



Regional Leadership: *Getting results for Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley*

ADVOCATING FOR THE REGION

Outmatched by the large population centers of northern and southern California, Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley have historically been overlooked in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. The next Mayor of Fresno must be capable of uniting the San Joaquin Valley and serving as the region's "lead advocate" to ensure Fresno and the Valley get its fair share of funding for regional priorities like air quality clean up, transportation and water infrastructure, and education.

CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Since its inception in 2005, Ashley has been involved in the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) and now serves as its lead executive. The Partnership involves the Governor's eight cabinet secretaries and public and private leaders from the region who are working together to implement a ten-year plan. The results of the Partnership thus far are encouraging:

- \$1 billion in funding for Highway 99;
- Approximately \$650 million in funding for trade corridor improvement projects;
- \$5 million for planning for the UC Merced medical school;
- \$5 million for implementation of the Partnership's ten-year plan; and
- \$3.5 million in additional funding for workforce training.

In addition to funding for regional priorities, the Partnership is:

- Fighting for \$250 million to \$370 million for air quality clean up funding;
- Developing a comprehensive water infrastructure plan; and
- Advocating for high speed rail that serves the entire 8-county region.

PRIORITIES FOR REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

As Fresno's next mayor, Ashley will "hit the ground running" to ensure Fresno and the region are at the table in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. when it comes to infrastructure funding and policies. Her priorities will be:

- **Cleaning the Air** – making sure the San Joaquin Valley gets its fair share of Proposition 1B air quality mitigation funds;
- **Water** – completing and advocating for the funding needed to implement the integrated regional water management plan;
- **High Speed Rail** – ensuring the eight-county region is served;
- **Transportation** – developing and advocating for the Valley's fair share of funding through the reauthorization of the Federal transportation package; and
- **Education and Workforce Development** – supporting UC Merced's efforts to secure funding for a medical school; fighting for additional workforce development and vocational training funds.

UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS IN REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

As Governor Schwarzenegger's appointee to the California Commission for Economic Development and as the lead executive of the Governor's California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, Ashley has the regional leadership experience and the relationships to make a difference for Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley. She has worked closely with public agency, business, education, and community leaders throughout the Valley and in Sacramento.