

Santa Clara & San Benito Counties **Building & Construction Trades Council**

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David Bini **Executive Director** Robert Baldini President

March 9, 2021

Boilermakers 549 Brick & Tile 3 Carpenters 405 Carpenters 2236 Carpet & Linoleum 12 Cement Masons 400 Electricians 332 Electricians 234 Glaziers 1621

Elevator Constructors 8 Heat & Frost Insulators 16 Iron Workers 377

Laborers 270 Laborers 67 Lathers 9144 Millwrights 102 Operating Engineers 3 Painters District Council 16

Painters & Tapers 507 Plasterers 300 Plumbers & Steamfitters 393 Roofers 95 Sheet Metal Workers 104

Sign, Display 510 Sprinkler Fitters 483 Teamsters 853

Affiliated with:

UA Local 355

State Building and Construction Trades Council of California California Labor Federation. AFL-CIO

California Labor C.O.P.E. South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council Assemblymembers Richard Bloom and Laura Freidman Chairs, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 and Assembly Transportation Committee State Capitol, Assembly Chambers Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: California High-Speed Rail Authority's Draft 2020 Business Plan

Dear Assemblymembers Bloom and Freidman:

On behalf of the Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building and Construction Trades Council I write in strong support of the direction laid out in the Revised Draft 2020 Business Plan for how to advance implementation of the high-speed rail system. The current proposal calls for completion of the 119 miles under active construction in the Central Valley, extension to 171 miles of electrified rail connecting Merced, Fresno and Bakersfield as an interim operating segment as the rest of the project is completed.

To accomplish those objectives, the High-Speed Rail Authority needs the remaining \$4 billion in Proposition 1A funds to complete construction and electrify the corridor in the Central Valley.

High-speed rail is critical to the future of California, and would provide not only construction jobs but also mobility so important to Californians. Connecting homes to centers of employment without increasing the strain on roadways that desperately need upgrade and expansion is not something that can be delayed.

In closing, the work created by the high-speed rail construction will provide much needed stimulus and work opportunities for construction workers weathering the pandemiccaused recession. Our local building trades council supports funding this critical infrastructure.

Sincerely,

David Bini

Executive Director

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