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May 10, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Many thanks for the Transportation Department's focus on Building a Better America by investing in infrastructure. I am writing to request your full and fair consideration for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's (CCTA) application for Mega Grant Funding requesting \$395 million for improvements to Interstate 680 under the 680 Forward Project.

Interstate 680 is a 70.5 mile federally designated "alternative fuel corridor" in the Bay Area that connects communities from Fairfield to San Jose and moves goods, services, and people throughout Northern California and beyond. Due to high traffic from the thousands of homes and businesses that rely on the corridor for day-to-day travel, congestion and delays have become commonplace. To improve safety, smooth traffic, and increased access for all users of the transportation system, CCTA has designed a holistic approach known as the 680 Forward that combines specific transit improvements, active transportation projects, congestion relief projects, and innovative concepts to work in harmony to improve this critical corridor.

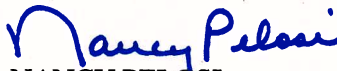
The requested \$395 million will improve Interstate 680 by introducing zero emission bus service, shared mobility hubs, transit bus-on-shoulder lanes, bicycle and pedestrian overcrossings, express lane network, and technology tools to encourage sharing modes and new mobility options for the elderly and disabled. By reducing congestion, investing in transit, switching to alternative fueling, and improving nonmotorized transportation options, this project will help reduce the impacts of climate change while improving the living conditions for the surrounding communities.

The Interstate also passes through several areas with a concentration of historically underserved populations, such as households with low incomes and people of color and has been designated by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) as Equity Priority Communities. Thanks to 680 Forward's plans to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, build mobility hubs, and invest in affordable transit, CCTA will create a more socially equitable community and give disadvantaged community members more transportation options in the Bay Area.

680 Forward has been endorsed by the MTC and is part of a coordinated regional strategy to secure federal funding for transportation projects in the Bay Area. This project is anticipated to improve mobility and accessibility throughout the region while supporting California's vision to increase economic vitality and add jobs, while reducing vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas pollution.

Thank you again, Mr. Secretary, for your consideration and I look forward to your response.

best regards,


NANCY PELOSI
Member of Congress