

# ACE Ceres-Merced Extension Project



## Project Overview

The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRR) proposes to extend ACE passenger rail service from Ceres to Merced by upgrading some existing tracks and constructing new tracks at certain locations within the existing UPRR Fresno Subdivision right-of-way (ROW) over a total distance of approximately 34 miles.

Three new stations and a layover and maintenance facility would be constructed along the extension alignment.

The Project would consist of the following:

1. A **Ceres to Merced Extension Alignment** consisting of upgrades and new tracks and bridges within the UPRR Fresno Subdivision between Ceres and Merced
2. New **Turlock, Livingston or Atwater, and Merced Stations** along the extension alignment
3. A new permanent **Merced Layover & Maintenance Facility** to support extension operations

## Existing and Proposed ACE Rail Network

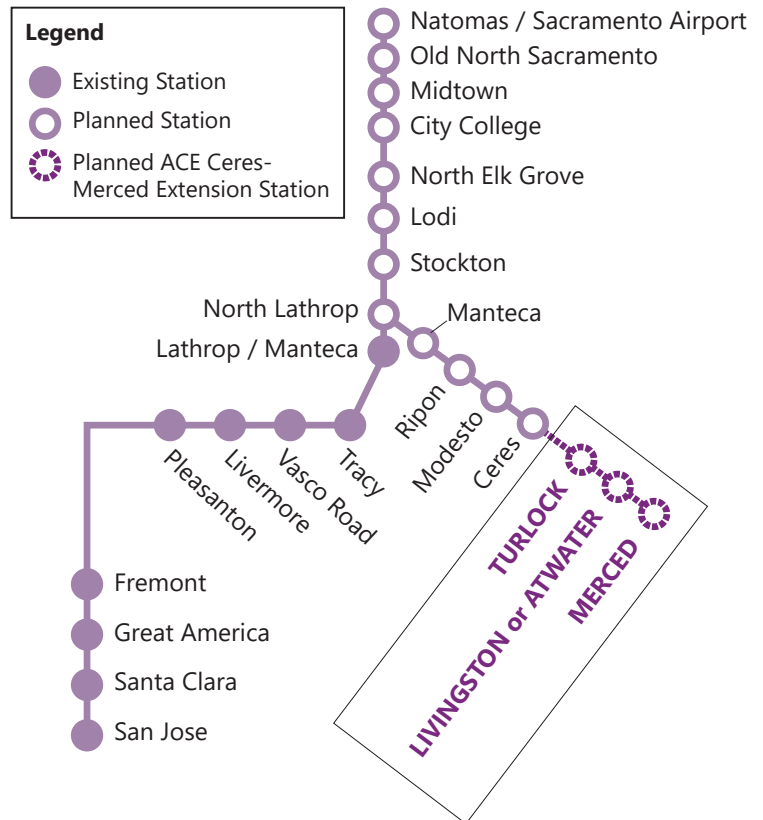


Figure 1. Proposed Project Map



## Environmental Review

SJRR will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The EIR will evaluate the environmental issues associated with the proposed improvements included in the Project.

This new project-level EIR will be tiered from the programmatic analysis in the EIR completed for ACE Extension Lathrop to Ceres/Merced Project, published in 2018.


The EIR will assess and inform the public about potential impacts of the Project, including mitigation measures, where necessary.


### Who is the Lead Agency?

SJRR is the lead agency for this effort. To help ensure a successful process, the SJRR is working closely with local stakeholders, including the Counties and Cities where the Project would be located.


*The purpose of the Project is to address growing traffic congestion, unhealthy air quality, climate change, and a general lack of access to rail transportation in the San Joaquin Valley.*


# Benefits of Project


 Enhanced commuter and intercity passenger rail and transit **access and connectivity** in the San Joaquin Valley


 **Additional passenger rail service** to areas with no service or very limited service

 Support of **transit-oriented development** near proposed station locations

 Opportunity to connect with the **future high-speed rail** in Merced

 Creation of new transportation **alternatives to automobile use**, which would alleviate traffic on congested roads and highways in the region

 Increased **air quality** and the **reduction of greenhouse gas emissions**

 Long-term **health benefits** for ACE riders and residents and employees along the ACE corridor as a result of reduced emissions

 Promotion of local and regional land use and transportation planning **sustainability goals and initiatives**

# Project Timeline



## We want to hear from

For more information on the project, and to sign up for our email list, visit:  
[www.acerail.com/merced-extension-eir](http://www.acerail.com/merced-extension-eir)

## Stay Connected

Join ACE on our social media platforms for the most up to date information.

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