

Tri-Valley x San Joaquin Valley
REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty and Tracy Mayor Pro Tem Veronica Vargas Announce \$750,000 Grant for Planning ACE to BART Rail Connection

LIVERMORE, CA, May 18, 2018 – Today Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty and Tracy Mayor Pro Tem Veronica Vargas announced the State’s approval of a grant for planning efforts to connect ACE and BART rail systems to alleviate congestion on the I-580 corridor, thanks to \$750,000 in funding secured by the recently established Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority.

“The I-580 freeway serves the Altamont Corridor and ranks as one of the most congested freeways in the Northern California Megaregion due to high volume commuter, freight and other traffic,” said Supervisor Haggerty, who also serves as the Regional Rail Authority’s Chair. “With traffic on the I-580 expected to increase 60 percent in the near future, this is a very important rail connection that will not only improve our quality of life, but will also have a positive impact on our economy and the environment.”

Tracy Mayor Pro Tem Veronica Vargas, who serves as the Regional Rail Authority’s Vice Chair, said “The affordability of housing in Tracy and other Northern San Joaquin Valley communities is attractive to many residents who work in the Bay Area. However, the commute over the Altamont is intolerable. This is the right time for policy makers on both sides of the Altamont to work together to deliver an important rail connection that will provide real results in reducing congestion.”

The Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority was created in 2017 when Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill 758 (Eggman/Baker) for the purpose of planning

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and delivering a connection between the ACE and BART rail systems. The Regional Rail Authority has already adopted a Project Concept and has released a schedule for project advancement that includes choosing a “preferred alternative” for project-level environmental clearance. While other options will be studied, the Regional Rail Authority’s adopted project concept entails a first phase passenger rail system from River Islands, Tracy, Mountain House and locations in Livermore before connecting with a BART terminus.

Additional phases for the megaregional line include stops at Lathrop/Manteca and Stockton before connecting with the first phase terminus of River Islands. ACE passengers could transfer to this line at several station locations along the way. For passengers living between Stockton and Livermore, this route would finally provide a direct connection to BART.

For more information on the Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority and the planned rail connection between the ACE and BART rail systems go to www.acetobart.org.

About the Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority

The Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority was created by the California Legislature in 2017 with the passage of Assembly Bill 758, co-authored by Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, R-San Ramon and Assemblywoman Susan Eggman, D-Stockton. The authority’s primary purpose is 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. The Authority is to provide a project feasibility report to the public on the plans for the development and implementation of transit connectivity no later than July 1, 2019.

The Authority is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by its 15 member agencies, including: the Town of Danville, the cities of San Ramon, Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore, Tracy, Manteca, Lathrop and Stockton, the Mountain House Community Services District, the counties of Alameda and San Joaquin, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) and the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE). The following page contains a list of the appointed board members.

Additional information on the Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority, including the agenda and staff reports is available at www.acetobart.org

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**Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
Member Agencies and Board Appointees**

Member Agency

Town of Danville
City of San Ramon
City of Dublin
City of Pleasanton
City of Livermore
City of Tracy
City of Manteca
City of Lathrop
City of Stockton
Mountain House
County of Alameda
County of San Joaquin
LAVTA
BART
ACE

Appointee

Councilmember Karen Stepper
Vice Mayor Philip G. O’Loane
Mayor David Haubert
Mayor Jerry Thorne
Mayor John Marchand
Mayor Pro Tem Veronica Vargas (Vice Chair)
Vice Mayor Debby Moorhead
Councilmember Paul Akinjo
Councilmember Susan Lofthus
Director Bernice Tingle
Supervisor Scott Haggerty (Chair)
Supervisor Bob Elliott
Boardmember Steven Spedowski
Boardmember John McPartland
Boardmember Leo Zuber