

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH, MAYOR FRANK ROBERTS
AND COUNCILMAN ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA MARCH 18, 2004

The High Speed Rail Antelope Valley Alignment, together with the Palmdale Station, will provide high-speed passenger service to 700,000 more people and 270,000 more jobs than the proposed route directly from Bakersfield to Los Angeles through the Grapevine Pass. According to the Southern California Association of Governments, Northern Los Angeles County will experience one of the largest increases in population during the next 25 years. Palmdale and the surrounding communities have one of the fastest growth rates in the State of California. It is essential that this region be included in the High Speed Rail route in order to accommodate this growing population. Providing High Speed Rail service to the Antelope Valley rather than through the Grapevine Pass will increase economic benefit for the region and also for the State of California as a whole. The net economic benefit for the State of California with the Antelope Valley alignment is estimated at \$855 million.

According to the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, there is a continuing need for industrial space in the County of Los Angeles, the lack of which will lead to significant economic losses for the region. In order to avoid the loss of the County's tax base, it is essential that the high speed rail alignment be placed through this growing portion of the County of Los Angeles. The High Speed Rail Antelope Valley Alignment will provide transportation incentives necessary to attract industries to one of the few places in the County of Los Angeles that can sustain residential and

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industrial development. The High Speed Rail Antelope Valley Alignment will also provide the backbone for the transportation improvements necessary to attract airlines to the Palmdale Airport.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Support the High Speed Rail Antelope Valley Alignment and the Palmdale Station; and
2. Forward a copy of this motion to the High Speed Rail Authority.

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MDA:rfc