

Vision for Integrated Passenger Rail/Transit in Fresno County



Construction on the nation's first 200+ mph high-speed rail (HSR) system is underway in the San Joaquin Valley, and Fresno County is at the nexus of an integrated passenger rail/transit network that will connect communities throughout the valley and the state to this system. Zero-emission vehicles and transit-oriented development will be instrumental to improved mobility, equity, air quality, and economic vitality for all who live, work, and travel through Fresno County.

High-Speed Rail (HSR)

Early HSR operations are expected to begin on the 171-mile Merced-Fresno-Bakersfield segment between 2030 and 2033. As the backbone of the integrated passenger rail/transit vision for the San



Rendering of the new HSR station in Fresno

Joaquin Valley, HSR will substantially improve travel times and service frequency throughout Fresno County and the region. HSR can also provide an important regional connection to the San Joaquin Valley's only international airport, Fresno Yosemite International Airport, which is undergoing a terminal expansion to serve the expected increase in travelers.

Fresno County Regional Rail

In partnership with the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA), the Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) has initiated a planning study for a zero-emission regional rail network in Fresno County that would connect the region's rural communities to the future downtown Fresno HSR Station. Like the work underway in Tulare and Kings counties on the Cross Valley Corridor, Fresno's regional rail network would use existing, underutilized railroad branch lines that serve many of the county's rural communities.

Fresno Light Rail

In partnership with the City of Fresno and Fresno Area Express (FAX), Fresno COG is studying an urban light rail network

to improve connectivity between the city's disadvantaged communities and major destinations, including the future downtown Fresno HSR Station and Fresno Yosemite International Airport. This light rail network would be a critical step toward advancing a sustainable, equitable, and zero-emission transportation alternative for the City of Fresno.

Local Transit (FAX, Clovis Transit, FCRTA)

The Fresno region is served by three transit agencies: FAX, Clovis Transit, and FCRTA. FAX has 18 fixed routes that provide frequent service throughout the City of Fresno and a paratransit service called Handy Ride. Clovis Transit has two fixed routes and two "Education Center Express" routes with one weekday round-trip. FCRTA's seven fixed routes and 16 demand-response services serve the county's rural communities. Together, these transit agencies provide the foundation for transit connectivity throughout the region.

YARTS

YARTS Highway 41 service offers convenient travel to and from Fresno and Yosemite National Park, with stops at Fresno's Amtrak station, Fresno Yosemite International Airport, and in north Fresno. In 2024, the City of Fresno joined the YARTS Joint Powers Authority to maintain this vital transportation service to one of the nation's most visited national parks.

Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

The downtown Fresno HSR Station, regional rail corridors, and light rail corridors will be focal points for new TOD in the county. The City of Fresno has adopted plans and made zoning changes to incorporate high-density development supported by transit corridors throughout the city. The future HSR station in downtown Fresno will be the central hub for regional transit, and the city has received state grants for new utilities and infrastructure that will unlock the potential of higher-density, mixed-use development in downtown Fresno.

DETAILED MAP ON BACK



