

# Memorandum

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**To:** CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**CTC Meeting:** October 18-19, 2017

**Reference No.:** 4.17  
Information Item  
**REPLACEMENT ITEM**

**From:** NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

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Division of Rail and  
Mass Transportation

**Subject:** **DRAFT 2018 CALIFORNIA STATE RAIL PLAN**

## SUMMARY:

A presentation will be given to the California Transportation Commission (Commission) by the California Department of Transportation (Department) on the Draft 2018 California State Rail Plan. This presentation will be as an informational item at the Commission's October 2017 meeting. The Department also expects to bring forward the draft Rail Plan at the December Commission meeting as an agenda item to hear and accept any comments by the Commission.

## BACKGROUND:

The Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) requires that the State of California develop a State Rail Plan to be eligible to receive federal funding for rail projects. The next State Rail Plan must be completed and "accepted" by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) by June 30, 2018 to comply with federal law, and must be updated every four years thereafter. California Government Code Section 14036 requires the Department to prepare a California State Rail Plan (Rail Plan) that generally aligns federal requirements. The Department is designated the State rail transportation authority to prepare, maintain, coordinate, and administer the Rail Plan. The California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) is designated to approve the Rail Plan.

The Rail Plan is one of the individual modal plans that the Department is developing to support the goals and policies established in the California Transportation Plan (CTP) 2040. The 2018 Rail Plan establishes a long-term vision for prioritizing state investment in the passenger and freight rail network and a framework for coordinated planning with rail partners. The plan identifies corridor-level state service goals for developing the passenger rail network, including a phased plan for integrating the state's passenger rail systems with the California High Speed Rail system. The Rail Plan also establishes focused investment categories for rail freight that were developed in coordination with the California Sustainable Freight Action Plan.

California Government Code Section 14036 further requires that the Department submit the Rail Plan to the Commission for its advice prior to CalSTA's approval. The Department released the Draft Rail Plan on October 11, 2017 for a 60 day public review period and intends on providing a copy of the draft Rail Plan to the Commission at its October 2017 meeting. Furthermore, the Department will work with Commission staff to address the Commission's comments prior to submitting the final Rail Plan to CalSTA.

To view the Draft 2018 California State Rail Plan, please click on the link provided below:  
[http://www.dot.ca.gov/californiarail/docs/CSRP\\_PublicReleaseDraft\\_10112017.pdf](http://www.dot.ca.gov/californiarail/docs/CSRP_PublicReleaseDraft_10112017.pdf)