



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of May 17, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: 4-F

PREPARED BY: Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

Letter of Support for the TradePort California project

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Information and discussion

BACKGROUND:

The Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) has written a letter in support of the TradePort California project, a designated USDOT Regional Infrastructure Accelerator project. This project is considered by both policymakers and industry as a transformational project that will create fundamental changes to supply chain efficiency, logistics, air quality, transportation planning, and economic competitiveness in California. TradePort California is the development of a large-scale multimodal logistics ecosystem. The three main elements of this 425-milelong system include 1) a new port-to-market intermodal rail system, 2) the development of a high-volume system spine for clean trucks, and 3) the development of large-scale investment districts at new intermodal/truck mobility hubs.

This letter is expressly written to indicate support for the TradePort Development Team's work to advance the first strategic projects. An extended partnership with the USDOT and the Build America Bureau (BAB) will build on the substantial progress made in the first phase by collaborating on the actual implementation and project financing for core projects such as the first two Truck Mobility Complexes, associated clean energy and logistics infrastructure, smart truck parking and two skills academies. The TradePort Development Team and BAB have closely collaborated over the past year to develop overall project plans, conceptual designs, preliminary engineering, advance the formation of the delivery entity, and community engagement process. With the BAB's support, the project is now recognized by a wide range of public entities and policymakers, as well as a spectrum of category-specific risk capital investors. Due to the BAB's support and involvement, the State of California is now considering significant investments in the project. The next critical step is to coalesce into project and site-specific project financing strategies. A re-designation would create a showcase for actual project delivery.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2022-23 Overall Work Program and Budget.