

Memo



Date April 28, 2011
To SJVRC Members

From Rob Eaton
Department Government Affairs
Subject Amtrak Update
cc

Message

Following is an update on issues related to the *San Joaquin*, along with general information about Amtrak.

***San Joaquin* Performance**

In January, *San Joaquin* ridership was 72,395 (+1.9%); passenger revenue was \$2,398,068 (+10.4%), and endpoint OTP was 90.3%. February ridership was 74,562 (+3.6%); revenue was \$2,345,165 (+11.9%), and endpoint OTP was 93.5%. Finally, March ridership was 84,210 (+4.7%); monthly revenue was \$2,822,616 (+11.7%), and OTP was 86.8%.

FY11 Amtrak Appropriation

The Obama Administration presented their proposed FY11 budget, which funds Amtrak at \$1.615B (\$1.052B capital; \$563M operating), which is slightly more than the corporation's FY10 appropriation of \$1.565B (\$1.002B capital; \$563M operating), but less than the authorized amount, and less than Amtrak's requested \$2.2B for FY11 (\$592M operating; \$1.02B capital; \$281M ADA compliance; \$305M debt service). For the first 6 months of FY2011 Amtrak was funded at FY10 level (\$1.565B). Congress passed the FY11 spending bill on April 15th. At that time, Amtrak received an \$81M reduction (capital) in funding for the remainder of FY11. Amtrak is currently evaluating the impact of this reduction to our capital improvement plans

FY11 High Speed Rail Funding

High Speed Rail funding was eliminated

FY12 Amtrak Appropriation Request

Amtrak's FY12 Budget request is \$2.222B. (funding requirement: \$1.285B capital (including ADA compliance, \$616M operating, \$271M debt service)

Fleet Plan

February 2011, Amtrak released its revised fleet plan, which articulates Amtrak's vision for updating its rolling stock. Given adequate funding, Amtrak plans to gradually replace its entire fleet over a multi-decade timeframe, which would allow for orderly retirements of certain equipment types, and provide a continuing stream of orders sufficient to support domestic intercity rail car manufactures, which are essentially non-existent. In 2009 dollars, replacing Amtrak's current fleet would require ~\$34B. Amtrak placed an order with Siemens (Sacramento, CA) for 70 new electric locomotives to replace all the AEM-7 and HHP-8 locomotives.

Amtrak Governance

The Amtrak board has one remaining vacancy.