



**ECOS Transportation, Air Quality & Climate Change Committee**  
**Thursday, January 3, 2019, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Mogavero Architects, 2012 K Street, Sacramento**

**Meeting Notes**

**6:00 p.m.** – Welcome, Introductions, Check-Ins, and Changes to Agenda

*Attendance:* Dan Allison (STAR), Steven Bourasa (EOS), James Drake (SacRT), Rick Castro (EOS), Lawrence Fox, Lynne Goldsmith (ECOS, 350 Sac), Alex Reagan (ECOS staff), Jon Ellison (co-chair), John Deeter (co-chair).

*Guests:* Dan Leavitt, Alison MacLeod (both San Joaquin RRC).

**6:05 p.m.** – New train service through Midtown Sacramento

- Dan Leavitt (Manager of Regional Initiatives, San Joaquin RRC) will describe plans for additional San Joaquin train service using the Midtown line in Sacramento. A station near 19th & Q streets will include major improvements to Midtown bicycle lanes.

*Leavitt (with [slide show](#)):* “Valley Rail”, an initiative partly funded by SB1, is set greatly expand rail service southward from Sacramento in the next three or four years. The San Joaquin rail authority will add two daily round trips from Sacramento to Bakersfield by 2021 and the ACE rail authority will introduce new rail services to Ceres and San Jose by 2023. Including the two San Joaquin trains currently operating, there will be a total of nine daily round trips between Sacramento and Stockton, with four continuing to Fresno/Bakersfield, three to Ceres, and one each to Stockton and San Jose.

*The new trains will operate on the Sacramento subdivision (ex-Western Pacific line) running through Midtown Sacramento, and serve new stations at Lodi, Elk Grove (Cosumnes River Blvd.), Sacramento City College, Midtown Sacramento (19<sup>th</sup> and Q streets), North Sacramento (Del Paso Blvd), and Natomas (Elkhorn Blvd.). All except Lodi and Natomas are close to SacRT light rail stations, with cross-platform transfer at City College. SacRT will operate a bus shuttle between the Natomas station and Sacramento Airport.*

*Plans for the Midtown station are particularly noteworthy. No vehicle parking will be provided, with emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian access instead. Half of the \$6 million allocated for the station will be spent on improving bicycle access, with major additions to the Midtown bike lane network. The station will include an extensive plaza on the west side, and provide ready access to recent developments in the R street corridor.*

*ACE is also making major improvements to the Modesto and Ceres stations south of Stockton that will get new service from Sacramento and San Jose. The ACE trains provide regional train service*

to the downtown area of these cities, while the San Joaquins are geared more for intercity service and bypass the city centers well to the east.

**Discussion: Q:** Is it possible to add a light rail stop closer to the Midtown station? **A:** An elevated station on the Gold Line is not feasible; SacRT has been asked whether it is possible to put a stop on the Blue Line curve next to the Midtown station, but this is unlikely to happen. **Q:** Is it possible to grade separate the Midtown rail line, which has occasionally blocked east-west traffic for hours by stalled freight trains? **A:** Adding grade separation at even a single crossing would be very difficult, but full separation will be necessary if this line is used for high speed rail sometime in the future. Perhaps a trench will be needed, like in Reno.

There was further discussion about whether bike lanes should be inside or outside of vehicle parking.

**7:15 p.m.** – Updates, reports and discussion of other current topics

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy
- Mayors' Climate Commission
- Coalition to support a better Measure B (transportation tax for Sac. County)
- SacRT Forward
- “Electrify America” program in Sacramento
- Sacramento City and Elk Grove Climate Action Plans
- Discussions with Caltrans about its role in regional transportation planning
- Summary of accomplishments by TAQCC in 2018

**7:40 p.m.** – Other business and announcements / Topics for future meetings

**Drake:** SacRT would like to present an update on SacRT Forward (bus route optimization) at the February TAQCC meeting.

**7:45 p.m.** (approx.) – Adjourn

Next TAQCC meeting: Thurs., Feb. 7, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Mogavero Architects, 2012 K St.

Other upcoming events of interest:

Jan. 12, 1 pm -- **Sacramento Transit Riders Union** (Sac TRU), 1714 Broadway

Jan. 22, 6 pm -- **ECOS Board**, Location TBD (reception at 5:30)

Printable TAQCC agendas and minutes are available on the ECOS [Web site](#)