Tri-Valley Chamber of Commerce ALLIANCE

DANVILLE • DUBLIN • LIVERMORE • PLEASANTON • SAN RAMON

September 21, 2020

Via Email

Mayor Pauline Cutter, Chair
Alameda County Transportation Commission
1111 Broadway, Suite 800
Oakland, CA 94607

Re: Tri-Valley-San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority Request for 2014 Measure BB Transportation Expenditure Plan Amendment – **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Cutter & Commissioners:

As members of the Tri-Valley Chamber of Commerce Alliance (TVCCA), we are writing to express our support for the Tri-Valley-San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority request for an amendment to the 2014 Measure BB Transportation Plan. TVCCA is a collaboration of the Danville, Dublin, Livermore Valley, Pleasanton and San Ramon Chambers of Commerce representing over 3,000 member businesses and organizations employing nearly 90,000 workers.

Efficiently moving people and goods throughout the region is a major factor affecting Tri-Valley communities and beyond. We support and appreciate, ongoing investments in the Tri-Valley segments of I-580, I-680 and SR 84 highway corridors that are highly utilized by workers, residents and visitors. TVCCA members support local, regional, state and federal initiatives that plan, fund and deliver transportation projects and programs needed to sustain a strong economy, including TVSJVRRA and its Valley Link project.

The failure of the BART board of directors to implement an extension of service to Livermore which voters approved in Measure BB in the amount of $400 million was deeply disappointing. Closing the gap to effectively link passenger rail to the SF Bay Area's rail and transit network is the last major transportation improvement that remains to be deployed in the I-580 corridor. Fortunately, Tri-Valley leaders had the foresight to lay the legislative groundwork in preparation for this future rail connection, establishing the Tri-Valley-San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (TVSJVRRA). The TVSJVRRA has worked diligently to develop and advance the Valley Link rail project to the Livermore Valley, and queuing up a future rail connection to the neighboring San Joaquin Valley.

TVCCA considers Valley Link a “game-changing” project, the realization of which will create a legacy supporting economic strength and resiliency within this region and within the Northern California Mega Region, today and for generations to come. Never more so than now, as we endure the profound impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we look to our leaders to summon the courage to prepare to execute a new vision for the future. TVCCA stands with leaders at TVSJVRRA and at ACTC in this effort.

The TVCCA strongly supports and urges the Commission to approve the TVSJVRRA request and designate $400 million to the Valley Link rail project.

Respectfully,

Livermore Valley CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Dawn P. Argula, CEO

danville area CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Shelby McNamara, Interim President

Dublin CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Inge Houston, CEO

PLEASANTON CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Steve Van Dorn, CEO

SAN RAMON CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Stewart Bambino, CEO