



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of May 18, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 6-L

PREPARED BY: Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

Letter of Support - Union Pacific (Fresno Subdivision) Ceres to Turlock Double Tracking Project Application for the U.S. Department of Transportation 2022 Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant INFRA Competitive Grant Program

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRC) has prepared an application for the Union Pacific (UP) Fresno Subdivision Ceres to Turlock Double Tracking Project to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) for the 2022 Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG) competitive grant program.

The UP (Fresno Subdivision) Ceres to Turlock Double Tracking Project will construct a new, second mainline track and complete track upgrades on a portion of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Fresno Subdivision between milepost (MP) 117.4 (in Ceres) and MP 128.2 (in Turlock), including culvert, under crossing, and at-grade crossing improvements. The Project aligns with the MPDG program criteria by constructing freight rail improvements that will increase safety, modernize core infrastructure, improve system operations and reliability, reduce transportation-related pollution, and benefit a federally designated Area of Persistent Poverty, Historically Disadvantaged Community, and Opportunity Zone, as well as a state designated Disadvantaged Community, Economically Distressed Area, and Low-Income Community. The Project is a critical part of the "Valley Rail" passenger rail expansion program that will enable Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) service to operate between Ceres and Turlock, substantially increasing the project benefits.

MCTC has prepared a letter in support of this project application. The letter of support is attached to this item.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2021-22 Overall Work Program and Budget.