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Congressman Josh Harder (CA-10)
209 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Harder,

I write to ask for your consideration and support of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRR) for potential Community Project Funding in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 appropriations process. As you know, the SJRR operates the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) commuter rail service that serves thousands of our constituents and has ambitious plans to expand ACE service through the Valley Rail program. I have no doubt, the SJRR would be a strong partner in delivering projects that provide multi-modal connections for our constituents, ensure affordable access to intercity and commuter rail travel, and encourage mode-shift to cleaner and greener forms of transportation.

The SJRR has identified two potential improvement projects in your district in San Joaquin County that are worthy of your full consideration. The projects are:

1. **Ripon Station Pedestrian Safety Improvement and Parking Rehabilitation.**

This project would enhance pedestrian safety by building a new pedestrian-rail overcrossing, rehabilitate and expand current parking facilities for commuters going to work, and modernize the existing infrastructure at the station. The project has secured a strong state and local funding match and is CEQA-cleared.

2. **Manteca Station Rider Safety Improvement and Station Modernization**

This project would enhance pedestrian safety by building a new pedestrian-rail underpass and construct brand new parking facilities and station platforms. Together, these improvements will greatly enhance the commuter experience by improving the ridership experience and enhancing pedestrian safety. The project has secured a strong state and local funding match and is CEQA-cleared.

Together, these two projects would create local jobs and spur economic development, enhance railroad-pedestrian safety, expand multi-modal connections, create more enjoyable commuter rail passenger experiences, and promote a more sustainable and clean transportation system for Californians. As your office considers projects for Community Funding, I strongly encourage your support for funding these projects.

Sincerely,

Robert Rickman
Supervisor, Fifth District
San Joaquin County

DTG: 08421/01ST

"I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain (what I consider the most enviable of all titles), the character of an honest man."

- George Washington -