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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Thousands of jobs coming soon to the Railyards**

### **\$50 million railroad track construction project goes out to bid today**

The City of Sacramento and its private development partner, Thomas Enterprises, Inc., are requesting bids beginning today for a much anticipated marquee project, which will mean thousands of jobs in the area this summer.

The Track Relocation Project constitutes a series of new railroad tracks, passenger platforms, and three tunnels. The request for bid is available on the City's webpage at <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/generalservices/procurement/bids/> under "Construction Bids."

"With this project out to bid, we are looking forward to breaking ground in mid-May on one of the largest public works projects in the state this summer and certainly one of the largest in the City's history," said Mayor Kevin Johnson.

The project at the downtown Railyards will require constructing and realigning freight and passenger tracks 500 feet north. The project will also allow more freight trains through Sacramento at more efficient speed and facilitate the expected surge in regional rail ridership, particularly between the Bay Area and Sacramento. With the current tracks out of the way and access provided, the gateway will open for housing, shops, museums and entertainment venues being developed by Thomas Enterprises and for future expansion of the depot into a world class regional multi modal transportation center.

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Last month, the City and Thomas Enterprises bid out the construction of two pedestrian routes connecting the Railyards with Old Sacramento and downtown; three bridges over the tracks at 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets; and a construction management firm. These projects, the tracks and other road construction along with the historic Central Shops abatement work total a public investment of approximately \$115 million, which should sustain or create nearly 3,300 jobs over two years (according to the FHWA formula of one job per \$35,000 investment). Approximately \$30 million are federal stimulus dollars. Work on roads and utilities within the Railyards funded by state Proposition 1C dollars began last year by Thomas Enterprises.

Johnson thanked Democratic Rep. Doris Matsui of Sacramento, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, the California Transportation Commission, Caltrans, the California Department of Housing and Community Development, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority and Amtrak for helping Sacramento secure the funds for this critical project.

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### **Background**

- The City's Track Relocation Project components specifically includes four passenger tracks and one future mainline track, construction of passenger tunnels under the tracks, passenger platforms and associated electrical and lighting systems.
- For more information on the multi modal transportation facility planned for the depot, go to <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/transportation/director/sitf/index.html>
- For more information on the Railyards, go to <http://www.sacramentorailyards.com>