



TVSJVRRRA BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2020 AGENDA ITEM #6



Tri-Valley & San Joaquin Valley
REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY



Connecting People, Housing, and Jobs

AGENDA ITEM #6

APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE TRI-VALLEY – SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY (AUTHORITY) APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN INITIAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE SAN JOAQUIN REGIONAL RAIL COMMISSION (SJRRRC) TO ESTABLISH THE PROCESS AND ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MANAGING THE OPERATIONS OF FUTURE VALLEY LINK SERVICE, PLUS FURTHER DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE MOU AND COMMISSION SUPPORT TO THE PROJECT.



BACKGROUND

THE AUTHORITY IS TO PLAN, DELIVER AND OPERATE THE VALLEY LINK PROJECT – A COST-EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIVE PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE BETWEEN THE DUBLIN/PLEASANTON BART SYSTEM AND THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY THAT CONNECTS WITH AND COMPLEMENTS THE ALTAMONT CORRIDOR EXPRESS (ACE) SERVICE.

APPROVE INITIAL MOU FOR VALLEY LINK OPERATIONS

- **THE EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF A PRESUMED OPERATOR WILL ASSIST THE AUTHORITY WITH CERTAIN MILESTONE DECISIONS THAT COULD AFFECT THE VIABILITY, SCOPE OR COST OF THE PROJECT, INCLUDING FUTURE OPERATIONS.**
- **THE PRESUMED OPERATOR WILL BE KEY IN PROVIDING INPUT ON SERVICE PLANNING, TRAIN CONTROL SYSTEMS, COMMUNICATION INTERFACE AND PROTOCOLS AND VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY.**



APPROVE INITIAL MOU FOR VALLEY LINK OPERATIONS

1 OPERATING EXPERIENCE

- Exemplary safety record
- Altamont Commuter Express (20 Years)
- San Joaquin Regional Rail (7 Years)



SAN JOAQUIN
REGIONAL
RAIL COMMISSION*

2 SERVICE PLANNING EXPERTISE

- Coordination and network integration assistance (San Joaquin Valley)
- Contracted Operator procurement
- Development of specifications for various transit vehicles
- Preparation of regulatory safety and security operating plans

3 EXISTING/POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

- UPRR
 - Host railroad for ACE trains
 - Owns trackbed for the Valley Link route in San Joaquin County.
- STATE & REGIONAL AGENCIES: CalSTA/Caltrans, CHSRA, various San Joaquin Valley partners
- FRA/FTA

4 ELIMINATES THE NEED TO CREATE A NEW TRANSIT AGENCY



APPROVE INITIAL MOU FOR VALLEY LINK OPERATIONS

- **AFTER DISCUSSION WITH THE VALLEY LINK EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE AND DIRECTION FROM BOTH GOVERNING BOARDS, STAFF FROM BOTH AGENCIES HAVE WORKED ON AN INITIAL DRAFT NON-BINDING MOU TO START THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING AGREEMENTS TO IDENTIFY THE SJRRC AS THE OPERATING AGENCY FOR VALLEY LINK.**
- **THE INITIAL DRAFT MOU REFLECTS THE SJRRC'S AND AUTHORITY'S VISION TO FACILITATE COORDINATION IN ESTABLISHING THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN OPERATING AGENCY FOR THE VALLEY LINK SERVICE TO SERVE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE AUTHORITY.**



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KEY POINTS FROM THE MOU INCLUDE:

- **THE AUTHORITY IS ESTABLISHED AS THE OWNER OF THE VALLEY LINK SERVICE AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL GOVERNANCE AND PROJECT FUNDING, POLICIES, PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND SERVICE DECISIONS.**
- **THE AUTHORITY IS INTERESTED IN DESIGNATING AN OPERATING AGENCY EARLY IN THE VALLEY LINK PROJECT DELIVERY TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ACHIEVE SAFE, EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE OPERATIONS.**
- **THE COMMISSION HAS THE EXPERTISE AND A SUCCESSFUL TRACK RECORD TO PERFORM THE SERVICES OF AN OPERATING AGENCY TO WORK UNDER THE DIRECTION OF AND TO SUPPORT THE AUTHORITY IN ITS' GOALS FOR VALLEY LINK SERVICE.**



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KEY POINTS FROM THE MOU INCLUDE (CON'T):

- **THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE OPERATING AGENCY WILL BE DEFINED IN AGREEMENTS ESTABLISHED THROUGH AN ITERATIVE PROCESS WHERE THE AUTHORITY AND SJRRC EVALUATE THOSE DETAILS AT REGULAR MILESTONES THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.**
- **IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT FOLLOWING NEGOTIATIONS, DETAILED AGREEMENTS WILL BE EXECUTED AS THE VALLEY LINK PROJECT MOVES TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION AND REVENUE OPERATIONS.**



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FISCAL IMPACT:

- THE BOARD'S ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION R08-2020 AT ITS NOVEMBER 18, 2020 MEETING SET ASIDE \$300,000 FROM THE AUTHORITY'S RECEIPT OF \$46.8 MILLION FROM MTC FOR SJRRRC'S ACTIVITIES IDENTIFIED WITHIN THE MOU AND ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS DURING THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 2021 TO JUNE 2022.

RECOMMENDATION:

- APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE TRI-VALLEY – SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN INITIAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE SAN JOAQUIN REGIONAL RAIL COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH THE PROCESS AND ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MANAGING THE OPERATIONS OF FUTURE VALLEY LINK SERVICE, PLUS FURTHER DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE MOU AND COMMISSION SUPPORT TO THE PROJECT.