



2024-25 Fresno COG One Voice Advocacy Trip

Regional Priorities Submittal Form

Submittal Deadline: Jan. 6, 2025

Keep your regional priority content to less than three pages long. Do not change the font (*Arial*). Contact Brenda Thomas at bthomas@fresnocog with questions.

One Voice Proposed Priority title:
High-Speed Rail Funding

Sponsoring agency/business:
Fresno Council of Governments

1. Request summary – provide specific priority “ask(s)”:

Preserve up to \$3.07 billion in FRA high-speed rail funding under the FY 22-23 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail, which funds the design and construction of the Fresno HSR station, in addition to final design and right-of-way acquisition for the Merced extension (Madera, CA to Merced, CA) and Bakersfield extension (from Poplar Avenue in Shafter, CA to Bakersfield, CA); civil, track and systems construction for the 13-mile Bakersfield Interim extension; and, design and procurement of trainsets, as well as design and construction of trainset facilities.

2. About the Priority: (Provide specific information about your proposed priority. Include information you want included in the trip materials.)

As the Fresno landscape readily demonstrates, our region and the State of California are committed to the California High-Speed Rail system. With design on the Fresno HSR 70 percent completed and construction scheduled to begin in 2027, the Fresno region has undertaken significant efforts in workforce development and transportation planning to get to this stage. The San Joaquin Valley represents the spine of the California HSR system and a key strategy in

providing an alternative transportation option to crowded urban freeways and expensive airline flights.

3. **Priority background** – (Include the priority issues, history and an explanation of the regional significance if not provided in question 1)

4. **If your priority is not transportation related, are there any transportation policy connections?**

5. **Provide high-resolution photos, graphics or other explanatory attachments for the One Voice trip materials. Do not copy and paste them here, attach them as separate electronic files. Then, describe the attachments and include them with your submittal.**

6. **Contact** – Include the contact information for the priority submittal **and** the contact information of the person that will be attending the One Voice trip to speak on behalf of the priority:

Project Contact:

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One Voice Participant:

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