

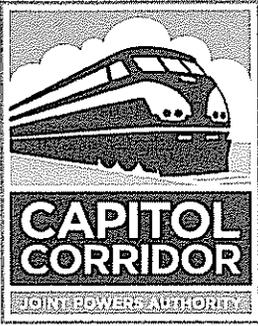


**Supplemental Material
Received at the Meetings of
City Council
Redevelopment Agency
Housing Authority
Financing Authority
For**

September 25, 2007

Item 30: The Sacramento Railyards – A Progress Report

- a. Letter from Eugene Skoropowski, Managing Director of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority, in support of the project.



25 September 2007

Honorable Heather Fargo, Mayor
City Hall
915 I Street, Suite 321
Sacramento CA 95814

Re: Sacramento Railyards Plan

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Dear Mayor Fargo,

Once again I am conveying to you and to the City Council the strong support of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA) for the Railyards project, and in particular the revised track plan and new passenger platform facilities and access. We urge you and the City Council to support the plans for this nationally significant development, and adopt the planning application submitted by Thomas Enterprises as soon as possible.

I have been a participant in this process for almost eight years now, and never has the opportunity looked brighter. Sacramento and its people have worked hard and long to get to this point. I believe that the plan before you is not only an acceptable compromise to all participant's concerns, but it also demonstrates the kind of planning process that many other projects could learn from. Did everyone get everything they wanted? Probably not. However, the end product will be a new part of Sacramento that everyone can be proud of.

The Capitol Corridor train service is a key 'anchor' in the Railyards development, as the Sacramento Valley Station is a major transportation hub. In 2006, Sacramento Station was the 7th busiest Amtrak station in the entire nation with nearly one million passengers handled. For 2007, that number is likely to be substantially greater.

Additionally, the Bay Area's MPO, the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MTC), has ranked the funding priorities for the recent voter-approved \$2 billion in Trade Corridor funds. SACOG has been a participant in this interregional look at goods movement. MTC has concluded that the Sacramento Railyards Project is a Tier 1 (top priority) project, since it is also part of the nation's major freight route called the 'Central Corridor'. MTC has identified \$20 million of Northern California's Trade Corridor funds to match \$30 million in non-state local funds for the Railyards track relocation improvements. The Donner Pass double track and tunnel clearance project for freight to/from the East is also ranked as a Tier 1 project, and MTC noted that its support for the Trade Corridor funds for Donner Pass is contingent upon UPRR agreeing to permit operation of additional Capitol Corridor trains to Roseville and Auburn as part of the Trade Corridor track capacity improvements. This expanded Placer County train service will further increase the use of Sacramento Valley Station, and emphasizes its importance to the City and the region

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Mayor Fargo
25 September 2007

Support from the Mayor and the Council is essential so that the Railyards can compete for the necessary 1C TOD and urban infill funding.

I am now in my ninth year as Managing Director of the Capitol Corridor service, and I can honestly say, that perhaps for the first time, I really believe this project will happen, and at long last, the Capital City of the most populated state in the nation will have a fitting place for train passengers to arrive and depart.

I commend the developers for their efforts, and the City for all the efforts to turn the now almost unused Railyards into an incomparable asset. This is indeed a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the city the region, and the people who live here.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this project.

Sincerely,



Eugene K. Skoropowski
Managing Director

Cc: Forrest Williams, Chair