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September 28, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support MAD 99/233 Chowchilla Multimodal Interchange Improvement Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) I am writing to express support for the City of Chowchilla's MAD 99/233 Chowchilla Multimodal Interchange Improvement project located at the State Route (SR) 99/233 Separation in Chowchilla, California for consideration in the United States Department of Transportation's 2022 Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) competitive Discretionary Grant Program.

The purpose of this project is to provide multimodal accessibility/connectivity by providing safe bicycle and pedestrian access through the SR 99/233 interchange. This project will provide a 10-foot multi use sidewalk on the north side of the SR 233 overcrossing, with 8-foot shoulders. This project will also construct roundabouts at the interchange ramp terminal intersections. Currently, SR 99 acts as a barrier to east-west pedestrian and bicycle movements. The current overcrossing is not wide enough to accommodate multimodal access and lacks connectivity to the adjacent local streets on SR 233. Since this is the only interchange that directly serves the City of Chowchilla, there are no other viable options for cyclists and pedestrians to cross SR 99 from one side of the city to the other. Additionally, improvement of the interchange will improve access by freight vehicles to local facilities, reduce idling cars/trucks, and reduce emissions and noise. This project is in an underserved and disadvantaged community in the state of California.

This is a transformative regional project able to meet the goals outlined in the 2022 Madera County Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The RTP/SCS speaks on the importance of partnering with vital federal funding programs such as the RCP to advance and implement regionally significant projects. When completed this project will support the safe and efficient movement of people and goods and increase the region's economic vitality whilst improving mobility for all travelers through a variety of accessible modal options.

MCTC fully supports the City of Chowchilla RCP grant application for the MAD 99/233 Chowchilla Multimodal Interchange Improvement Project. The Madera County Transportation Authority programmed \$12.5 million in local measure funds for this project, including \$7.15 million for the construction phase.

**Member Agencies: County of Madera, City of Madera, City of Chowchilla**

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project application for Reconnecting Communities funding. We appreciate the opportunity to support the City of Chowchilla in their efforts to complete this project.

Sincerely,

Tom Wheeler, Chair  
Madera County Transportation Commission