

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY



# VALLEY VOICE SACRAMENTO

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY  
REGIONAL PRIORITIES

2024



# 2024 VALLEY VOICE SACRAMENTO DELEGATION

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## Merced County Representatives

**Daron McDaniel, Supervisor (Chair)**  
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**Pat Nagy, Mayor**  
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## Fresno County Representatives

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## San Joaquin County Representatives

**Dan Wright, Councilmember**

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## San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

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## San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

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# PRAGMATICALLY ADDRESS AIR QUALITY, EQUITY, AND MOBILITY GOALS THROUGH OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

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**The Regional Policy Council supports a revenue-neutral conversion from the gas tax to a source that ensures equity in revenue collection that does not disadvantage those who must drive further to job centers. Distribution should respect San Joaquin Valley's vital role in maintaining system integrity and providing mobility options. This includes continuing to monitor the Road User Charge Technical Advisory Committee's activities.**

- Support a revenue-neutral, environmentally friendly successor source to the gas tax.
- Support multi-modal investments while completing highway projects to facilitate safety and goods movement.
- Protect affordable housing funding through REAP 2.0 to help the San Joaquin Valley address the jobs-housing imbalance.
- Restore critical funding through the FARMER program to provide clean equipment for agricultural harvesting, transport, and operations.
- Support efforts to maintain local control for air districts and oppose enacting redundant, costly oversight to meet air quality goals.



# LEVERAGING STATE FUNDING TO ADDRESS SAFETY, GOODS MOVEMENT, AND MOBILITY

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**The Regional Policy Council will remain diligent in competing for additional state funds to complete gap closures to improve safety, congestion management, and goods movement throughput on State Route 99 and other regional arterials. This includes building out SR 99 to a minimum of six lanes, consistent with the Caltrans-adopted State Route 99 Business Plan. This will also maximize the return on previous state and local investments.**

- Aggressively pursue state funds to complete gap closures on critical infrastructure, such as State Route 99.
- Support the restoration of truck weight fees to accelerate project delivery.
- Coordinate with state agencies to ensure climate and mobility goals are synergetic and address safety and goods movement.

## ACCESS TRANSIT FUNDING

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**The Regional Policy Council will monitor the CalSTA Transit Transformative Task Force and support modifications to the TDA process as appropriate to ensure that transit operators are provided with flexibility to continue accessing funding to maintain and expand service.**

- Monitor CalSTA Transformative Transit Task Force for funding recommendations to allow transit operators to maintain and expand service.
- Protect funding provided through SB 125 for transit capital and operations.
- Pursue a successor source to the sales tax on diesel to provide stable and predictable transit funding.



## ENHANCE PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

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**The Regional Policy Council will work cooperatively with CalSTA, Caltrans Division of Rail, Amtrak, CTC, ACE, San Joaquins, Valley Link, BNSF, and Union Pacific Railroad to expand passenger rail service and connectivity to accommodate Valley residents.**

- Support the extension of the Cap-and-Trade program.
- Support augmenting rail programs through the 40 percent of Cap and Trade that is subject to legislative discretion.
- Support the expansion and completion of Valley rail projects through state grant programs.





## The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

is a partnership that exemplifies the regional transportation planning agencies' commitment to working collaboratively to address regional issues, challenges and opportunities. The 18- member Policy Council was established to build regional consensus and provide a forum for the Valley to organize, coordinate and communicate as a region. The Policy Council consists of two elected officials from each of the eight regional planning agencies' policy boards, and the Executive Directors of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority.

Valley Voice is the Policy Council's advocacy program that communicates the region's priorities to policy makers and agency staff in Sacramento and Washington, DC. Each year, a coalition of elected officials and COG staff from throughout the region travel to Sacramento and Washington, DC to advocate on behalf of the valley with a unified voice.

***The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council is led by  
Chair Daron McDaniel, Merced County Supervisor.***

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## CONTACT

San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Policy Council

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