



# Board of Supervisors

Nathan A. Miley  
Supervisor, District 4

Oakland Office  
1221 Oak Street, Suite 536  
Oakland, CA 94612  
510-272-6694/510-465-7628 Facsimile

Eden Area District Office  
20980 Redwood Road, Suite 250  
Castro Valley, CA 94546  
510-670-5717/510-537-7289 Facsimile

Pleasanton District Office  
4501 Pleasanton Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925-803-7959

[district4@acgov.org](mailto:district4@acgov.org)

March 16, 2022

The Honorable Alfredo Pedroza, Chair  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Subject: Valley Link – Project Priority for Regional Grant Strategy

Dear Chair Pedroza,

As the MTC representative for Alameda County, I write in appeal to Commissioners of the entire Bay Area to add the Valley Link as a project priority for the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program. Valley Link should simply not be left off of this list. It is ready to go, highly competitive and has nearly 1/3 of its funding already available through local sources. Most importantly, it is in MTC's recently adopted Plan Bay Area 2050 for the near-term (2021-2035) project delivery period. There appears to be no rationale reason for excluding Valley Link from the priority list for CIG funding at this time – and to do so raises issues of equity and fairness, particularly given a lack of inclusive outreach in the county I represent.

The Valley Link Project is a vital, cost-effective passenger rail service that will provide equitable near-term access to more than 1.67 million residents of Alameda County – ranked as the second most populous county in Northern California and ranked seventh out of 58 statewide. It will also provide relief to more than 100,000 Bay Area workers now living in Northern San Joaquin County, commuting daily through the Altamont/I-580 Corridor in their cars including those delivering our most vital services. The majority of these jobs are in the construction, manufacturing, health care and social assistance employment sectors – where remote work will never be an option.

This critical rail transit connection will directly link the Tri-Valley, a thriving Bay Area job center - with two national labs and is the headquarter location to more than 450 technology companies with a regional gross domestic product (GDP) of an estimated \$42 billion.

It also provides a linkage to major employment centers in Fremont – including Tesla, which generates more than 10,000 jobs in our County and a total of 50,000 jobs throughout California when supply chain jobs are taken into account. Further, its stations will equitably serve communities and households with some of the state's highest poverty rates – and provide a vital near-term link to the state's emerging high speed rail system and expansive Bay Area rail network.

I urge you to put Valley Link on the project priority list for the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program. At a time of unprecedented funding opportunity at both the federal and state level, the advancement of equitable projects and equitable decision-making should continue to be our primary consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nate Miley", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

NATE MILEY  
Vice President  
Alameda County Board of Supervisors

Cc: All Members, Metropolitan Transportation Commission