



August 21, 2020

Mr. Scott Haggerty, Chair
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale St, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Re: ACE Service Expansion Program in Plan Bay Area 2050

Dear Chair Haggerty:

On behalf of Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group (ITV), I want to thank you for the opportunity to continue providing feedback on Plan Bay Area 2050. ITV is led by business leaders and influencers committed to connecting the businesses, research labs, educational institutions, and civic leaders in the Tri-Valley region. This collaborative force is generating job growth and economic vitality for a region that is globally connected, regionally united, and locally unique. To that end, ITV respectfully requests that MTC include expanding ACE service by 4 additional round trips in Plan Bay Area 2050.

We believe Period 1 (before 2035) of Plan Bay Area 2050 should have 2 additional ACE round trips between the Central Valley and San Jose (6 total ACE daily round trips), and Period 2 (after 2035) of Plan Bay Area 2050 should have 2 additional ACE round trips between the Central Valley and Fremont/Union City/Newark (8 total ACE daily round trips). This request is a minor, incremental improvement of the ACE commuter rail service which has well served the Bay Area for over twenty years.

ACE commuter rail service is important to the Bay Area economy and the well-being of its residents. MTC estimates that 44% of job growth in the Bay Area between 2015 – 2050 will be in Santa Clara County. ACE is the only passenger rail service directly connecting Tri-Valley workers to/from jobs in Santa Clara County, and this expansion is consistent with the 2018 State Rail Plan by improving connectivity with Merced-Bakersfield HSR Interim Operating Segment. The MTC Board Action on July 22 “creates some fiscal capacity in Period 1 to assign funding to some additional transportation strategies to achieve equity and GHG outcomes” (page 10 of MTC staff



report for Item 8A). There is strong support in the Bay Area and in the Megaregion for expanding ACE service and ACE expansion should be one of transportation strategies included in Period 1.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Lynn Naylor
CEO

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