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San Mateo County Economic Development Association

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City/County Association of Governments
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Stanford
MEDICINE
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September 9, 2024

Chair Cindy Chavez
Programming and Allocations Committee
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Chair Chavez and Programming and Allocations Committee Members:

As you consider projects to endorse for the upcoming state Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and Senate Bill 1 (SB1) 2024 grant cycle, we urge you to prioritize the SR 84/US 101 Interchange Reimagined Project (Project) in Redwood City.

We also ask that you keep the Broadway Grade Separation Project (Project) in Burlingame front of mind for future funding cycles. Unfortunately, due to recent cost escalations that may require redesign, the project is not being put forward for SB 1 construction funds this year but will in the future.

The SR 84/US 101 Interchange Reimagined Project

In cooperation with the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), Caltrans, and the City of Redwood City are leading an effort to complete the Project, and Redwood City is applying for \$33.1 million in SB1 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) funds.

The SR 84/US 101 Interchange Reimagined Project is vitally important to San Mateo County and the greater Bay Area region. The existing interchange was constructed in 1959 and is well past its useful life. The Project will improve interchange ramp intersections to increase safety, reduce congestion for passenger vehicles and trucks, generate travel time savings and provide congestion relief throughout the day. It will also increase goods movement to and from the Port of Redwood City and industrial businesses, improve access to job centers, and enhance multi-modal connectivity to a new commuter ferry terminal planned for the Port of Redwood City.

The Project will also include over four miles of new bike and pedestrian improvements. These solutions have been developed with input from the community, including residents in adjacent MTC Equity Priority Communities who will benefit directly from improved air quality and mobility.

The total cost of the 84/101 Project is expected to be \$323.6 million, with over 50 percent coming from local funds. To fill the remaining \$57.8 million funding gap, the City of Redwood City recently applied for several federal grants, and also plans to apply for \$25 million in SB1 Local Partnership Program (LPP) competitive funds.

Broadway Grade Separation Project

The Broadway Grade Separation Project aims to separate Broadway Avenue from the Caltrain rail line to improve safety at the crossing, reduce traffic congestion and vehicle conflicts, boost access to businesses and San Francisco International Airport hotels, promote clean transportation, and expand train service for regional and statewide needs.

Since 2018, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) ranked the Broadway at-grade crossing in Burlingame as the number one statewide priority for grade separation out of the 10,000 at-grade railroad crossings in the state. The separation is vital as Broadway is the main gateway from U.S. 101 to the City's downtown, industrial district, services, and hospitality areas.

Unfortunately, an updated construction estimate resulted in significantly higher costs than previously budgeted and may require redesign. Though there is no request for a grant application at this time, we ask that MTC keep this project top of mind for future funding cycles.

Working together we can help advance these crucial regional improvements that will bring countless safety, mobility, and economic benefits to Peninsula residents, visitors, and the greater Bay Area.

Thank you in advance for considering this request.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Kevin Mullin (U.S. House of Representatives)
The Honorable Diane Papan (California State Assembly)
Caltrain
Chamber San Mateo County
City of Burlingame
City of Redwood City
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG)
Google
Port of Redwood City
San Mateo County Central Labor Council
San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA)
San Mateo County Transportation Authority
Seaport Industrial Association
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