MITC) Project includes a new track connection from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) corridor to the proposed integrated Merced High-Speed Rail (HSR) Station between O and R Streets in downtown Merced. In addition, a new platform will allow for transfers between the San Joaquins passenger rail and HSR. The MITC Project only includes the construction of the track connection; it does not include the construction of the proposed integrated Merced HSR Station.

The proposed MITC Project also includes the following:

- A new aerial guideway that would connect into the east side of the HSR platform (which would be shared with the San Joaquins).
- Modification of the approved Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) Merced Layover and Maintenance Facility allowing for San Joaquins trains to access the facility.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) is planning to construct the Merced-Bakersfield HSR Early Operating Segment. When operational, the San Joaquins intercity service between Merced and Bakersfield will be replaced by HSR service. The San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA) will terminate the San Joaquins intercity service in Merced, and is expected to be the operating agency for the HSR Early Operating Segment.

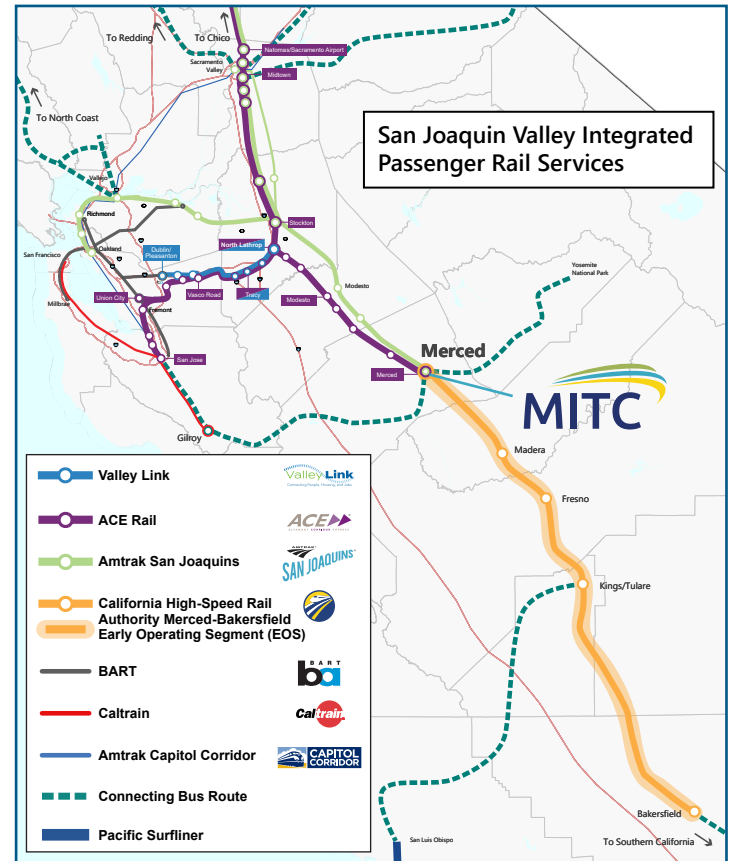
The proposed MITC project is critical for integrating San Joaquins service with the Merced-Bakersfield HSR Early Operating Segment.

What has been completed to date?

In March 2022, SJJPA completed a Project Study Report Equivalent to identify the project scope, schedule, and estimated cost of the Project. In January 2023, SJJPA published a Notice of Preparation to begin environmental review through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was published in July 2024, followed by a Revised Draft EIR in July 2025.

Who is the Lead Agency?

SJJPA is the lead agency under CEQA. If the MITC Project receives federal funding, it is anticipated that the Project will comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as necessary.



MITC Project Objectives



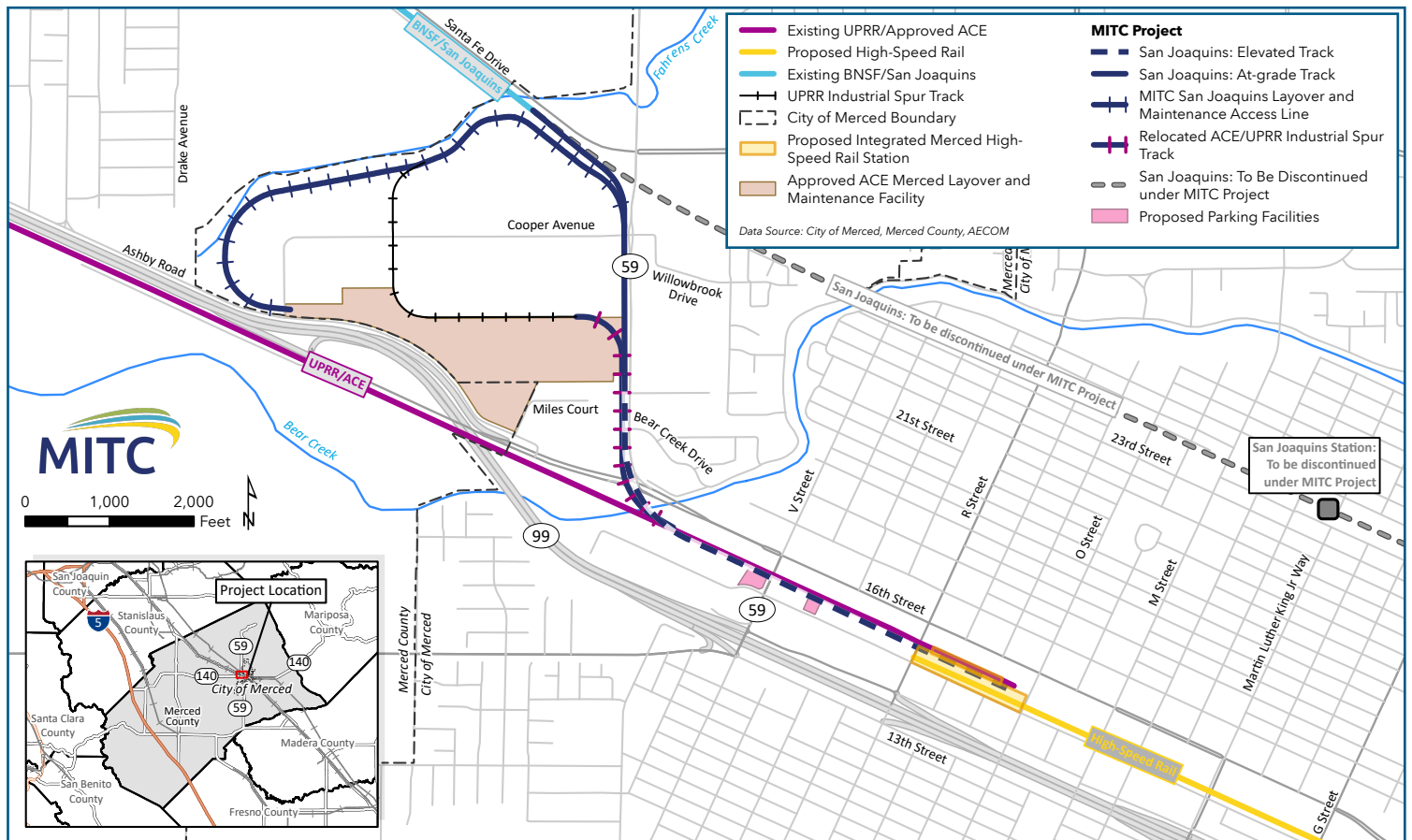
Create a seamless connection between the San Joaquins and HSR services. Relocating the San Joaquins from the existing station on 24th Street to the HSR station downtown will allow passengers to transfer between services on a shared platform.



Enhance the San Joaquins to better serve regional markets. Integrating the San Joaquins with the HSR system improves connections to the Bay Area, Sacramento, and the northern San Joaquin Valley.



Reduce traffic congestion and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to improve regional air quality. Improved intercity passenger rail service provides an alternative to the automobile, reducing GHG emissions.



Project Location

The MITC Project is located entirely within Merced County, and a majority of it is within the city limits of Merced. The new track for the MITC Project would run from the BNSF corridor (just north of where it crosses SR 99) to a platform at the proposed integrated Merced HSR Station located downtown between R Street and O Street

What is the anticipated timeline for MITC?



For More Information

Visit the website to view additional project materials: www.sjjpa.com/MITC

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