

June 17, 2024

Jared Carter
Deputy Public Works Director
Madera County Department of Public Works
200 West Fourth Street
Madera, CA 93637

Subject: Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) Grant, Cycle 7 – Parksdale Safe Routes to School Project

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), it is my pleasure to provide a letter in support of the Parksdale Safe Routes to School Project which is being jointly planned by the Madera County Department of Public Works and the Madera County Department of Public Health for Cycle 7 of the California Department of Transportation Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant.

The MCTC fully supports the plan to implement the safe routes to school improvements identified by the residents of Parksdale and included in this proposed ATP grant project. These needed improvements – including new sidewalks, bike lanes, curb ramps, crosswalks, lighted pedestrian crossing signage, and other items - will provide safer conditions for students, parents, and residents, including walking and biking routes to Cesar Chavez Elementary School and within the community itself. Most residents currently choose to drive students to the school and other destinations within Parksdale instead of using more active modes of transportation because the current bike and pedestrian conditions are incomplete and unsafe in that community. We hope that providing residents with safe facilities to walk or bike will enhance safety and promote healthy activity for all the students, staff, parents, and residents in the Parksdale community.

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, building safe, accessible infrastructure, fostering a modal shift to active transportation and public transit and improving public health. The ATP program represents the perfect opportunity to address some of Parksdale's critical needs. It aligns with the program's purposes and goals and those of the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI).

We look forward to the benefits this active transportation project will bring.

Sincerely,


Patricia Taylor
Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission