



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Approved by:

Luis Rodriguez

City Manager

Council Meeting of: October 2, 2019

Agenda Number: B-5

SUBJECT:

Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Letter of Support from WYE Madera County to the California High-Speed Rail Authority Urging Against Diverting Funding Away From San Joaquin Valley High-Speed Rail Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council (Council) authorize the Mayor to sign the attached letter.

SUMMARY:

WYE Madera County (WMC) is requesting that the City of Madera sign a letter of support urging the California High-Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) to strongly oppose any legislation intended to strip or divert funding away from high-speed rail projects currently planned or underway in the San Joaquin Valley.

DISCUSSION:

WMC, a collaborative of agencies in Madera County of which the City of Madera is a member, recently learned of impending legislation which would allow for the reallocation of funding earmarked for high-speed rail projects in the San Joaquin Valley. The attached letter requests that the HSRA strongly oppose any legislation or pressure to divert or eliminate funding identified for facilities planned and already under construction in the San Joaquin Valley. It is expected that other WYE members will also be submitting a comparable letter opposing any potential diversion of funds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with executing the letter of support.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN:

The information contained herein is not addressed by the Vision Madera 2025 plan, nor is the information in conflict with that plan.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Council may elect not to authorize the Mayor to sign the attached letter or may direct staff to prepare alternative verbiage for inclusion in a revised letter to be returned to the Council at a later date for consideration in advance of a release to the HSRA.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Exhibit 1 - Letter from WYE Madera County to CHSRA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LETTER OF SUPPORT
FROM WYE MADERA COUNTY TO THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY URGING AGAINST DIVERTING FUNDING AWAY FROM SAN
JOAQUIN VALLEY HIGH-SPEED RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, the City of Madera joins WYE Madera County in supporting and protecting investment planned for the greater San Joaquin Valley; and

WHEREAS, the City opposes any legislation that would eliminate funding necessary to complete active and planned high-speed rail infrastructure in the San Joaquin Valley; and

WHEREAS, the attached letter of support confirms the City of Madera's commitment to a functional high-speed rail system.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA DOES HEREBY resolve, find and order as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.
2. The City Council of the City of Madera supports rejecting legislation that would divert funding away from high-speed rail infrastructure in the San Joaquin Valley, as addressed in the letter of support, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and referred to for, is approved.
3. The Mayor of the City of Madera is hereby authorized to sign said letter on behalf of the City



Board of Directors
California High-Speed Rail Authority
770 L Street, Suite 620
Sacramento CA 95814
Via Email to: boardmembers@hsr.ca.gov

Subject: WYE Madera County Support for Continued Investment in San Joaquin Valley

Dear California High-Speed Rail Authority Directors,

WYE Madera County is a collaborative of agencies in Madera County with common interests pertaining to the California High-Speed Rail. Wye Madera County members are:

- County of Madera
- City of Chowchilla
- City of Madera
- Madera County Transportation Commission
- Madera Unified School District
- Workforce Development Board of Madera County
- Madera County Economic Development Commission

Our member agencies are interested in ensuring that California's investment in high-speed rail achieves the intended state-wide transportation system benefits while providing local benefits and avoiding disproportionate effects on the citizens of Madera County.

High-speed rail construction is well underway in Madera County and the San Joaquin Valley. Completion of the Merced-Fresno-Bakersfield segment is critical to ensure that the constructed facilities result in a functional rail system with state-wide and regional transportation benefits. WYE Madera County is committed to ensuring the infrastructure investment that has been made to date for California High Speed Rail in the San Joaquin Valley is completed. Therefore, we urge the Authority to strongly oppose any legislation or pressure to divert or eliminate funding identified for facilities planned and under construction in the San Joaquin Valley.

Sincerely,

cc via electronic mail to:

Brian Kelly, CHSRA CEO: brian.kelly@hsr.ca.gov
Brian Annis, CHSRA CFO: brian.annis@hsr.ca.gov
Chad Edison, CalSTA: chad.edison@calsta.ca.gov