



County of Fresno

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March 28, 2012

Dan Leavitt, Program Manager
San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission
C/O Altamont Commuter Express Headquarters
949 E. Channel Street
Stockton, CA 95202

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR A SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL AUTHORITY FOR PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

On March 27, 2012, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors expressed unanimous support for investigation of creation of a Regional Rail Joint Powers Authority to manage and operate the Amtrak San Joaquin's passenger rail services. While we understand that this proposal is in its early development stages, and there is much information to be evaluated and many decisions yet to be made, we support in concept the idea of an independent entity governed by Valley representatives to provide inter-city passenger rail service in the San Joaquin Valley.

Fresno County would be pleased to participate in Central Valley Rail Working Group, which we understand is taking the lead on development of the proposal. Bernard Jimenez of our Public Works and Planning office will be our point of contact for participation in the Working Group. Please contact him at (559) 600-4497 or bjimenez@co.fresno.ca.us.

We look forward to working with you and our neighboring Valley Council of Governments, Cities, and Counties in pursuing this exciting prospect for improved and more responsive passenger rail service in the San Joaquin Valley.

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Poochigian
Board of Supervisors Chairman

c: Board of Supervisors
John Navarrette, County Administrative Officer
Bernard Jimenez, Public Works and Planning Department
Tony Boren, Fresno Council of Governments
Allen Ishida, San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

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