



SYSTEM COMPLIANCE ADA RAIL BOARDING METHOD

The ACE Rail system, managed by SJRRC, and San Joaquins system, managed by SJJPA, will be designed and implemented to ensure that all passengers with disabilities can access the train cars. There are regulations that must be followed - for new or altered stations, FRA/FTA requires that the boarding platform height would be the same as the car door height, OR the rail agency may request approval for an alternate method that serves as an "Equivalent Facilitation." SJRRC and SJJPA are proposing to meet the performance standard through alternative boarding methods and equivalent facilitation.

OVERVIEW OF ADA RAIL BOARDING CONSIDERATIONS

- There are 36 stations (16 new and 20 existing stations) that must be evaluated to meet the FRA/FTA standards for ADA-compliant boarding methods.
- The ACE and San Joaquins systems run on freight shared track, which impacts potential boarding methods.
- Existing ACE service uses mini-high platforms for ADA access.
- Existing San Joaquins service uses wheel-chair lifts for ADA access.

Boarding Methods Considered

SJJPA and SJRRC evaluated a series of options for future ADA access at new and existing stations – looking at design and engineering options and platform spacing:

- Bridge plates
- Gauntlet track
- Car-borne ramps
- Retractable platform edge
- Mini high platforms
- Portable wheelchair lifts

System Constraints

There are physical and operational constraints that impact the feasibility of different boarding methods:

- **Range of equipment** – there is not a single platform height that matches the different train equipment heights used by ACE and San Joaquins
- **Freight clearances/requirements** – passenger rail access must meet track, freight, and CPUC requirements for all heights and equipment types

VALLEY RAIL PLAN FOR CONTINUED ADA-COMPLIANT BOARDING



SJRRC and SJJPA propose continued use and expansion of mini-high platforms and portable wheel chair lifts. This method is **safe, timely, reliable** and **effective**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – DUE BY NOVEMBER 22, 2023



The draft plan for ADA rail boarding on San Joaquins and ACE trains is available at www.sjrcc.com/valley-rail. The public is encouraged to review and provide comments to AccessibleBoarding@gmail.com. A **virtual public presentation will be held on October 25th, at 3:00 PM**: Click here to [join on Zoom](#), or you can enter Zoom Meeting ID 862 9902 0541 and Passcode 450376. Or you can email AccessibleBoarding@gmail.com to receive the meeting link.

PROJECT TIMELINE



OCTOBER 2023

Public Comments Requested

NOVEMBER 2023

Public Comments Due

JANUARY 2024

Public Hearing & Board Consideration

MARCH 2024

Final Report Submitted