Rail Ridership and Revenue Forecast Results: Southern California to Las Vegas

High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority Transportation Solutions Steer Davies Gleave

March 2, 2017



HIGH DESERT CONNECTION







Study Sponsor: High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

- > Formed in 2006 by San Bernardino and LA Counties
- Purpose: to develop multipurpose corridor from Palmdale to Victorville, Apple Valley and Adelanto
- Components rail, highway, green energy
- Key Stakeholders: San Bernardino County, SBCTA, LA County, LA Metro, CHSRA, CalSTA, Caltrans, Metrolink, SCAG, XpressWest, Cities



Primary Benefits of HSR on the Corridor

- Congestion relief (with high speed rail) for one of the nation's most congested corridor (LA/Las Vegas)
- > LA and LV metro areas connected by 2.5 hour HSR trip
- Two hour trip savings with safety, reliability, convenience
- Will stimulate economic development in one of the fastest growing areas in California
- Potential for significant private investment (P3)
- Connectivity to state-wide and regional transportation networks



What does the SDG Revenue and Ridership Study tell us?

- Size of the travel market between LA and Las Vegas
 - Current and future
- Share of the market can HSR attract
- How many riders (roundtrips) does this represent
- > Potential revenues based on realistic fare options
- If phased build-out -- incremental ridership and revenues for each phase





Summary of Study Results

- > Proven large scale demand between California and Las Vegas
- Potential 27% market share for HSR
- Forecast annual ridership of 3 million round-trips in 2021, rising to 11 million by 2035 with full corridor open, and 14 million by 2050
- Forecast revenues based on competitive fares:
 - > \$600 million in 2025 (Palmdale to Las Vegas)
 - > \$800 million in 2029 (Burbank to Las Vegas)
 - > \$1 billion per year in in 2035 (LA/Anaheim to Las Vegas)
 - > \$1.6 billion per year in 2050





Study Consultant: Steer Davies Gleave

- > One of world's largest fully independent transportation consulting firms
- > Over 30 years' transportation sector experience
- > Established advisor in the passenger rail sector
- > Services include:
 - Project planning and development
 - Strategic and business planning
 - Economic impact assessment and cost/benefit analysis
 - Ridership and ticket revenue forecasting





Steer Davies Gleave: International Experience

Europe:

- > UK: The Economic Impact of High-Speed Rail
- > UK: International Rail Services on the UK's HS1 Line
- France: LGV Sud Europe Atlantique
- Italy: New High-Speed Open Access Operator
- Italy: High-Speed Rail Procurement Strategy in Italy
- Spain: AVE Madrid-Barcelona Business Plan
- Spain: Due Diligence Talgo
- Portugal: Ridership on New High-Speed Rail Lines in Portugal
- Cross-Europe: Madrid-Barcelona-France High-Speed Line Ridership
- Cross-Europe: Comparative Study of HSR for various countries
- Cross-Europe: North-West Europe Rail Capacity

Worldwide:

- Brazil: Sao Paulo Rio HSR
- > South Africa: Gautrain Ridership Forecasts Due Diligence
- Saudi Arabia: Makkah-Medina Rail Corridor Ridership Forecasting & Operational Planning
- > Saudi Arabia: Haramain High-Speed Rail



Steer Davies Gleave: US High-speed Rail Experience



 SDG is a leading ridership and revenue forecasting firm for high-speed rail projects

What are "Investment Grade" Forecasts?

- > Revenue forecasts that explain and quantify uncertainties
- Market recognizes as providing a sound basis for making an investment decision
 - Study provides full transparency of all assumptions, forecasting methodology, processes and final output
 - Uses recently primary observed data for all key components; and base analysis on parameters specific to the project

The Scale of the Existing Market for Travel to Las Vegas

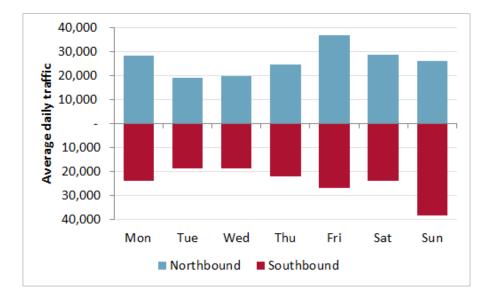
- Las Vegas attracted over 42.9 million visitors in 2016
 - > Tourists
 - Convention and business visitors
 - Personal travel to visit friends and relatives
- Californian residents approximate 29% of all visitors
 - > Of these, 80-85% reside in Southern California
- Many international visitors to Las Vegas also arrive via California
 - > 75% of international visitors don't fly directly to Las Vegas





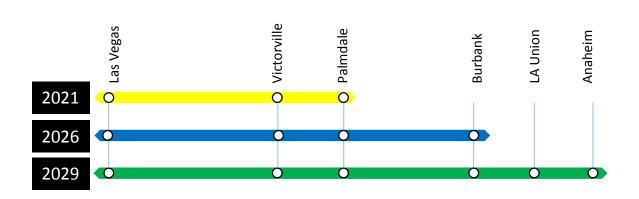
The Existing Travel Options

- 90% of visitors from Southern California travel to Las Vegas by road
 - Uncongested drive time from Southern California is 4-6 hours
 - Travel times at peak times (Friday northbound, Sunday southbound) are often significantly longer
- > Main alternative is travel by plane
 - > From six major airports in Southern California

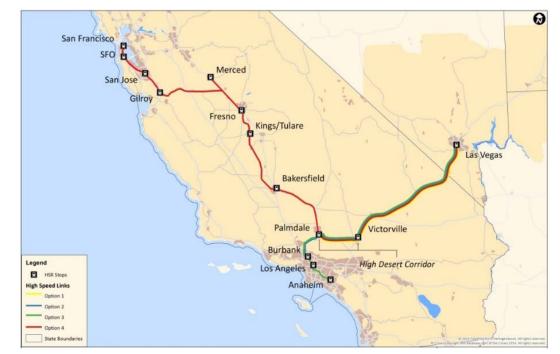




Phased Implementation



- > 2021: Phase 1: Las Vegas-Palmdale
- > 2026: Phase 2: Las Vegas-Burbank
- > 2029: Phase 3: Las Vegas-Anaheim
- > 2029: Phase 4: Connection with CaHSR services to Central Valley and Northern California





The Forecasting Approach

Based upon a proven methodology, utilized in high-speed and intercity passenger rail studies in the US and internationally.

The size of the "in-scope" market for travel which HSR can serve

The future growth in this market

How much of this market HSR can capture at a given fare

How much additional travel will be "induced" by the presence of the HSR service itself

Ridership and revenue forecast



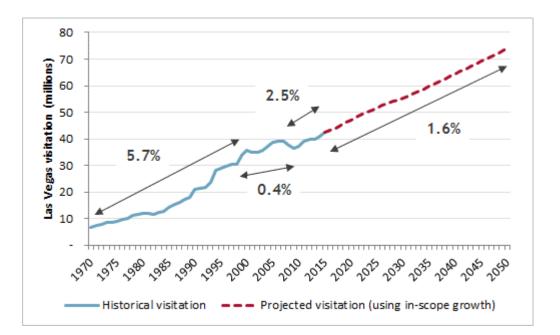
The Size of the "In-scope" Market for Travel Which HSR Can Serve

- Estimated "in-scope" market includes approximately 26 million round-trips in 2015, based on:
 - LVCVA reported adult visitors to Las Vegas
 - Estimated visitation among under 21s and those visiting friends and relatives resident in Las Vegas
 - > Estimated trips made by Clark County residents traveling to California



The Future Growth in this Market

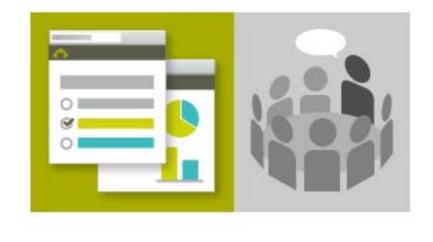
- Historically, growth of Las Vegas visitation strongly influenced by available rooms, with high occupancy levels
- Forecasts of future year growth of "inscope" market from California also incorporate:
 - Demographic changes
 - Behavioral changes (propensity to visit Las Vegas)





Primary Research Helps us to Inform Travel Behavior

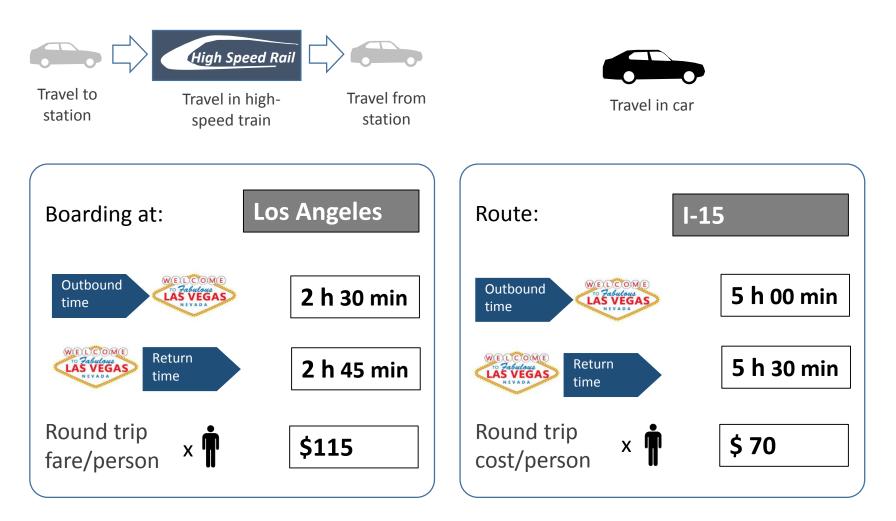
- Extensive cell-phone and GPS data used to understand where people are traveling to and from
- 10 focus groups were conducted across 5 locations throughout California to understand what is important to people when making travel choices
- > Stated preference surveys were conducted in multiple locations:
 - Yermo agricultural inspection station
 - MGM properties on the Las Vegas Strip
 - Las Vegas convention center
 - > Online panel





Example of Survey Stated Preference Exercise

People's responses help to quantify the potential capture by HSR



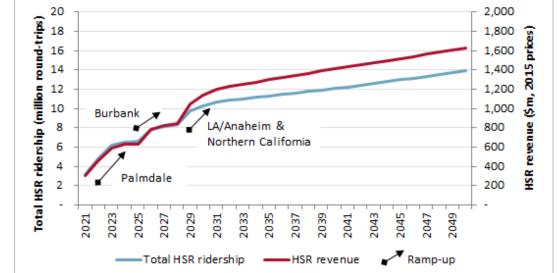
How Much of the Potential Market Can HSR Capture at a Given Fare?

- Binary choice models used to estimate likely allocation of different market segments to competing modes
- Input parameters for models derived using data from stated preference surveys (with over 4,000 participants)
- Estimates of additional travel "induced" by availability of the HSR service also developed based on survey responses



Base Case Ridership and Revenue Forecast

- Forecast initial annual ridership of 3 million round-trips in 2021 (Phase 1, 1st year)
- Demand increases to 11 million by 2035 with full corridor open, and 14 million by 2050
- Potential 27% market share for HSR
- Demand profile reflects infrastructure phasing and ramp-up
- Wide range of sensitivity tests
 - Including exogenous factors, mode characteristics and model parameters
 - Demonstrates resilience of the forecasts



Ridership and Revenue Study Summary

- Proven large scale demand between California and Las Vegas
- Forecast annual ridership of 3 million round-trips in 2021, rising to 11 million by 2035 with full corridor open, and 14 million by 2050
- Forecast annual revenue of \$300 million in 2021, rising to \$1.3 billion by 2035 with full corridor open, and \$1.6 billion by 2050
- Investment grade analysis based upon proven methodology used in the US and internationally
- Forecasts developed using significant volumes of primary data collected specifically for this project
- Forecasts subjected to a range of sensitivity tests which demonstrate the resilience of the forecasts across a range of areas of uncertainty



The **Good** News

- Critically important project
- > Environmental work complete
- Public Sector interest at Federal, State, Regional and Local levels
- Ridership and Revenue Study completed
- Private Sector interest







For Copies of Report

Contact: Neil Peterson Transportation Solutions

neil@neilpeterson.com

> View the video recording of the webcast:

Tinyurl.com/HDCJPA

Register for HDC JPA Updates:

Tinyurl.com/HDCJPARegistration



Questions & Answers



View the video recording of the webcast: <u>Tinyurl.com/HDCJPA</u>

Register for HDC JPA Updates: <u>Tinyurl.com/HDCJPARegistration</u>