



CITY OF DEL MAR

May 6, 2024

Mr. Carl Guardino, Chair
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, MS-52
Sacramento, CA 95814
ctc@catc.ca.gov

Re: Letter of Support for SANDAG's Request for 2nd Time Extension for the Senate Bill 1 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program – CTC Meeting May 16-17, 2024, Reference No.: 2.8v.(5)

Dear Mr. Guardino:

As the Del Mar City Council Rail Subcommittee, we write to express support for the San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG) request for a 12-month time extension for the construction allocation of the Senate Bill 1 Trace Corridor Enhancement (TCEP) Program for Phase I of the San Dieguito Bridge Replacement, Double Track and Special Events Platform Project (Project).

SANDAG is requesting the TCEP grant time extension to combine the Phase 1 and 2 improvements into one Project, which would reduce at least 18 months of construction time to significantly lessen the impact on Del Mar residents and the environment and eliminate the Phase 1 funding gap by removing duplicative soft costs.

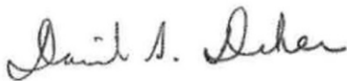
The benefits of combining the two phases and expediting construction are as follows:

- SANDAG will use Via De La Valle and Jimmy Durante Blvd—two critical local corridors—to access the construction site. If SANDAG constructs the Project in two phases as currently planned, Del Mar residents will be impacted for more than seven years. SANDAG anticipates saving 18 – 36 months in the schedule if the Project is constructed in one phase.
- Phase 2 will include improvements to Del Mar's water and sewer infrastructure. The infrastructure will be upsized to accommodate future growth, pipes under the railroad will be safely protected in concrete, and manholes will be relocated outside of North County Transit District (NCTD) right-of-way. Once completed, City maintenance crews will not be required to obtain right-of-entry permits with NCTD to maintain City sewer and water infrastructure.

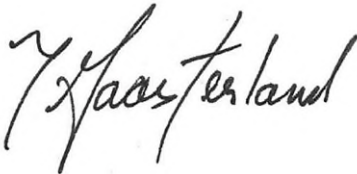
- Phase 2 improvements also include constructing a new undercrossing of the railroad on the south side of the San Dieguito River. The undercrossing will allow safe pedestrian access to the Coast to Crest Trail for pedestrians and bicyclists. By combining the two phases, the undercrossing will be completed sooner thereby creating additional safe access across the railroad for our community.
- The City of Del Mar's Camino Del Mar Bridge Replacement Project is expected to start construction in early 2026. SANDAG anticipates the construction of a combined Project will also start around this time. Overlapping the construction schedules for these two projects will minimize impacts to the San Dieguito Lagoon to the maximum extent possible.

To minimize disruptions to Del Mar residents and impacts to the San Dieguito Lagoon, the City of Del Mar strongly requests the California State Transportation Agency approve SANDAG's time extension request for the Project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dave Druker
Mayor



Terry Gaasterland
Deputy Mayor

CC: Del Mar City Council
Ashley Jones, Del Mar City Manager
Clement Brown, Del Mar Assistant City Manager
Angela Anderson, SANDAG
Dee Lam, Division Chief, California Department of Transportation,
Dee.Lam@dot.ca.gov

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May 7, 2024

Reference Number: 2.8v.(5), Action Item

Ms. Dee Lam
Division Chief
Department of Transportation
Division of Local Assistance
P.O. Box 942873, MS-39
Sacramento, CA 94273-0001

Re: Support for SANDAG's Second Time Extension Request for Senate Bill 1 TCEP
– San Dieguito Double Track Phase 1

Dear Division Chief Lam:

I write on behalf of the North County Transit District (NCTD) to express support for the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) request for a 12-month time extension on the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) grant for the San Dieguito Double Track Phase 1 construction allocation. SANDAG is proposing to combine Phase 1 and 2 of this project to shorten the construction schedule while minimizing costs and risks to the project. This time extension will allow SANDAG to complete the right-of-way certification process for the combined project and provide SANDAG with the time necessary to completely integrate the Phase 1 and 2 design into one construction contract.

SANDAG and NCTD recently received full funding from both the State of California and the U.S. Department of Transportation for Phase 2 of the project. These awards will allow SANDAG to improve efficiency and construct Phase 1, which was fully funded by TCEP, and Phase 2 together.

The time extension requested by SANDAG will facilitate an expedited completion of the improvements included in Phase 2, which will provide multiple benefits to NCTD and the region.

The benefits of combining the Phases and expediting construction are as follows:

- The existing San Dieguito River bridge, constructed in 1916, requires a significant amount of maintenance on an annual basis. The scope of Phase 2 includes the replacement of this bridge. Replacing the bridge

will support NCTD's efforts to maintain a state of good repair on the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor and reduce its maintenance obligations.

- The single-tracked segment of the corridor between Solana Beach and Sorrento Valley is the longest single-track segment in the San Diego subdivision. Constructing Phases 1 and 2 will reduce the largest bottleneck in NCTD's service area to improve the on-time performance of NCTD COASTER commuter rail, Amtrak Pacific Surfliner intercity rail, and BNSF freight services, while also increasing the capacity of the corridor to accommodate future passenger and freight rail frequencies.
- Construction of the special events platforms at the Fairgrounds included in Phase 2 will provide direct rail access to the San Diego County Fair, the Del Mar horse racing season, and many other events held at the Fairgrounds. The special events platforms will reduce the number of personal vehicles on the roadways and increase ridership for NCTD and its operating partners, which in turn will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality in the region.
- Phase 2 will also construct a grade-separated pedestrian path beneath the tracks on the south bank of the San Dieguito River. Completion of this pedestrian path will improve safety for the public and provide improved access to the beach and other attractions in the project's vicinity.

NCTD highly recommends that the Department of Transportation approve SANDAG's request for a 12-month time extension on the TCEP grant for the Phase 1 construction allocation and allow SANDAG the time to completely integrate the Phase 1 and Phase 2 design into one construction contract. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tracey Foster
Chief Development Officer

cc: Ruben Hoyos, Transportation Planner, Caltrans
CTC Clerk, Caltrans
Angela Anderson, Senior Engineer, SANDAG
Chris Orlando, Chief Planning and Communications Officer, NCTD
Mary Dover, Governmental Affairs Officer, NCTD
Scott Shroyer, Director of Engineering, NCTD