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REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY

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September 10, 2020

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

Dear Chair Cutter:

Subject: Support for ACTC Approval of Tri-Valley-San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority Request for a 2014 Measure BB Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) Amendment

On behalf of the Tri-Valley – San Joaquin County Regional Rail Authority, I write to underscore strong support for approval of our agency's request to amend the 2014 Measure BB TEP. The TEP amendment will acknowledge the Authority as a new agency in Alameda County that can be an eligible recipient of Measure BB funds and update the TEP by adding Valley Link for the $400 million Measure BB funding identified for the BART to Livermore project. This action will directly benefit the taxpaying residents of the Tri-Valley.

Valley Link will link our Alameda County workforce to affordable housing, provide opportunities for compact transit-oriented development and will have a significant impact on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. An estimated 33,000 are projected to ride the 42-mile, 7-station system in 2040. This will result in the reduction of over 99.4 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and the reduction of over 33,880 to 42,650 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year. It will also provide an estimated 22,000 jobs during construction and when operational support 400 jobs per year with labor income of over $19 million per year and $69 million in business sales annually. It will also reduce congestion and improve safety on Interstate 580 – ranked as one of the Bay Area's most congested goods movement corridors and a vital link to the Port of Oakland. In short, it is vital to our environment and the quality of life in our communities – and now even more vital to our economy given the recovery needs we are now facing.

Valley Link
Connecting People, Housing, and Jobs

1362 Rutan Court, Suite 100 | Livermore, CA 94551 | (925) 455-7564 | valleylinkrail.com

The time to take action on this request is now as it will help position this vital project for potential federal and state stimulus funds. The compelling facts have all been clearly identified and, after decades of studies that have exhaustively reviewed bus alternatives and virtually every imaginable alignment and mode option, there is simply no need for additional studies and delay with further consequential and wasteful cost escalation.

We urge the approval of the Authority's Request for a 2014 Measure BB Transportation Expenditure Plan Amendment. This action will ensure that this vital project moves forward and that commitments to the Tri-Valley are long last met.

Sincerely,
Scott Haggerty
Board Chair

Cc: Tess Lengyel, Executive Director, Alameda County Transportation Commission
Michael Tree, Executive Director, Tri-Valley - San Joaquin Regional Rail Authority