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March 30, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program Request for State Route 37 / Fairgrounds Drive Interchange Improvement Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our strong support for the State Route 37 / Fairgrounds Drive Interchange Improvement Project. The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) is seeking \$20 million from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program. These funds would supplement the existing \$4 million in acquired funding for a total project cost of \$24 million. The RAISE Funds would be the "last money in" to complete the project budget and would allow the construction phase of the project to proceed.

State Route 37 (SR37) and Fairgrounds Drive is a major connection point between Solano County, Napa County, and the Cities of Vallejo and American Canyon and connects commuters to jobs, students to education, and essential workers to their community. This Project will enhance mobility for residents of the most diverse city in the Bay Area, the City of Vallejo, including the historically disadvantaged Country Club Crest Neighborhood. Transit-dependent riders taking either local transit services or the SolanoExpress regional transit service will benefit from more dependable and more reliable service provided by the improvements to the SR37 / Fairgrounds Drive Interchange, which will reduce congestion and improve safety.

The Project is estimated to improve safety by reducing vehicle collisions by up to 30%, and by adding shorter crossings for pedestrians and dedicated facilities for bicycles. This improves multimodal access to Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, which is the largest youth employer for all of Solano County. Additionally, Fairgrounds Drive is the main artery that connects to the Solano 360 Project, which is a planned redevelopment of 112 acres of the Solano Fairgrounds into affordable housing, grocery shopping, mixed-use transit-oriented development, and will add a new state-of-the-art community event center.

This Project is a Regional Transportation Plan priority project identified by the STA and is listed in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). It is supported by community business owners, city and regional government, bicycle and pedestrian advocates, regional transportation planning agencies and the California Department of Transportation.

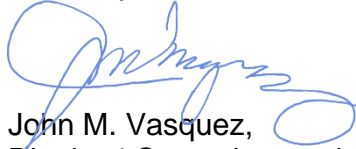
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This Project promotes the RAISE Program objectives to grow economies, facilitate freight movement, improve reliable and affordable transportation options, and enhance health access and safety for residents. This Project is a win for local businesses, active transportation, equity, and connected communities' enthusiasts. We thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,



John M. Vasquez,
District 4 Supervisor and Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

CC:

Solano County Board of Supervisors
Solano Transportation Authority
Paragon Government Relations
Karen Lange, Legislative Advocate, SYASL Partners, Inc.