



February 1, 2023

Toks Omishakin, Secretary
California State Transportation Agency
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2340
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Sacramento Regional Transit's TIRCP Cycle 6 Grant Application

Dear Secretary Omishakin:

On behalf of the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) I am pleased to provide this letter in enthusiastic support of Sacramento Regional Transit District's (SacRT) application for the 2023 Cycle 6 TIRCP Grant for their Increasing Ridership Through System Enhancement (IRTSE) program.

This three-part project will increase ridership, reduce green-house gas emissions, and add light rail service to a new affordable housing project in Sacramento's River District. Together, these system enhancements are an important step in a series of efforts to modernize the transit system that serves nearly 1.6 million people in California's Capital County.

The IRTSE program has three major components:

- Adding the Dos Rios Light Rail Station to serve Mirasol Village, a 400-unit affordable housing development at 12 Street and Richards Boulevard in Sacramento
- Converting all 19 light rail stations on the Blue Line, so they can accommodate modern low-floor vehicles, eliminating the need to climb stairs to board the vehicles
- Train Technology Implementation—a series of upgrades to light rail trains and stations that will enhance the rider experience with more and better information

Together, these transformative capital improvements will reduce GHG emissions by more than 80 thousand metric tons of CO2, significantly increase ridership by nearly two million riders annually, expand benefits and services to disadvantaged communities; improve connectivity to High-Speed Rail and other rail/transit services; and make transit safer, more attractive, and more accessible for all residents, visitors, and businesses in the region.

SacRT already has approximately 35 percent of the funds needed for these projects from other sources for the project. The TIRCP grant will accelerate these projects to help improve the quality of life for millions of residents of the Sacramento region.

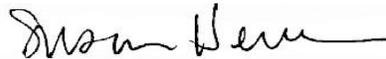
ECOS was founded in 1971 as a visionary and action-oriented coalition for the region. Today the organizational and individual members of ECOS work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, promote smart growth land use and transportation principles, promote equity in housing, promote sustainable regional water supply for all users, public health and opportunities, and promote regional habitat conservation.

In closing, thank you for your thoughtful consideration of Sacramento Regional Transit District's TIRCP Cycle 6 Grant Application.

Sincerely,



Sam Rice
Transportation Team Lead



Susan Herre AIA AICP
President of the Board of Directors