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Partners: Amtrak, Caltrans Division of Rail, BNSF Railway Company, Union Pacific Railroad

REPRESENTING COUNTIES ALONG THE SAN JOAQUIN RAIL CORRIDOR

AGENDA

San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee (SJVRC) Meeting Friday, August 14, 2026 12:00 PM

**Robert J. Cabral Station
Board Room
949 E Channel Street
Stockton, CA 95202**

Teleconference Locations:

725 W 18 th Street Merced, CA 95340	2398 Pacific Avenue San Francisco, CA 94115	767 Stagecoach Road Trinidad, CA 95570
33001 Forest Lane Madera, CA 93637	1401 19th Street, Suite 300 Bakersfield, CA 93301	55 2 nd Street San Francisco, CA 94105
3811 McKinley Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95816	1522 18 th Street, Suite 314 Bakersfield, CA 93301	1716 Morgan Road Modesto, CA 95358

Members of the public may attend in person or observe and participate in the meeting by using the link and dial-in information below:

Join Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83719615181>

**Or Telephone: +1 669 444 9171 US
Webinar ID: 873 6393 6273**

Persons wishing to address the Committee on any item of interest to the public regarding SJJPA and the Gold Runner Rail Service shall state their names and address and make their presentation. The Committee cannot take action on matters not on the agenda unless the action is authorized by Section 54954.2 of the Government Code. If a member of the public wishes to make a public comment:

- 1. Submit written comments to SJJPA staff via email at clerk@sjrrc.com, staff will read the comment aloud during the public comment period.**
- 2. Complete a Request to Speak form (available at the entrance to the meeting room) and give it to the Clerk before the Item is considered by the Committee.**
- 3. Join from the Zoom meeting link and notify staff by alerting them via the “Raise hand” or “Chat” function; call [+1 669 444 9171 US](tel:+16694449171), dial *9 to raise your hand when you wish to speak, and dial *6 to unmute when you are requested to speak. Please note that if**

participating using Zoom, all members of the public will be placed on mute until such times allow for public comment to be made.

Public comment should be limited to three (3) minutes per comment.

This Agenda shall be made available upon request in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132) and the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code § 54954.2). Persons requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority staff at 209-944-6220, during regular business hours, at least twenty-four hours prior to the time of the meeting.

All proceedings before the Committee are conducted in English. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Committee regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority located at 949 E. Channel Street, Stockton, CA, 95202 during normal business hours or by calling (209) 944-6220. The Agenda and meeting materials are also available on the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Website: <https://sjjpa.com/events/>

All proceedings before the Committee are conducted in English. Anyone wishing to address the Committee is advised to have an interpreter or to contact San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority staff during regular business hours at least 48 hours prior to the time of the meeting so that the Committee can provide an interpreter.

Disclosures: *Committee members shall disclose any agenda item in which they have a conflict of interest under State law and acknowledge whether they will recuse from hearing that item. Among other State laws, the Levine Act (Gov. C. §84308) may require recusal on agenda items involving a contract or entitlement before the Committee where a campaign donor is a participant, and the campaign contribution totals more than \$250 within the 12-month period before the decision on the item.*

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Claes

2. Safety Briefing

3. Roll Call

4. Public Comment

Persons wishing to address the Committee on any item of interest to the public regarding SJJPA and the Gold Runner Rail Service shall state their names and address and make their presentation. The Committee cannot take action on matters not on the agenda unless the action is authorized by Section 54954.2 of the Government Code. Materials related to an item on the Agenda submitted to Committee members after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the offices of SJJPA at 949 E. Channel Street, Stockton, CA 95202 during normal business hours. These documents are also available on the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority website at <https://sjjpa.com/events/>, subject to staff's ability to post the documents prior to the meeting. Public comment should be limited to three (3) minutes per comment.

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| 5. Oath Administration
<i>Presented by: Ariana Talosig (Administrative Analyst – Board and Committee)</i> | ACTION |
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| 6. Consent Calendar
6.1 Approve February 20, 2026 SJVRC Meeting Minutes
6.2 Approve 2026 and 2027 San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee Meeting Calendars | ACTION

ACTION |
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| 7. Gold Runner Operations, Passenger Experience and Marketing Update
<i>Presented by: Nathan Alastra (Operations Superintendent) and Marques Cook (Deputy Director of Passenger Experience and Marketing)</i> | INFORMATION |
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| 8. San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Planning, Grants, and Programming Update
<i>Presented by: Momoko Tamaoki (Deputy Director of Planning, Grants, and Programming)</i> | INFORMATION |
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| 9. Thruway Bus Study Update
<i>Presented by: Dan Leavitt (Manager of Regional Initiatives)</i> | INFORMATION |
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| 10. Thruway Bus Route 5 Update
<i>Presented by: Michael Hanebutt (Senior Planner)</i> | INFORMATION |
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| 11. Valley Rail Program Update
<i>Presented by: Ahdel Ahmed (Public Relations Manager)</i> | INFORMATION |
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| 12. Committee Member Comments | |
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| 13. Adjournment
The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2027 – 12:00 pm. | |

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RAIL COMMITTEE

Meeting of August 14, 2026

Item 6.1

ACTION

Minutes of San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee February 20, 2026 Meeting

The meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee (SJVRC) was held at 12:00 pm on February 20, 2026, in the Board Room of the Cabral Station, 949 E. Channel Street, Stockton, CA. Committee Members attended this meeting in person and via videoconference.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Claes

Chair Claes called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Safety Briefing

Nathan Alastra, Operations Superintendent, provided a safety briefing.

3. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Bailey, Enriquez (remote), DaSilva (remote), Valadez, Cohn (remote), Vielma, Leamon (remote), Whitlach (remote), Lynn (remote), Daly (remote), Webb (remote), Vice-Chair Strawn (remote), Chair Claes

Committee Members Absent: Sbrante, Rover, Hall, Hightower, Palmer, Fung, Roedner, Holshler, Stammer, Andoh

A quorum of the SJVRC was not met. The committee members received items as information only and did not take action on any of the listed items.

4. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

5. Consent Calendar

- 5.1 Approve 2026 and 2027 San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee Meeting Calendars

ACTION

There were no public comments on this item.

6. Update on the Draft 2026 San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Annual Business Plan

INFORMATION

Momo Tamaoki (Deputy Director of Planning, Grants, and Programming), Marques Cook (Interim Senior Marketing Manager), Angela Miller (Fiscal Compliance and Capital Budget Officer), and Dan Leavitt (Manager of Regional Initiatives) gave a presentation on this item.

Committee Member Vielma commended staff for the passenger appreciation events and suggested highlighting connecting services from the San Francisco area to the Central Valley.

7. Update on Gold Runner Operations, Ridership, and Business Class Study INFORMATION

Marissa Cabusas (Onboard Experience Manager), Mr. Cook, and Mr. Alastra gave a presentation on this item.

Committee Member Daly asked for clarification on the ridership levels in the Bay Area.

Mr. Cook explained ridership levels on the Gold Runner service are lower per capita due to the other transit options available in the Bay Area.

Committee Member Lynn thanked staff for the Business Class presentation and asked how customer research and surveys were distributed and collected.

Mr. Cook explained surveys are distributed on board every other year and collected at the end of each passenger's trip.

Committee Member Bailey asked how staff intended to increase survey scores for the Food and Beverage services.

Ms. Cabusas stated there are several timelines being implemented for updates to the Food and Beverage service. Mr. Cook stated updates such as a vending machine phase will be presented to the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority board for approval with the hope for testing in the upcoming fiscal year.

Chair Claes asked if there was any plan to use the Amtrak member app point system to upgrade tickets to Business Class tickets.

Mr. Cook shared ticketing is currently done through Amtrak and stated staff hopes to have more information on ticket changes in the coming months.

There were no public comments.

8. Committee Member Comments

Committee Member Cohn stated an initiative with the City of Sacramento will be filed in favor of a half-cent sales tax measure for transportation and transit services.

Committee Member Vielma thanked staff for their efforts and shared her experience utilizing public transportation. Member Vielma looks forward to seeing shuttle services expand and was pleased to hear about the Business Class updates.

9. Adjournment

Chair Claes adjourned the meeting at 1:54 pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2026 at 12:00 pm.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RAIL COMMITTEE

Meeting of August 14, 2026

STAFF REPORT

Item 6.2

ACTION

Approve 2026 and 2027 San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee Meeting Calendars

Background:

Staff recommends the following calendars for 2026 and 2027 San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee (Committee) meetings:

San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee 2026 Regular Meeting Calendar

Date	Time	Location
Friday, August 14, 2026	12:00 PM	Stockton, CA

San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee 2027 Regular Meeting Calendar

Date	Time	Location
Friday, February 19, 2027	12:00 PM	Stockton, CA
Friday, August 13, 2027	12:00 PM	Stockton, CA

Please note this calendar is subject to change. While the default location for meetings is Stockton, staff will coordinate at the direction of the Committee to hold meetings at other locations within the corridor.

Questions or assistance: clerk@sjrrc.com

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact.

Recommendation:

Approve 2026 and 2027 San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee Meeting Calendars.