

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 \$2,500,000 for the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission for the Boulder Creek Complete Streets Improvements project. This Community Project Funding request is associated with the Department of Transportation account for Highway Infrastructure Projects.

Boulder Creek is a rural unincorporated community of approximately 5,500 residents in Santa Cruz County, California that experiences heavy traffic from trucking, tourism, and commuters. The community's existing sidewalks are not up to current standards and are missing in many areas of the historic downtown, leading to collisions with pedestrians, including two deaths in the commercial area in the past five years.

The requested funding will fill gaps in the sidewalk network and construct new segments to provide continuous pedestrian access and connect multiple neighborhoods, the elementary school, and the library to the rest of the town. The project will ensure all existing sidewalks are updated to current standards, including curb extensions and other safety improvements to reduce the risk of collisions.

As an indication of local support, I've enclosed letters of support from the following local elected officials and community leaders:

- The Honorable Bruce McPherson, Supervisor, Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors
- Mr. Toks Omishakin, Director, California Department of Transportation
- Mr. Douglas Hessing, Project Manager, California Department of Transportation, District 5
- Ms. Maura Twomey, Executive Director, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
- Ms. Karen Edwards, President, Boulder Creek Business Association
- Ms. Janet Coit, Secretary, San Lorenzo Valley Rotary Club

The project was also identified as part of the Highway 9/San Lorenzo Valley Complete Streets Corridor Plan, a community-based planning document that identified and prioritized the many improvements needed along and immediately adjacent to California State Route 9 in the San Lorenzo Valley.

If enacted, this request would improve pedestrian safety in a rural community in my Congressional District, and it's why I wholeheartedly support this Community Project Funding request and ask that you do so as well.

Most gratefully

Anna G. Eshoo

Enclosures