

Five teams pre-qualified to bid for high-speed rail construction in Kern County

By Tim Sheehan



Conceptual view of high-speed rail

SPECIAL TO THE BEE

Five teams of contractors have been pre-qualified to compete for a contract to build a third stretch of high-speed rail route from the Tulare-Kern county line to just north of Bakersfield.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority identified the teams on Monday. They are:

- California Rail Builders, which includes Ferrovial Agroman US Corp., an American subsidiary of Ferrovial S.A., a Spanish company.
- Central Valley Connection Builders, composed of Spanish firms FCC Construcción S.A. and Corsan-Corviam Construcción S.A.
- Dragados / Flatiron Joint Venture, a team that includes Dragados USA Inc., an American subsidiary Grupo ACS and Dragados S.A. of Spain; and Flatiron West Inc. of San Marcos.
- Salini Impregilo / Security Paving Joint Venture, composed of Italian construction company Salini Impregilo S.p.A. and Security Paving Co., based in Sun Valley.
- Tutor Perini / Zachry / Parsons, a consortium that includes Tutor Perini Corp. of Sylmar, Zachry Construction of Texas and Pasadena-based Parsons Corp.

The next contract will include about 22 miles of the high-speed rail infrastructure from the Tulare-Kern line to the northwestern outskirts of Bakersfield. It will include construction of roadway overpasses, waterway and wildlife crossings as well as relocating four miles of the existing BNSF Railway freight line. Engineers for the state estimate the cost of the work at \$400 million to \$500 million. The California High-Speed Rail Authority expects to seek formal bids on the project within weeks.

Tutor Perini / Zachry / Parsons is the team that won a contract for about \$1 billion to build the first section of the state's proposed high-speed rail line, a 29-mile stretch between Fresno and Madera. Dragados and Flatiron are two of the three companies on the winning team for the second construction contract worth about \$1.3 billion to build a 65-mile segment from Fresno to the Tulare-Kern county line.

Ferrovial Agroman was among the unsuccessful bidders for the first construction contract and withdrew from competition from the second contract. FCC Construcción, Corsan-Corviam Construcción, Salini Impregilo and Security Paving are new entrants to the high-speed rail bidding.

Contact Tim Sheehan: tsheehan@fresnobee.com, (559) 441-6319 or [@TimSheehanNews](https://twitter.com/TimSheehanNews) on Twitter.