



Contact:
Tim Gallen, Andrew Neilly
Gallen.Neilly
(925) 930-9848
Tim@Gallen.com, Andrew@Gallen.com

**ACEC CA: Federal Stimulus Funds Accelerate High-Speed Rail
Project Towards Reality in California**

January 28, 2010, Sacramento, CA—The American Council of Engineering Companies of California (ACEC CA) has welcomed the announcement by the Obama administration of the grant of \$2.25 billion in federal stimulus funds for California's High-Speed Train System.

The grant represents more than one quarter of the Administration's total \$8 billion allocation for high-speed rail announced this morning by President Obama during a visit to Tampa, Fla., and is a clear indication that the Administration sees the California high-speed train as further advanced and carrying more impact in creating jobs and reducing greenhouse gas emissions than similar projects around the nation.

"California's high-speed train system, approved by the voters in November 2008, is an essential step forward towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions via environmentally responsible, transit-oriented infrastructure development. The stimulus dollars invested by the federal government and statements made by President Obama demonstrate an exciting new commitment to high-speed rail nationwide, and in particular in California," said Paul Meyer, Executive Director of ACEC California.

California leads the way as the only state with a voter-approved high-speed rail project, and a dedicated \$9.95 billion state bond commitment towards project development. The additional grants of federal funds will provide much needed momentum for high-speed rail, a plan which is estimated to create 450,000 permanent jobs statewide when completed and which will be the largest public works project in the nation when it breaks ground in 2012.

"High-speed rail is a green infrastructure project that has been approved by voters and is ready to go", Meyer said. "These stimulus funds will help accelerate project delivery timelines, attract long-term financing and put Californians to work on a project which will set the global standard for high-speed rail."

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About ACEC California: ACEC California is a statewide association representing more than 1,000 private consulting engineering and land-surveying firms that average 20 employees each. ACEC California is dedicated to enhancing the consulting engineering and land surveying professions, protecting the general public and promoting the use of the private sector in the growth and development of our state. Our members provide services for all phases of planning, designing and constructing projects. For more information, visit www.acec-ca.org.