



Dear Friends,

The Valley is at the table as decisions are shaping our region, thanks to our Valley Economic Alliance. I'd like to share just a few ways The Alliance has been advocating for smart development of the Valley region in the past month alone.

As a member of Mayor Karen Bass' 100-person Advisory Transition Team, I will be helping the Mayor to identify the best and brightest talent, or "constructive disruptors" as she calls them, to fill the ranks of the [Mayor's Office](#), her [department staff](#), and all [commissions](#). Let's join together to make sure the Valley is well represented in the administration of the City of Los Angeles.

Metro broke ground on the Advance Utility Adjustments work necessary to begin construction of the [East San Fernando Valley Light Rail Transit Project \(ESFV LRT\)](#) and The Alliance was there. We advocated for business retention and economic development strategies along the 6.7-mile rail line slated to connect the Van Nuys Metro G line (Orange) Station with Pacoima mainly along Van Nuys Boulevard.

And The Alliance convened the Economic Development Teams of our five member cities to share information on federal funding available to cities from the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\)](#) and the [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\)](#). We also shared Governor's Office programs on [place-based economic development](#) strategies and initiatives, including incentives for investment in disadvantaged communities, funding for infrastructure & public facilities, job creation & workforce development, affordable & workforce housing.

If we're not at the table for our prosperous, sustainable, and equitable development of our region, then who will fight for the Valley to receive the resources and support it deserves as one of the largest metro economies on earth? Thankfully, we don't have to worry about that because The Alliance is there! And, as our stakeholders, we ensure that you are there as well.

Won't you be there for us? In this edition of our *Attitude of Gratitude* newsletter, we thank all of the financial supporters that make this work possible. And we encourage everyone to play a part in advancing our region. Email me at sblake@economicalliance.org with your recommendations for the Bass Administration, considerations for the Metro light rail project, and recommendations for infrastructure and community revitalization initiatives.

And please consider supporting this meaningful work in your year-end giving this year. An investment in The Alliance is an investment in the Valley.

In gratitude,
Sonya