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California State Senate

SENATOR
STEVEN M. GLAZER
SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT

CHAIR
BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
STUDENT SUCCESS

COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE
EDUCATION
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
INSURANCE



May 15, 2020

Therese McMillan
Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco CA 94105-2066

Dear Ms. McMillan:

I am writing to encourage you to include Valley Link in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Plan Bay Area 2050. To achieve our region's goals for the economy, the environment, housing and transportation, we need a robust and sustainable passenger rail system. I believe that Valley Link is important for the future of our region.

In 2017, the California State Legislature created the Tri-Valley - San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority to plan, develop and deliver cost-effective transit connectivity between the Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART) rapid transit system and the Altamont Corridor Express' (ACE) commuter rail service. In 2018, they adopted the Valley Link project as the prepared alternative.

Valley Link is an opportunity to deliver a fast and efficient inter-regional rail service, connecting people, housing and jobs in the Northern California region and providing much needed congestion relief in one of the Bay Area's most congested corridors. Currently, there are over 98,500 daily commuters, traveling an estimated 78 minutes each way. By 2040, overall traffic is estimated to increase by 75% on I-580.

Valley Link will expand Bay Area rail access from the Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station to additional destinations in the Tri-Valley, including stations at Isabel Ave/I-580 in Livermore and Greenville Road/I-580 in Livermore. In addition, it will connect the Tri-Valley and Bay Area with communities in Northern San Joaquin Valley, with stations in Mountain House, Tracy and River Islands.

Valley Link has widespread support and at project inception, has an unprecedented 1/3 of its funding already identified as available through local sources - a total of \$648 million. Their environmental clearance is nearly complete and a targeted revenue service date is set for 2027.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to the advancement of this important project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Steven M. Glazer'.

Steven M. Glazer
CA State Senator
District 7

CC: Scott Haggerty, Chairman, Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Alix Bockelman, Deputy Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Commission