

JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE
SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, SJCOG INC. AND SAN JOAQUIN
REGIONAL HOUSING FUND INC.

SJCOG Board Room
555 E. Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA 95202

January 22, 2026

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT 4 P.M.

MINUTES

1. The board meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Chair Christina Fugazi.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present:

Mayor Akinjo, City of Lathrop; Councilmember Dan Arriola, City of Tracy; Councilmember Lisa Craig, City of Lodi; Supervisor Steve Ding, City of Stockton Supervisor Sonny Dhaliwal, San Joaquin County; Councilmember Jeremy Engle, City of Escalon; Councilmember Mario Enriquez, City of Stockton; Mayor Christina Fugazi, City of Stockton; Supervisor Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County; Mayor Gary Singh, City of Manteca; Mayor Su, City of Mountain House; Councilmember Leo Zuber, City of Ripon.

Board Members Not Present:

Councilmember Mariela Ponce.

Ex Officio Members Present:

Caleb Brock, Caltrans; Gary Giovanetti, San Joaquin Regional Transit District; Margaret Stephens, Port of Stockton.

Staff Members Present:

Diane Nguyen, Executive Director; Ryan Niblock, Deputy Director of Programming and Delivery; Kim Anderson, Deputy Director of Planning; Steve Mayo, Program Manager; Joel Campos, Senior Regional Planner; Keith Michaud, Communications Journalist; Laurel Boyd, Associate Habitat Planner; Christine Tran, Associate Regional Planner; Rosie Zeiter, Accounting Assistant II; Janicia Thedmada, Assistant Regional Planner; Alvaro Gambino, Assistant Regional Planner; Aaron Lowe, CivicSpark Fellow; Vik Sharma, IT Manager; Vanessa Gallegos, Office Administrator; Lisa Ly, Administrative Technician; Breanna Guzman, Administrative Clerk II; Andy Pinasco, Counsel.

2. **Recognitions/Presentations:** None.
3. **Public Comments:** None.

4. **Consent Calendar Items:**

- A. Approval of the December 4, 2025 minutes from the joint meeting of the Board of Directors for the SJCOG, SJCOG Inc., and San Joaquin Regional Housing Fund Inc.
- B. *SJCOG* — Approval of Amendment No. 2 to Contract with LSA Associates, Inc. for Project Management, Regional Planning and Technical Service
- C. *SJCOG* — Award Contract for Construction Management of the Tracy Transit Station Mobility Hub Improvements Project
- D. *SJCOG* — San Joaquin Council of Governments Financial Report and Agency Wide Quarterly Investment Report
- E. *SJCOG, Inc.* — Approval of the Bacchetti MacArthur Acquisition and Preserve Management Plan
- F. *SJCOG, Inc.* — Approval of the Chinese Expansion Project Plan Participation
- G. *SJCOG, Inc.* — Approval of the Highway 4 Telecommunications Facility Project, Plan Participation and Habitat Classification Change

Boardmember Paul Akinjo had some clarifying questions on item 4D, the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) financial report and agency wide quarterly investment report. Director Diane Nguyen responded by explaining the budget chart in the staff report. Boardmember Akinjo noted his questions were answered.

Boardmember Steve Ding arrived during this time.

It was moved/seconded (Zuber/Arriola) to approve the consent calendar. Director Nguyen asked if Chair Fugazi intended to cast a “no” vote which was shown on the screen. Chair Christina Fugazi said she meant to select, “yes”. Director Nguyen stated the voting buttons on the remote are small and close together.

The motion passed (12/0) by electronic vote.

5. **Action Items:**

- A. *SJCOG* — Approve the Executive Committee’s Recommendation Appointing a Member to the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission

Director Nguyen said the SJCOG appoints county-side representatives to the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRRC) and that the Executive Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Board. Director Nguyen said a vacancy was created by the departure of the City of Manteca’s prior appointee. The Executive Committee recommended the appointment of Vice-Mayor Regina Lackey to fill the vacancy.

It was moved/seconded (Ding/Dhaliwal) to approve the appointment of Vice-Mayor Regina Lackey to the SJRRRC. The motion passed unanimously (12/0) by electronic vote.

Boardmember Lisa Craig thanked the Board for the approval of the appointment.

- B. *SJCOG* — Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing

Joel Campos informed the board that this is a public hearing and asked SJCOG Chair Fugazi to open the public hearing for any comments from the public and the board, then close the public hearing.

Chair Fugazi opened the public hearing.

Mr. Campos said this is the second public hearing. He said comments are being gathered regarding the Unmet Transit Needs.

The public hearing was closed after no public comments were received.

6. **Discussion Items:** None.

7. **Information Items:**

A. *SJCOG* — San Joaquin Council of Governments Board Meeting Schedule for 2026

8. **Chair's Report:**

Chair Fugazi reported a \$250,000 congressional earmark for the I-205 Managed Lanes Project was close to final approval and thanked Congressman Harder and Board members for their advocacy efforts in One Voice. She added that final approval of the bill is expected very soon.

9. **Board Members' Report:**

Boardmember Craig said the Rail Commission updates included confirmation of new Chief Executive Officer Chris Orlando, the launch of the Gold Runner service and Route 40, and upcoming special event service.

Boardmember Mario Enriquez shared updates about the California League of Cities and mentioned the first Comprehensive study on e-bikes will be conducted through San Jose State University.

10. **Ex Officio Board Members' Report:**

A. **Port of Stockton**

Margaret Stephens provided updates for the Port of Stockton and efforts to identify potential shipbuilding partners.

B. **San Joaquin Regional Transit District**

Gary Giovanetti reported continued growth in daily and annual ridership, nearing pre-pandemic levels.

C. **Caltrans District 10**

Caleb Brock reported recent grant awards to local agencies supporting transit operations and a new bus rapid transit route and shared updates on regional transportation planning grant applications.

11. **Executive Director's Report:**

Director Nguyen reported on upcoming meetings with new executive leadership at City of Stockton and Rail Commission, progress on One Voice® Program project application reviews, Megaregion coordination activities, and upcoming Sacramento advocacy trips in March and April.

Boardmember Ding introduced Najee Zarif the newly appointed Director of Public Works. Director Nguyen welcomed Mr. Zarif and said he has been a long-time member of SJCOG's Technical Advisory Committee.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m. The next meeting will be at 4 p.m. Thursday, February 26, 2026 in the SJCOG Conference Room.