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October 22, 2021

Mr. Amit Bose
Acting Administrator
Federal Railroad Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support for the Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Project Application for Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Funding

Dear Administrator Bose:

On behalf of [name organization], I am pleased to support the California Department of Transportation Division of Rail and Mass Transit's (CalTrans) application for Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant funding for the Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Tier II Project Approval and Environmental Documentation Project (Project).

If funded, the award would advance the project closer to construction and implementation of daily intercity rail service between Los Angeles and the Coachella Valley. With the Service Development Plan (SDP) and National Environmental Policy Act/California Environmental Quality Act (NEPA/CEQA) Tier I environmental clearance for the corridor expected to be approved in early 2022, the NEPA/CEQA Tier II environmental study estimated at \$60,000,000 is the next step toward fulfilling the transformative vision in partnership with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

As a joint project between CalTrans and Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), the local implementing agency, the project will provide for the following:

- Preliminary engineering along the 76-mile eastern section of track to the 30% level; and
- Project-level environmental clearance for up to six stations, a new third main track, and associated grade crossing and signal improvements on the eastern section of the corridor.

The State of California and RCTC have a vested interest in fostering equitable investments in transportation infrastructure and transit mobility, as well as in sustainable freight and goods movement, and are committed to matching funds for this game-changing economic opportunity with environmental benefit from Los Angeles to Coachella Valley and disadvantaged communities along the route.

I am proud to support this application and urge its award. The Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Project aligns with the goals of the CRISI program and will provide vital connections for a growing region. For questions regarding this letter of support, please contact [Name] at [phone number].

Sincerely,

Name
Title