

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
P.O. BOX 942874, MS-32
SACRAMENTO, CA 94274
PHONE (916) 653-0548
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

Governor's Office of Planning & Research



Jan 22 2021

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

January 21, 2021

RE: Draft Environmental
Impact Report for the Valley Link
Rail Project
SCH # 2018092027
GTS # 74-MULTIPLE-2020-00197

Mr. Michael Tree
Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
1362 Rutan Court Suite 100
Livermore, CA 94551

Valley Link Rail Project - Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Mr. Tree:

We thank you for providing the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) the opportunity to review and provide comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Valley Link Rail Project (Project) proposed by the Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (Authority). The Authority proposes to establish new passenger rail service along a 42-mile corridor between Dublin/Pleasanton and Lathrop. The project entails the implementation of new track, new stations (i.e., located at Dublin/Pleasanton, Isabel and Greenville in Livermore, Mountain House, Downtown Tracy, River Islands, and North Lathrop), and a new Operations and Maintenance Facility in Tracy, CA. The project's proposed alignment is adjacent to the State Highway System facilities (SHS) at various locations on, under, over, and abutting Interstates 5, 205, and 580, and State Routes 84, 120, and 99.

Caltrans and the Authority are already coordinating on the Project. Caltrans reviewed the project's DEIR and have comments on project design, structures, hydraulics, cultural and biological resources, state right of way, and mitigation measures. Those comments will be communicated through the existing project delivery coordination process currently occurring with Caltrans' District 4 and District 10. Caltrans looks forward in continuing this joint effort that aligns with state goals by reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This is a great opportunity for a well-planned alternate modal choice for the Tri-Valley and San Joaquin areas.

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Please continue to keep Caltrans informed of this Project and any future developments that could potentially impact the SHS. Should the Authority have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Bo Wu at bo.wu@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



CHRISTIAN BUSHONG
Branch Chief, Local Development-Intergovernmental Review
Headquarters

c: Scott Morgan Chief Deputy Director,
State Clearinghouse Director, State Clearinghouse
Caltrans District 4 Transportation Planning
Caltrans District 10 Transportation Planning
Caltrans Headquarters Divisions