



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Letter of Support for San Joaquin Train Between Bakersfield and Sacramento

MEETING DATE: May 6, 1998

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the attached letter of support for an additional fifth train service between Bakersfield and Sacramento.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: At the March 12 meeting of the San Joaquin Rail Task Force, the Caltrans Rail Division staff announced that the planned start-up of a fifth San Joaquin frequency serving the Sacramento-Bakersfield corridor with a stop in Lodi, originally scheduled for late 1998, might be delayed a year. The San Joaquin rail service has seen significant increases in ridership over the last several years due in part to faster service, new equipment, and better bus connections. The Governor has included money in the fiscal year 1998/99 budget to operate this additional service. Not taking advantage of this funding could send a message to the next Governor that this service has a low priority.

Funding: Not applicable.

Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

Prepared by Carlos Tobar, Transportation Manager

RCP/CFT/lm

Attachment

APPROVED: _____

H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

CITY COUNCIL

JACK A. SIEGLOCK, Mayor
KEITH LAND
Mayor Pro Tempore
ROBERT J. JOHNSON
STEPHEN J. MANN
PHILLIP A. PENNINO

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET
P.O. BOX 3006
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-1910
(209) 333-6706
FAX (209) 333-6710

H. DIXON FLYNN
City Manager
ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk
RANDALL A. HAYS
City Attorney

May 6, 1998

State Rail Program
P. O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274

SUBJECT: Support of Fifth San Joaquin Train

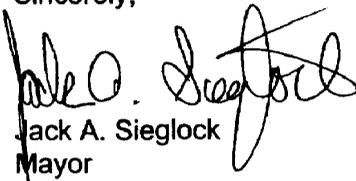
The City of Lodi strongly encourages the State Rail Program to continue planning for the fifth San Joaquin train which will provide additional service between Sacramento and Bakersfield.

Lodi has been doing its part awaiting the promised train service to our city. Lodi is in the final design and engineering stage for the restoration of the old historic Southern Pacific station, a \$4,000,000 project. The restored station will serve as the cornerstone of the revitalized Downtown, and as the transit hub.

The motivation behind the restoration and the push for train service in Lodi has been the faster service, new equipment, and better bus connections that have increased the ridership on the San Joaquin rail service. Lodi will only add to those ridership numbers once the train service is available.

We urge the State Rail Program to fulfill the promise it has made to the residents of the San Joaquin Valley and to utilize the funds the Governor has earmarked in fiscal year 1998/99 for the additional fifth San Joaquin train.

Sincerely,


Jack A. Sieglock
Mayor

JAS/CFT/lm

cc: City Council Members
City Manager
Transportation Manager
San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission