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April 4, 2025

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
2004 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

RE: SUPPORT, FY 2026 Congressionally Directed Spending Request for Radio Infrastructure and Interoperability Improvements in Solano County

Dear Congressman Garamendi:

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to urge you to seek \$3 million in Fiscal Year 2026 Congressionally Directed Spending for Solano County's Radio Infrastructure and Interoperability Improvements project. This critically needed project funding would help Solano County secure a unified, modern communications system that would link all the County's police, fire, and emergency response agencies into a single network and allow for interoperable communications among dozens of local, regional, and State agencies.

Solano County's antiquated VHF public safety radio system severely limits communication among police and fire agencies in Solano County and does not meet the needs of modern emergency response. Accordingly, Solano County is pursuing a modern P25 system upgrade, which would deliver the interoperable and reliable communications the County needs to respond to emergencies and protect the lives and property of its residents.

In addition to enhancing the usability and effectiveness of radio communications within the County, the proposed new system would implement a DOJ mandate for encrypted communications and allow for interoperable communications among regional jurisdictions and State agencies. In sum, this project will enable dozens of cities and counties, along with State and Federal agency partners, such as CAL Fire, CAL OES, and Travis Air Force Base, to communicate seamlessly and support each other in times of critical need.

Regarding the project budget, federal funds would be allocated toward essential communications equipment, including P25 system components and microwave backhaul network equipment needed to connect radio sites. While some sites may require infrastructure enhancements such as grounding, shelter, power, or tower upgrades to support the new technology, these costs are expected to be addressed through non-federal sources. Additional support for the project is anticipated by local and regional partners, with funding details to be determined as planning progresses.

Thank you for your support and consideration of this critically important community project request.

Sincerely,

Mitch Mashburn, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

The Honorable John Garamendi
Radio Infrastructure and Interoperability / Solano County Board of Supervisors

CC:

The Honorable Adam Schiff, United States Senator
The Honorable Alex Padilla, United States Senator
The Honorable Mike Thompson, United States Representative
The Honorable Christopher Cabaldon, California State Senator
The Honorable Lori Wilson, California State Assemblymember
The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors
Tim Flanagan, Chief Information Officer, Solano County
Paragon Government Relations
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners, Inc.