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October 20, 2021

Matthew Treber, Chief of Development Services County of Madera Community and Economic Development Department 200 W 4th Street, Suite 3100 Madera, CA 93637

RE: Letter of Support for FY 2022-23 Caltrans Strategic Partnership Grant Application for Madera County Passenger Rail Station Area Planning

Dear Mr. Treber,

The Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) is pleased to support Madera County on the Madera County Passenger Rail Station Area Planning project. This project will identify the needed improvements and cost to provide station area planning around the site of a planned High-Speed Rail (HSR) station located along the proposed HSR route near Highway 99 and Avenue 12, about two miles to the southeast of the City of Madera in Madera County.

This project will guide the design and land-use planning efforts near the station area and encourage multimodal and sustainable growth throughout Madera County by enhancing multimodal connections between the station, the City of Madera, Madera Community College, and other surrounding communities throughout Madera County and northern Fresno County. We are encouraged by the economic development opportunities the project will create.

The Commission believes this project is crucial to establishing a prosperous vision for the Madera County region and will play an important part in fostering healthy and sustainable growth, efficient multi-modal travel and increased economic prosperity. The plan helps advance many of state, regional, and local shared goals outlined in the current Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

The MCTC is delighted to support the proposed project and the pursuit of Caltrans' Sustainable Transportation Planning funds as they will create a critical passenger rail connection in Madera County. Thank you for considering the grant application.

Sincerely,

Jose Rodriguez Chair of the Madera County Transportation Commission Councilmember for the City of Madera