



# Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority

## ***Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority FACT SHEET***

**WHO:** Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority)

The Authority is comprised of the following members:

- **George Smith**, Chair
- **Fred Dilger**
- **Hualiang (Harry) Teng**
- **Jason Doering**
- **Michael Mack**

**WHAT:** The Authority is tasked with facilitating the implementation of a high-speed rail system connecting Southern California and Southern Nevada. This includes selecting a franchisee to construct and operate the system.

**WHEN:** Authority members were first appointed by Governor Brian Sandoval on September 10, 2015. The Authority's first public meeting was held on September 29, 2015. The Authority selected Brightline West, formerly XpressWest, as the franchisee at its November 18, 2015 meeting.

**WHERE:** The Authority's meetings are held at the RTC's Administration Building located at 600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89106.

**WHY:** The statutory purpose of implementing a high-speed rail system is to:

- Provide economic benefits to both Southern California and Southern Nevada;
- Reduce reliance on gasoline- and diesel-fueled engines and encourage the use of alternative energy sources;
- Reduce congestion and travel delay on Interstate-15;
- Provide a working example of a transportation system that could play an essential role in the development of future commuter and high-speed rail service; and
- Provide quick and convenient transportation service for residents and visitors in Southern California and Southern Nevada.

The RTC provides staff support and facilities for the Authority. The RTC is participating in the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority because it is responsible for transportation

planning and encouraging multi-modal transportation options in Southern Nevada, including rail.

**HOW:**

Passed during the 2015 Nevada Legislative Session, Senate Bill 457 authorized the governor to develop the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority to select and oversee the franchisee.

The selected franchisee may, with the assistance of the Authority, acquire or gain control of use of land for the system, conduct engineering and other studies related to selection and acquisition of land, and accept funding from a variety of public and private entities.

The selected franchisee must coordinate the implementation with all governmental entities that have jurisdiction over the system, including, without limitation, the relevant counties and the Nevada Department of Transportation.