




**July 15, 2024**

**To:** Members of the Board of Directors

**From:** Jason Jewell, Managing Director 

**Subject:** Semi-Annual Progress Report of the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency 2024 Work Plan

### **Overview**

On February 20, 2024, the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Board of Directors approved the 2024 Work Plan, which highlighted the key initiatives that would be undertaken in support of the 2023 Strategic Plan goals. As part of the implementation of the 2024 Work Plan, progress reports on a semi-annual basis, as well as at year-end, that capture the status of the tasks being done in support of the annual work plan will be provided to the Board of Directors. This semi-annual progress report provides an update on activities in support of the 2024 Work Plan from January 2024 through June 2024.

### **Recommendation**

Receive and file as an information item.

### **Discussion**

As part of the approval by the Board of Directors (Board) of the 2023 Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) Strategic Plan, direction was given to utilize the Strategic Plan in the development of an annual work plan. The work plan was intended to layout projects that would be undertaken for that calendar year in support of goals included in the Strategic Plan. The work plan was not intended to be an exhaustive listing of all tasks that the LOSSAN Agency would undertake during the calendar year, but rather to capture in broad strokes the key projects and initiatives that would be undertaken in support of the LOSSAN Agency's strategic goals.

Both the semi-annual and year-end progress reports offer detailed insights into the achievements under each objective listed in the annual work plan. These reports not only highlight the accomplishments from January 2024 through June 2024 but also shed light on anticipated activities aimed at furthering the

objectives in the upcoming period. Detailed information on both current progress and expected future activities for each objective can be found in Attachment A.

### Semi-Annual Progress Report

During the first half of the calendar year 2024, eleven milestones were scheduled for completion. By the end of this period, six of the ten milestones were completed, with one additional milestone completed ahead of schedule. Some of the highlights achieved during this period include:

- Supported and advocated a Budget Change Proposal (BCP) to secure a three-year increase in operating funds for intercity rail, resulting in an additional \$211 million over 2024-27 to support LOSSAN Agency goals.
- Partnered with California Operation Lifesaver (CAOL) to implement geotargeted ads on connected TVs, streaming platforms, and geofenced mobile ads for specific geographical locations as part of Operation Safe Surfs to promote rail safety and suicide prevention aimed at reducing trespasser-related delays.
- Submitted the annual business plan to include service increases to 12 roundtrips in 2025 and 13 roundtrips in 2026, coordinating with Amtrak, Caltrans, and JPA partners to support long-term goals and align with the State Rail Plan
- Added a new chapter addressing Coastal Resiliency efforts in the FY2024-25 Agency Annual Business Plan to implement the requirements of Senate Bill 677, and initiated plans for quarterly technical working group meetings and a live tracking system for ongoing projects and funding along the LOSSAN corridor.
- Participated in the stakeholder introduction and kick-off call with Caltrans and CalSTA to coordinate corridor-wide efforts for the Federal Corridor Identification and Development Program.

While seven milestones were accomplished during this period, many other objectives from the work plan are ongoing and considered continuous in nature. It is important to highlight these objectives and the supporting activities that have been met or are on target to be met. These include:

- Engaged with the LA28 Committee and met with the Vice-President of Transportation to explore opportunities for the Pacific Surfliner to support the 2028 Olympics and Paralympics in Los Angeles, in coordination with Amtrak and regional stakeholders.
- Partnered with Wonderfront Festival, Strawberry Festival, and X Games to enhance connectivity, boost ridership, and improve mobility, while continuously

building relationships with venues, convention and visitor bureaus, and other corridor stakeholders.

- Participated in the Regional Rail Working Group meetings hosted by the CalSTA Undersecretary to address coastal resiliency along the rail corridor, hosted quarterly technical working group meetings to discuss resiliency efforts and elevate challenges to Corridor Executive Leadership, and coordinated regularly with Caltrans and other JPAs to explore service restoration and growth opportunities for all three state-supported corridors.
- Coordinated with stakeholders and member agencies to leverage federal and state funding opportunities for advancing intercity passenger rail in Southern California.

Although seven total milestones were accomplished during the first half of the year, as well as advancing several objectives that are continuous in nature, delivery timeframes for five milestones originally scheduled for completion during this period were extended or delayed. These milestones are now anticipated to be completed in the latter half of the year. For more details, please refer to Attachment A.

### ***Summary***

A semi-annual progress report for the 2024 Work Plan is provided for the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Board of Directors to review.

### ***Attachments***

- A. LOSSAN Agency 2024 Work Plan Initiatives & Goals
- B. LOSSAN Agency 2024 Work Plan