



2001 Howard Road, Suite 201
Madera, California 93637

Office: 559-675-0721
Website: www.maderactc.org

May 23, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC, 20590

Subject: Support for 2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Application:
Madera High-Speed Rail Station Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) supports the application by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA) to the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) 2022 Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG) competitive grant program for the *Madera High-Speed Rail Station Project* (Project).

The purpose of the Project is to improve and expand the size of the previously relocated Madera passenger rail station and provide a high-speed rail (HSR) station for California HSR Interim Service to serve Madera County and Northern Fresno County. When HSR Interim Service operations begin in 2029, the Project will meet regional goals to improve passenger rail ridership and connectivity. The Project aligns with the MPDG program criteria by constructing infrastructure improvements that will increase safety, ensure a state of good repair, contribute to economic benefits, improve freight movement, create well-paying jobs, mitigate climate change, bolster resiliency, ensure equity, provide multimodal options, and improve quality of life. State Route 99 (SR 99) provides direct access to the new Madera HSR Station. Caltrans is studying clean energy enhancements for SR 99 to reduce transportation-related pollution, including a potential hydrogen facility at this station area.

Caltrans and SJJPA are requesting \$87.6 million in grant funding for the Project. In addition, Caltrans and SJJPA commit to providing \$16 million in 2018 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Funds and \$42.4 million in additional state funds (in ITIP funds and potentially other SB1 funding programs) for a total non-federal commitment of \$58.4 million as a match for the Madera HSR Station.

MCTC would like to thank USDOT for its consideration and welcomes the opportunity to support Caltrans and SJJPA in pursuing this Project.

Sincerely,

Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission