

Tri-Valley x San Joaquin Valley
REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority Adopts Preferred Alternative to Connect ACE to BART

LIVERMORE, CA, July 27, 2018 – At their July 25 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority voted to adopt a preferred alternative to deliver new rail service connecting ACE to BART. The action means that the project will now undergo a feasibility study and environmental review, which is scheduled to be completed by July 2019.

Alameda County Supervisor and Rail Authority Chair Scott Haggerty remarked that the Board’s adoption of a preferred alternative as well as other Board actions adopting a 12 month work program and initiating the environmental review process represented “a very important milestone that will keep us on a trajectory toward groundbreaking. I want to thank each and every member of our Authority Board and their staffs for their commitment to delivering a project that is fast, cost-effective and responsive to the goals and objectives of the communities it will serve.”

The preferred alternative includes a proposed phased implementation of service and specifies the preferred alignment, station locations, service characteristics and vehicle technology. Phase 1 of the new rail service, which has been named “Valley Link” by the Rail Authority Board, would connect the existing Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station to the proposed ACE North Lathrop Station. A second phase would extend service from the North Lathrop Station to the ACE and Amtrak Stockton Station.

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Other proposed station locations include: Isabel Station; Greenville ACE Intermodal Station; Mountain House Station; Downtown Tracy Station; and River Islands Station. The service is proposed to operate from 5 am to 8 pm, with service every 12 minutes between the Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station and Greenville Road during peak hours and every 24 minutes beyond Greenville to the North Lathrop Station. Trains would be scheduled to allow for convenient transfers to BART.

Tracy Mayor Pro Tem Veronica Vargas, who serves as the Regional Rail Authority's Vice Chair, said "Today, policy members from both sides of the Altamont Pass unanimously agreed to move forward with this preferred project scope. Now comes the important work of completing a feasibility study and environmental work in a nine month time frame. Although this schedule is going to be challenging, it speaks to the importance of getting this project delivered as soon as possible for our constituents."

Over the next nine months, the Rail Authority Board will be reviewing project funding and delivery, management and operations of the proposed service as well as station area plans and transit connectivity. Following the feasibility report and environmental review, final design and construction would commence. Project construction is expected to take between five and seven years, meaning that the first Valley Link trains could be placed in service as early as 2024.

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