

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC, 20590

Subject: Support for 2024 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Application:
Madera High-Speed Rail Station Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) supports the application by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA) to the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) 2024 Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG) competitive grant program for the Madera High-Speed Rail Station Project (Project).

The purpose of the Project is to implement improvements at the relocated Madera passenger rail station so that this station becomes the Madera High-Speed Rail (HSR) Station to serve Madera County and Northern Fresno County as part of the California HSR Merced-Bakersfield Early Operating Segment (EOS). When HSR operations begin on the EOS (2030 – 2033), the Project will meet regional goals to improve passenger rail ridership and connectivity. The Project aligns with the MPDG program criteria by constructing infrastructure improvements that will increase safety, ensure a state of good repair, contribute economic benefits, improve freight movement, create well-paying jobs, mitigate climate change, bolster resiliency, ensure equity, provide multimodal options, and improve quality of life.

Caltrans and SJJPA are requesting \$54 million in grant funding for the Project. Caltrans and SJJPA has secured \$80 million in 2024 Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) funds as the matching funding needed to complete this Project.

MCTC would like to thank USDOT for its consideration and welcomes the opportunity to support Caltrans and SJJPA in the pursuit of this Project.

Sincerely,



Patricia Taylor
Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission