MCTC
Madera County Transportation Commission

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February 12, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590
RE: Safety and Multimodal Corridor Improvements

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) strongly supports the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's (SJRRC) application, in partnership with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), for federal discretionary grant funding for the North Lathrop Transfer Station project located in Lathrop, California.

SJRRC and Caltrans are seeking $29.4 million in funding to construct the North Lathrop Transfer Station project which includes the station platform, station track, pedestrian access to the platform, parking, transit loop, and bike and pedestrian access to the station. The project is a critical component of the Valley Rail expansion program that will enable Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) passengers on trains traveling between Ceres/Merced and Sacramento to be able to transfer at the project to ACE trains heading to the Silicon Valley – promoting high ridership and farebox recovery for the expanded ACE service. The project is also planned to serve as a multimodal transfer station between ACE and the proposed Valley Link project. The North Lathrop Transfer Station project will substantially increase ACE ridership and lead to significant mobility, greenhouse gas emission, vehicle miles traveled, and air quality benefits in the San Joaquin Valley and Northern California Megaregion.

MCTC thanks USDOT for considering this application to obtain critical funding to construct this critical project.

Sincerely,

Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission