



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Eighteenth District
California*

April 29, 2022

The Honorable David E. Price,
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation, and
Housing and Urban Development, and
Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart,
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, and
Housing and Urban Development, and
Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Price and Ranking Member Diaz-Balart,

As you begin your critical work on the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I strongly urge you to include \$2,000,000 for the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) to eliminate at-grade rail crossings in Santa Clara County. This Community Project Funding request is associated with the Department of Transportation account for Transit Infrastructure Projects.

In 2016, Santa Clara County voters approved Measure B, a county-wide sales tax increase to fund various transportation priorities including the elimination of eight at-grade Caltrain commuter rail crossings. The VTA has committed \$18 million for the planning and preconstruction project development of these projects, and the requested funding would support these efforts for five crossings in Palo Alto and Sunnyvale.

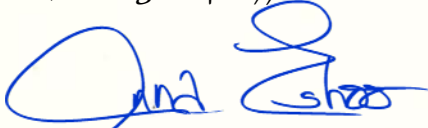
The rail crossing projects supported by this request will enhance safety by reducing collisions between pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles with trains and will improve traffic flow by eliminating crossing gate downtimes. These improvements are particularly important as Caltrain plans to increase the volume and speed of trains along this corridor. Today, repeated closures of the crossing result in significant local traffic congestion which is why the elimination of these crossings is a top priority for many cities along the corridor, including Palo Alto and Sunnyvale.

As an indication of local support for the project, I've enclosed letters of support from the Honorable Pat Burt, Mayor of Palo Alto; the Honorable Larry Klein, Mayor of

Sunnyvale; and Ms. Carolyn Gonot, General Manager/CEO, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority.

If enacted, this request would improve the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians and reduce traffic congestion, and it's why I wholeheartedly support this Community Project Funding request and ask that you do so as well.

Most gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anna Eshoo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "E".

Anna G. Eshoo

Enclosures