



2021 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES VALLEY LINK ADVOCACY AGENDA ITEM # 8

February 10, 2021

Valley Link 2021 Strategic Priorities

GOAL	STRATEGY
Improve connectivity within the Northern California Megaregion: connecting housing, people, and jobs.	Expand partnerships and collaboration.
Establish rail connectivity between BART's rapid transit system and the ACE commuter service.	Increase transportation funding.
Pursue Project implementation that is fast, cost-effective, and responsive to the goals and objectives of the communities it will serve.	Ensure innovative, fast & responsive delivery/remove barriers.
Be a model of sustainability in the design, construction, and operation of the system.	Optimize GHG reduction, equitable access & transit-oriented development.
Support the vision of the California State Rail Plan to connect the Northern California Megaregion to the State rail system.	Advance seamless integration.

Improve connectivity within the Northern California Megaregion: connecting housing, people, and jobs.

Expand partnerships and collaboration

- Expand partnerships at the local, regional, state and federal levels to support advancement of Valley Link
- Support efforts that encourage regional and mega-regional cooperation and coordination to develop, promote, and fund solutions to regional and interregional transportation problems.
- Support legislation that increases funding and reduces barriers for megaregional infrastructure improvements that support the linkage between transportation, housing and jobs.

Establish rail connectivity between BART's rapid transit system and the ACE commuter service.

Increase transportation funding

- Seek COVID-19 state and federal recovery funding for Valley Link.
- Support funding and policies to implement transportation projects that create jobs and economic growth.
- Work with state, regional, and local transportation agencies, and other state and national advocacy partners, to develop a FAST Act reauthorization agenda in support of Valley Link and as well as those of public transit in general.
- Leverage local funds to the maximum extent possible for Valley Link through grants and partnerships with regional, state and federal agencies.

Pursue Project implementation that is fast, cost-effective, and responsive to the goals and objectives of the communities it will serve.

Ensure innovative, fast & responsive delivery/remove barriers

- Support environmental streamlining and opportunities to remove barriers and ensure ability to expedite project implementation and reduce costs, including contracting flexibility and innovative project delivery methods.
- Engage with MTC, the legislature, and stakeholders on policies stemming from MTC's Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.
- Support funding incentives and streamlining processes for transit-oriented development and innovative first and last mile options.
- Support funding and partnership leveraging opportunities for TOD and PDA implementation, including transportation corridor investments that link PDAs.

Be a model of sustainability in the design, construction, and operation of the system.

Optimize GHG reduction, equitable access and transit-oriented development

- Support climate change legislation and technologies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Support funding for infrastructure, operations, and programs to relieve congestion, improve air quality, and reduce emissions including a zero-emission vehicle fleet.
- Support legislation and policies to facilitate deployment of shared autonomous vehicles for access to Valley Link stations and zero emission vehicle charging stations.
- Support policies that enhance equity and transportation access.

Support the vision of the California State Rail Plan to connect the Northern California Megaregion to the State rail system.

Advance seamless integration

- Support the CHSRA's Draft 2020 Business Plan recommendations to move forward with the Merced-Fresno-Bakersfield HSR Interim Operating Segment with additional stations at Madera and Kings/Tulare.
- Seek system integration and economies in project design through collaboration with CHSRA, SJRRC and SJJPA.