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District 2

Stockton



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May 1, 2012

The Honorable Cathleen Galgiani
CA State Assembly, District 17
Attention: Victoria Grajek, Chief of Staff
State Capitol, 10th & L Sts, Room 5155
Sacramento CA 95814

**SUBJECT: Letter of Support – AB 1779 – Intercity Passenger Rail Act of 2012
for San Joaquin Corridor**

The City of Stockton is pleased to provide this letter of support for Assembly Bill (AB) 1779, which would enable the transfer of administrative responsibility of the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service from the Department of Transportation to a new, regional joint powers authority.

With more efficient administration and stronger local/regional support, a regionally managed San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service can result in improved service, and increases in ridership and revenue – just like that experienced by the Capitol Corridor under the regional administration of the Capitol Corridor JPA (CCJPA). Increases in San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and ridership will result in more jobs, improved air quality, increased transportation choices and will help promote sustainable development.

In addition to more cost effective administration and operations, the CCJPA has shown that there are several other potential benefits to local authority administration of intercity passenger service including: the ability to have a stronger voice in advocating for service improvements and expansions, local decision-making that is more responsive and adaptive to passenger issues, the ability to take better advantage of joint marketing and partnerships with local agencies, and more engagement by local communities to support the service.

The City of Stockton is pleased to provide this letter of support for AB 1779 to help move California's transportation system forward.

ANN JOHNSTON
MAYOR

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