



**BRAZOS VALLEY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

Letter of Support  
Texas Central High-Speed Train

If it were not for trains, the Brazos Valley would not be what it is today. The City of College Station is so named because rail brought cadets to a once-small military institution that now stands as a world research and education leader. The City of Bryan, like its neighbor, has grown rapidly into a uniquely significant cultural city with active railways running through the heart of its downtown.

Now, a new rail system is set to be woven into the fabric of this community. The Board of Directors of the Brazos Valley Economic Development Corporation (BVEDC) offers its support to Texas Central Railroad and its safe, reliable, fast and comfortable service which will run between Houston and Dallas.

The mission of the BVEDC is to help companies launch, grow and locate in one of the fastest growing regions in the United States, the Brazos Valley. Texas Central Railroad's only planned station on its 90-minute journey is here in "The Hub of the Texas Triangle." It will provide even greater access to our centrally-located community in the mega-region formed by Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio.

Business leaders will be able to ride to and from the Brazos Valley to build connections in Texas cities and beyond. Our residents, including tens of thousands of students at Texas A&M University and the Blinn College District, will be able to travel easily. Tourists will have a simple option to visit us for our wide variety of attractions and events.

With the linking of three rapidly growing metropolitan areas by the Texas Central Railroad, 42 Fortune 500 companies, 83 Fortune 1000 companies, more than 30 academic institutions and more than 340,000 graduate and undergraduate students will be seamlessly connected between Houston, Dallas, and the Brazos Valley. Approximately 10,000 direct jobs annually will be created during the 5 to 6 years of construction of the railroad. Over 1,500 permanent employees will be needed to operate the railroad, and every permanent job would indirectly spur 2 to 4 jobs in supporting industries. This growth means \$36 billion will flow directly into the state's economy in the next quarter century. Many of those valuable jobs and dollars will be in the Brazos Valley.

For those reasons and more, the BVEDC is pleased to endorse Texas Central Railroad's efforts. We look forward to reaping the benefits of the safest train system in the world with a station located in this region built on rail.

Best,

Bobby Gutierrez  
Board Chair, Brazos Valley Economic Development Corporation  
August 21, 2019