
Metropolitan Transportation Commission Meeting of March 25, 2026 - Agenda Item 10d - Approval of Final Plan Bay Area 2050+

From Jason Bezis [REDACTED]
Date Tue 2026-03-24 12:58 PM
To MTC-ABAG Info <info@bayareametro.gov>
Cc Plan BayArea Info <info@planbayarea.org>; Kimberly Ward <KWard@bayareametro.gov>; Kathleen Kane <kkane@bayareametro.gov>; Andrew Fremier <AFremier@bayareametro.gov>

 1 attachment (293 KB)

TRANSDEF Request to Remove Valley Link Project from PBA2050+ RTP-March 24 2026.pdf;

External Email

Ms. Kimberly Ward
Clerk of MTC

Dear Ms. Ward and office of the Clerk of MTC:

This office represents the Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund (TRANSDEF). TRANSDEF submits the attached PDF document (one page) as public comment for the MTC meeting of March 25, 2026, Item 10d, approval of the Final Plan Bay Area 2050+. In accordance with the meeting agenda, TRANSDEF submits this public comment letter before 5:00 p.m. the business day before the March 25 meeting. Please circulate the attached letter to MTC commissioners. TRANSDEF requests a substantive response to the issues raised within the attached letter.

Please confirm receipt of the attached PDF document.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Bezis
Law Offices of Jason A. Bezis
Attorney for TRANSDEF
[REDACTED]

Law Offices of Jason A. Bezis

March 24, 2026

VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Chair Sue Noack and Commissioners
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
info@bayareametro.gov

Re: Removal of Valley Link Project from Regional Transportation Plan (25-T12-177)
MTC Meeting, March 25, 2026, Agenda Item 10d
(Adoption of MTC Resolution No. 4750 approval the Final Plan Bay Area 2050+)

To Chair Noack and Commissioners:

This office represents the Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund (TRANSDEF). TRANSDEF calls for the immediate removal of the Valley Link project (RTPID 25-T12-177) from the Final Plan Bay Area 2050+ Regional Transportation Plan ("PBA2050+ RTP"), proposed MTC Resolution No. 4750, because it fails to conform with MTC's Regional Transit Expansion policy (Resolution No. 3434).

MTC Resolution No. 3434, Attachment D, "Terms and Conditions," states, "Operating Funding – In order for an extension of service to be included in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the project sponsor must provide evidence of its ability to fund operation of the service for a minimum of 10 years, or the duration of operations within the 25-year RTP time horizon, whichever is longer."

The PBA2050+ RTP project list states for the Valley Link project: "Operating Cost (YOE, \$millions) \$679." The project sponsor, the Tri-Valley-San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority, has not provided evidence of its ability to fund operation of the service for the requisite time period. The sponsor has no viable plan to cover that operating cost. The Bay Area cannot afford to operate existing public transit systems, let alone operate Valley Link, as evidenced by MTC's advocacy for SB 63 and the Connect Bay Area Transit tax increase. On this basis, you must remove the Valley Link project from the RTP.

TRANSDEF notes that MTC commissioners and administrators who approve inclusion of the Valley Link project in the PBA2050+ RTP could incur personal liability under Code of Civil Procedure section 526a for their approval of this project, which clearly cannot be included in the RTP under MTC Resolution No. 3434. A reasonable MTC commissioner or administrator, exercising due care, would investigate, analyze, and debate the Valley Link project's compliance with the "Operating Funding" "Terms and Conditions" in Resolution No. 3434 before approving Resolution No. 4750.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *Jason A. Bezis*

JASON A. BEZIS
Attorney for TRANSDEF