

TA

CORRESPONDENCE

as of 4-15-2022



March 22, 2022

The Honorable Jackie Speier
U.S House of Representatives
2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Speier:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA) and the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), we write to personally thank you for helping to secure funding for the US 101/SR 92 Area Improvement Project as part of the FY 2022 Omnibus Appropriations Bill.

As you know, the Highway 101 and State Route 92 (US 101 / SR 92) Interchange is an essential connection to the San Francisco Airport, South San Francisco biotech industries, the Silicon Valley as well as major East Bay destinations. Over 320,000 vehicles travel through this interchange each day, which is consistently identified as the worst interchange in the County in terms of delays and travel speeds.

Throughout the Bay Area, we are seeing a return to pre-pandemic levels of traffic, where heavy traffic volumes and inadequate capacity at this interchange can cause traffic to slow to as little as seven miles per hour during both the morning and afternoon peak periods. These delays often result in miles of traffic in multiple directions as well as significant congestion on our local streets.

The US 101/SR 92 Project will provide critical infrastructure improvements to the interchange - helping to ease congestion, reduce hazardous vehicle weaving incidents, improve safety for bicycles, pedestrians, and increase local access points to and from US 101.

We applaud you for your continued support of transportation improvements that are so fundamental to the vitality and health of our region. Please contact Government and Community Affairs Manager Jessica Epstein at epsteinj@samtrans.com if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carter Mau'.

Carter Mau
Acting Executive Director, TA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sean Charpentier'.

Sean Charpentier
Executive Director, C/CAG

Cc: San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County Board of Directors



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

RICO E. MEDINA, CHAIR
CARLOS ROMERO, VICE CHAIR
CAROLE GROOM
DON HORSLEY
JULIA MATES
MARK NAGALES
EMILY BEACH

CARTER MAU
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 30, 2022

Andrea Jacobson, RAISE Grant Program Manager
Office of the Under Secretary for Policy
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the City of San Mateo's Downtown Grade Separation Project RAISE Grant application

Dear Ms. Jacobson:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I am writing in support of the City of San Mateo's RAISE application for the Downtown Grade Separation Project.

Created in 1988 to administer Measure A and Measure W, San Mateo County's ½-cent sales taxes, the TA provides critical funding and support for transportation projects and programs throughout San Mateo County. As stewards of these public dollars, the TA is charged with investing in projects that move people faster, safer and more efficiently, while also helping to address congestion throughout the County.

The San Mateo Grade Separation Project seeks to improve safety by evaluating options to separate the existing six (6) at-grade highway-rail crossings in the City's urban core (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 9th Avenues). Presently, over 50,000 vehicles travel across these crossings each day, resulting in conditions that the Federal Railroad Administration has recognized as the second leading cause of death. The Project has safety, environmental sustainability, and quality of life benefits. It will provide economic opportunities to the downtown and will greatly improve mobility and community connectivity.

The TA understands that grade separations are an important safety and quality of life feature for our cities. These projects improve safety for people walking, biking, and driving when crossing the railroad, and help to relieve congestion on local our streets. Unfortunately, with the average grade separation cost over \$200 million, there are limited state and local resources available to help finance these projects. We applaud the City's efforts to explore federal financial assistance to help move their project forward.

///

Andrea Jacobson, RAISE Grant Program Manager

March 30, 2022

Page 2 of 2

For these reasons and we are pleased to support San Mateo's request for funding to evaluate future grade separation options. We hope you will consider it for support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carter Mau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carter" being more prominent than the last name "Mau".

Carter Mau
Acting Executive Director

Cc: San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors