

September 26, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support MAD 99/233 Chowchilla Multimodal Interchange Improvement Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I am writing to express support for the City of Chowchilla's MAD 99/233 Chowchilla Multimodal Interchange Improvement project located at the State Route (SR) 99/233 interchange in Chowchilla, California for consideration in the United States Department of Transportation's 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program.

This project aims to provide multimodal accessibility/connectivity by providing safe bicycle and pedestrian access through the SR 99/233 interchange. This project will provide a 10-foot multi-use sidewalk on the north side of the SR 233 overcrossing, with 8-foot shoulders. This project will also construct roundabouts at the interchange ramp terminal intersections. Currently, SR 99 acts as a barrier to east-west pedestrian and bicycle movements. The current overcrossing needs to be wider to accommodate multimodal access and requires connectivity to the adjacent local streets on SR 233. Since this is the only interchange that directly serves the City of Chowchilla, there are no other viable options for cyclists and pedestrians to cross SR 99 from one side of the city to the other. Additionally, the interchange's improvement will improve freight vehicle access to local facilities, reduce idling cars/trucks, and reduce emissions and noise.

This Project is vital to City of Chowchilla residents and is a critical infrastructure project. This project aligns with the goals and objectives of the Madera County Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy by prioritizing investment in disadvantaged communities and promoting healthy activity for the community.

Improving transportation for all users has been a goal of the City of Chowchilla and the Madera County region, and this project has been a focal point for achieving this. The project has been a long-running part of the vision for our region's healthy and sustainable transportation future, and its need has been called out in numerous plans. The project has been part of each of Madera County's Regional Transportation Plans and Sustainable Communities Strategy from 2010 to 2022. It was identified in the 2018 Madera County Active Transportation Plan as a priority corridor and priority project for bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the City of Chowchilla. The Chowchilla community indicated the

improvements at the interchange and bridge at SR 233 and SR 99 were of significant importance during the development of the SB1 funded SR 233/Robertson Boulevard Corridor Planning Study and Downtown Master Plan completed in 2021.

MCTC fully supports the City of Chowchilla's Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods grant application for the MAD 99/233 Chowchilla Multimodal Interchange Improvement Project. Completion of this important project is vital to seeing both the City of Chowchilla and the greater Madera County regions' long-term visions and goals of safer and more sustainable transportation for all users be realized.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project application. We appreciate the opportunity to support the City of Chowchilla in their efforts to complete this project.

Sincerely,



Patricia Taylor, Executive Director  
Madera County Transportation Commission