THE CITY OF
PLEASANTON

September 11, 2020

The Honorable Elsa Ortiz, Chair
Planning, Policy and Legislation Committee
Alameda County Transportation Commission
1111 Broadway, Suite 800
Oakland, CA 94607

Via Email: vlee@alamedactc.org

Subject: Support for 2014 Measure BB Transportation Expenditure Plan Amendment – Valley Link

Dear Chair Ortiz:

As a member of the Pleasanton City Council, I am providing my support for the approval of the Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority's (TVSJRAA) request to amend the 2014 Measure BB transportation Expenditure Plan. The amendment proposes to complete several actions: 1) recognize the TVSJVRRA as a new agency that is eligible to receive Measure BB funds; 2) Replace the BART to Livermore project with the Valley Link project and retain the $400 million in Measure BB funding for the Valley Link project.

The Valley Link Project will benefit the entire Tri-Valley by improving rail mobility from San Joaquin County to the Tri-Valley region. At the gateway to Silicon Valley and the greater Bay Area, the City of Pleasanton bears the brunt of traffic congestion through the 580 and 680 corridors. Valley Link will service approximately 28,000 riders per day which will reduce traffic congestion, vehicle miles traveled, and travel time through the Altamont and 580 corridor. Valley Link will also reduce GHG by 33,000 metric tons of CO2 in 2040 by operating a self- sufficient renewable energy system.

Valley Link will also support the advancement of Transit Oriented Development by supporting MTC's Plan Bay Area; having four PDA's located along the Valley Link alignment will support more than 2,200 homes, all located within ½ mile of the stations. These transit-oriented developments will be within walking distance to regular Valley Link service providing access throughout the day in both directions and connecting with the Bay Area's BART system which further contributes to the reduction of traffic congestion and GHG emissions in the Tri-Valley region.

The Valley Link Project is a critical regional project and will complete the regional rail concept initially envisioned for the Tri-Valley decades ago. It will expand regional rail, provide traffic relief, and will improve air quality by providing clean transportation. I urge the Planning, Policy and Legislation Committee approve the Measure BB amendment request by TVSJVRAA.

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Sincerely,

Jerry Pentin
City of Pleasanton, City Councilmember

Electronic cc: Planning, Policy and Legislation Committee members
Michael Tree, Executive Director of Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
Nelson Fialho, City Manager
Honorable Pauline Cutter, Commission Chair- Alameda County Transportation Commission
Tess Lengyel, Executive Director - Alameda County Transportation Commission