



April 6, 2021

David Matza
California Department of Transportation, District 8 Office
464 West 4th Street, 6th Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92401

Dear Mr. Matza:

On behalf of the Town of Apple Valley, I am writing in support of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), California High-Speed Rail Authority, and Brightline West.

Under the proposed MOU, Caltrans would authorize Brightline West to explore additional and independent routes within Caltrans' existing right-of-way (ROW) along Interstate 15 for Brightline West's future passenger rail service, including one between the Victor Valley and Rancho Cucamonga. This project separate from Brightline's Las Vegas – Victor Valley system and the planned link connecting Victor Valley to Palmdale, will extend service from the initial Victor Valley terminus into Rancho Cucamonga, with connections into the Metrolink system providing access to Los Angeles and other key cities and destinations in Southern California.

Strong connectivity between these communities will be critical to the next phase of California's economic growth and development, and as the state emerges from the global health crisis. Brightline West is expected to generate 40,000 construction jobs and 1,000 permanent jobs, as well as contribute \$9 billion in economic impact and \$1 billion in tax revenue. Additionally, Brightline West's service will remove three million cars and more than 400,000 tons of CO2 annually through zero-emission, all-electric trainsets, helping California achieve its sustainability goals, as well as provide a significant economic boost to local communities.

With greater transportation options, people can move more quickly and efficiently, as well as more safely, as they live, work, and play. Diversified transportation options like Brightline West will be pivotal to ensure California remains a place of choice for residents, businesses, and visitors.

For these reasons, the Town of Apple Valley is proud to support this agreement. Should you have any questions, please contact the Town Manager at 760-240-7000 x 7051 or via email at drobertson@applevalley.org.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curt Emick", written in a cursive style.

Curt Emick
Mayor