

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

JUNE 28, 2022

**HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AGENCY**

The High Desert Corridor was officially designated in Section 1304 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users as a High Priority Corridor on National Highway System from Los Angeles to Las Vegas via Palmdale and Victorville. On November 8, 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved Agreement 75922, a joint powers agreement with the County of San Bernardino, to create a nonfunded High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority to pursue funding and provide for the planning, design, construction, financing, operation, and maintenance of a new freeway/expressway known as the High Desert Corridor between the County of Los Angeles in the vicinity of the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale and the County of San Bernardino in the vicinity of the Cities of Victorville, Apple Valley and Adelanto.

In subsequent years, the High Desert Corridor evolved into a multi-modal corridor and in 2016, Caltrans certified the final EIR/EIS, ultimately approving a multi-modal project that includes a new freeway/expressway, high-speed rail line, bikeway, and green energy corridor. The JPA elected to move the project forward in phases, focusing on the high-speed rail component first, and is currently in the formal record of decision process with the Federal Railroad Administration.

The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (Predecessor JPA) that was created between the County of Los Angeles and the County of San Bernardino shall be dissolved effective July 1, 2022. Agreement 75922 shall be superseded by a new joint powers agreement between the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, City of Lancaster, City of Palmdale, City of Victorville, and City of Adelanto, to create the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency, which shall be the successor in interest in all ways to the Predecessor JPA, to pursue funding and facilitate the planning, design, construction, financing, operation, and maintenance of the multi-modal project known as the High Desert Corridor between Los Angeles County in the vicinity of the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale and San Bernardino County in the vicinity of the Cities of Victorville, Apple Valley and Adelanto.

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MOTION

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**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors take the following actions:

1. Find that the recommended actions are not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act;
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer or her designee to sign the Joint Powers Agreement allowing the County of Los Angeles to become a member of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency;
3. Appoint Supervisor Kathryn Barger and in future years the Supervisor of the Fifth Supervisorial District of the County of Los Angeles as the designated Board of Director for the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency;
4. Authorize Supervisor Kathryn Barger and in future years the Supervisor of the Fifth Supervisorial District of the County of Los Angeles to nominate Alternate Board of Director (Alternate) for the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Agency. The nominated Alternate shall be approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors;
5. Approve and authorize the Treasurer and Tax Collector or his designee to act as the Treasurer of the Agency, if designated under the Joint Powers Agreement, as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Agreement;
6. Approve and authorize the Auditor-Controller or her designee to act as the Auditor of the Agency, if designated under the Joint Powers Agreement, as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Agreement; and,
7. Approve and authorize the acting County Counsel or her designee to act as the Legal Counsel for the Agency, if designated under the Joint Powers Agreement, as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Agreement.

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