

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 09, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority's Valley Link Commuter Rail
Project FY 2019 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant
Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

Thank you for your leadership overseeing our nation's transportation system. We write to express our support for the Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority's application for the DOT's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant.

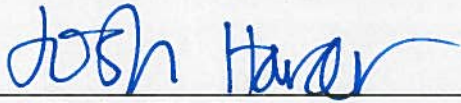
As you may know, the Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority has requested \$25 million in BUILD funding to support the construction of two Valley Link rail stations in Downtown Tracy and River Islands, California as well as a maintenance facility. Congress enacted the BUILD grant program to support projects just like Valley Link, which is of key regional and national significance. The project will cut commute times and provide additional transportation options to more than 25,000 commuters across the Central Valley and Bay Area.

Valley Link will alleviate the state's chronic traffic congestion, reduce pressure on crowded highways, and improve traffic flow by diversifying the region's transportation options. Central Valley residents who commute to the Bay Area experience some of our nation's longest commute times in the country. The average commute ranges from 90 minutes to three hours from Tracy to San Francisco. These times are untenable, especially given the region's anticipated traffic growth of 60 percent by 2040.


This project also supports the Administration's infrastructure efforts. You have stated that infrastructure is the foundation of our economy and a key to job growth. Valley Link's innovative inter-regional structure will connect with the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station in the City of Dublin and the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) lines, promoting regional connectivity and leading to economic growth.

Thank you again, Secretary Chao, for your full and fair consideration of this grant proposal, in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, and policies. We look forward to your response and working with you to support exceptional infrastructure projects in our region.

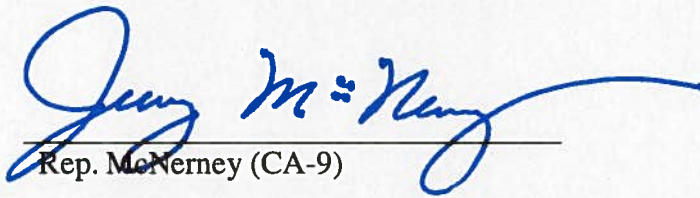
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Josh Harder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Josh" being more prominent.

Rep. Harder (CA-10)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gabe Swinwell". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the last name "Swinwell" being more legible than the first name.

Rep. Swinwell (CA-15)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry McNerney". The signature is cursive and flows from left to right, with the last name "McNerney" being the most prominent part.

Rep. McNerney (CA-9)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark DeSaulnier". The signature is cursive and somewhat compact, with the last name "DeSaulnier" being the most prominent part.

Rep. DeSaulnier (CA-11)