



San Francisco
County Transportation
Authority



SFMTA



March 9, 2021

Brian Kelly, Chief Executive Officer
California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA)
770 L Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: Revised 2020 CHSRA Business Plan - San Francisco Letter of Support

Dear CEO Kelly,

We write to express our strong support for CHSRA's Revised 2020 Business Plan and to commend the Authority on making significant progress on implementation of the high-speed rail program during a very challenging year. In 2020, we were pleased to support CHSRA's environmental review of the Bay Area program, and to help advance related early investments through Caltrain's Positive Train Control and Electrification (CalMod) program and passage of Measure RR dedicated sales tax funds. We also collaborated with CHSRA in the development of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority's Downtown Rail Extension (DTX), and worked to include Valley-to-Valley funding in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Plan Bay Area 2050's Preferred Alternative. We undertook these activities in recognition of the broad climate, economic and accessibility benefits of the high-speed rail program for our region.

As construction continues apace in the Central Valley, we look forward to helping the Authority to accelerate its efforts to reach the Bay Area. In particular, we support the CHSRA's request for Proposition 1A funds to advance the full 500-mile system. This funding is critical to advancing the design, geo-technical studies, and pre-construction activities in the Valley-to-Valley corridor and would help position California for federal funding opportunities such as the infrastructure bill that Congress will take up next. Moreover, State funding will also leverage local and private funds to help realize the statewide program, including the connection to San Francisco.

Thank you for CHSRA staff's participation in our Downtown Rail Extension multi-agency integrated team, a promising new model for rail program development and delivery. The DTX will yield tremendous benefits once it connects to Salesforce Transit Center, the northern Terminus of the California high-speed rail system. We look forward to realizing these investments through our partnership on the DTX project and the overall CHSRA program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tilly Chang'.

Tilly Chang
Executive Director
SFCTA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Tumlin'.

Jeffrey Tumlin
Director of Transportation
SFMTA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rich Hillis'.

Rich Hillis
Director
San Francisco Planning Department