



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of April 20, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 5-E

PREPARED BY: Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

Madera Station Update

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Direct staff to tender a Letter of Support for Fiscal Year 2022 Federal Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program application for the Madera Station Project

SUMMARY:

Madera Station Final Design Moving Forward

The San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA) is working with Madera County, Madera County Transportation Commission, and CalSTA to relocate the Madera Amtrak Station to a more accessible location. Additionally, the station would be co-located with a California High-Speed Rail station to allow for direct transfers between the two systems.

SJJPA approved the Madera Station Relocation Project environment review document at the January 22, 2021, Board Meeting and final design is moving forward. SJJPA staff expect to collaborate with CHSRA on a Memorandum of Understanding for the project this spring.

Caltrans Awards \$450,000 Sustainable Transportation Grant to Madera County for Station Area Planning

On April 4, 2022, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Division of Transportation Planning announced Madera County was awarded a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant. Madera County was awarded \$450,000 for the Madera Station Relocation Transit Area Specific Plan Project.

The project is consistent with and supportive of the goals of the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program, Senate Bill 1 requirements, the Madera County General Plan, the Madera State Center Community College Specific Plan (SCCCSP), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) requirements, as well as the HSR Authority's programmatic and project environmental documents.

Madera County will lead the project in partnership with the City of Madera, Madera County Transportation Commission, San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA), California High-

Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA), and Caltrans. This effort will guide the design and land-use in the vicinity of the station area as well as enable Madera County to promote economic development, encourage station area development, and enhance multi-modal access connections between the station, the City of Madera, Madera Community College, and other surrounding communities throughout Madera County and northern Fresno County.

Fiscal Year 2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity

On March 22, 2022, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a joint Notice of Funding Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity. The joint notice combines three programs into one comprehensive grant solicitation: Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects – known as the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) – Grant Program; the National Infrastructure Project Assistance – or Megaprojects (Mega) – Grant Program and the Rural Surface Transportation (Rural) Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to support surface transportation projects of national or regional significance, including highway, bridge, intercity passenger rail, railway-highway grade crossing or separation, wildlife crossing, public transportation, marine highway, freight, and multimodal projects. There is \$2.85 billion in total funding available.

The State is planning to submit several MEGA Project Applications through this process, the Madera Station Project being one of them. SJJPA staff will be working with Caltrans and CalSTA on the application through the month of April.

It will be important to back this application with strong support from Madera Region stakeholders. MCTC staff recommends drafting a letter of support soliciting support from local and regional partners for this project's funding application.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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