From : IAN CHOUDRI
Date : October 28, 2026
SUBJECT : CEO Letter of resignation

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

Dear Chair Kawa , Vice Chair Williams

Please accept this as letter of my resignation effective immediately.

After careful consideration, I have made the difficult decision to step down as CEO of the California High-Speed Rail Authority to focus on important personal and family priorities. This has not been an easy decision, as leading the Authority has been one of the most meaningful and rewarding chapters of my professional life.

I am particularly proud of the transformation achieved during my tenure. I took on a project facing significant challenges and serious questions about its prospects for success, and led its turnaround into a successful project. This required decisive leadership, difficult decisions, persistence, and an unwavering focus on results. I consider this turnaround one of the most significant accomplishments of my career and a reflection of my personal dedication, leadership, and commitment to delivering the first true high-speed rail system in North America.

In less than twenty months, we made substantial progress, overcame significant challenges, built a strong team, and delivered meaningful results. I take particular pride in the role I played in changing the project's trajectory and establishing a stronger foundation for its future. The CEO Progress Report presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2026 documents these accomplishments and the progress achieved during my tenure. These achievements would not have been possible without the dedication, expertise, and perseverance of the Executive team, whose contributions deserve the utmost recognition.

While my family and health must now take priority, I leave the role with a strong sense of accomplishment and pride in what has been achieved and what the Executive team has accomplished under my leadership. I hope the Authority will continue to build on this progress and carry forward the vision and momentum established during my tenure.

Sincerely,
Ian Choudri

CC : Christine Ciccotti