



Post Office Box 1526 | Sacramento, CA 95812-1526

April 17, 2024

Sam Assefa, Director
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Sacramento Regional Transit District's grant application

Dear Mr. Assefa,

I write on behalf of the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) support of the Sacramento Regional Transit District's (SacRT) application for a grant from your Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program (EHCRP). If awarded, SacRT intends to provide shade and heat-resistant enhancements at selected bus stops so transit patrons can wait for a bus in a healthier and more comfortable environment.

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.

As you know, Sacramento summer temperatures often exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit and can sometimes surpass 110 degrees for several days in a row. Merely being outside in those conditions is uncomfortable and unsafe, primarily among the senior and disabled population. Waiting for an extended period of time at an unshaded or unprotected bus stop may pose health risks, especially for those who have medical conditions with heat-related side effects.

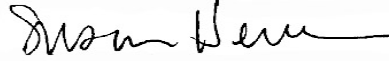
SacRT has approximately 3,000 bus stops scattered throughout its service area. Some already offer shade and shelter from inclement weather, but many are nothing more than a signpost indicating where the bus will stop. Through its existing Bus Stop Improvement Plan, SacRT has identified a number of bus stops, many in disadvantaged neighborhoods, that are heavily used, badly in need of shade, and are "shovel ready" for shelter enhancements.

The EHCRP grant will allow SacRT to make immediate, positive impacts at selected bus stop locations, benefiting the people who use them by providing shade from the sun and heat-resistant shelter protection during Sacramento's harsh summer conditions. I urge you to fully fund their grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SR' with a flourish.

Sam Rice
Transportation Team Lead

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Susan Herre'.

Susan Herre AIA AICP
President of the Board of Directors