

July 1, 2022

Chairman Smith and Members of the Board
Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority
c/o Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Suite 350
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Re: July 2022 Brightline West Report

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Board:

Since our last report in January 2022, Brightline West has continued to make significant progress in the development of high-speed rail service between Las Vegas and Southern California. The purpose of this letter is to provide a status update on the project.

As reported in prior summaries, Brightline West has key agreements in place related to property for the right of way and stations for the project between Las Vegas and Victor Valley, California. The company has been working closely with Caltrans and other stakeholders to advance final agreements for the right of way to connect the Victor Valley station to a Rancho Cucamonga, California station.

The Federal Railroad Administration is serving as the lead agency for the National Environmental Policy Act process and related environmental permitting. Based on FRA's schedule, the remaining environmental permitting for the system is expected to be completed by November 2022. (Progress on NEPA permitting may be viewed at <https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-project/brightline-west-cajon-pass-high-speed-rail-project>)

Brightline Florida also continues to make strides forward. Passenger ridership between Miami and West Palm Beach in 2022 is more than 10% above pre-Covid ridership (2019), while other comparable U.S. passenger rail systems are still 20-30% below pre-Covid levels. Construction on the extension from West Palm Beach to Orlando is 80% finished. The Orlando extension will greatly enhance Brightline Florida as a safe and convenient transportation alternative to highway congestion on Interstate 95.

Our team is available to answer any questions and provide an in-person briefing at a future meeting of the Nevada High Speed Rail Authority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Watterson".

Sarah Watterson
President