



# CORINNA CONTRERAS

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

July 12, 2024

Mr. Mark Tollefson  
Undersecretary  
California State Transportation Agency  
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2340  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Letter of Support for NCTD and SANDAG's Application for Funding from the 2024 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program

Dear Undersecretary Tollefson:

I write to express support for the North County Transit District's (NCTD) and San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG) application for funding from the California State Transportation Agency 2024 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) to improve safety, expand capacity, enhance reliability, and support supply chain resiliency on the nationally significant Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor.

NCTD and SANDAG are requesting funding to enhance stabilization of the Del Mar Bluffs and replace an approximately 100-year-old single track rail bridge over the San Luis Rey River in the City of Oceanside with a concrete double track bridge, maintaining a state of good repair on the LOSSAN Corridor. Additional soldier piles to stabilize the Del Mar Bluffs and replacement of the San Luis Rey River Bridge will improve safety and prevent the risk of a major service disruption in an area where there are no viable rail alternatives, ensuring that passenger and freight rail service to and from San Diego are not jeopardized.

The project will also add 0.6 miles of additional double tracking, eliminating a bottleneck and creating 10.3 miles of continuous double track to enhance reliability and on-time performance for both passenger and freight services. Double tracking expands the capacity of the LOSSAN Corridor, allowing for future frequency increases for Amtrak Pacific Surfliner intercity rail service from San Diego through Los Angeles, Metrolink commuter rail service, and BNSF freight rail. Improved service frequencies will increase ridership, support efficient goods movement, and enhance multimodal connections at the Oceanside Transit Center.

Together, these improvements represent a significant enhancement of rail service on the LOSSAN Corridor, the second busiest intercity rail corridor in the nation. The City of Vista highly recommends the California State Transportation Agency approve NCTD and SANDAG's funding request for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Corinna Contreras  
City Councilmember  
City of Vista