



May 9, 2024

The Honorable 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Time Extension for the Senate Bill 1 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program – May 2024 CTC Reference No.: 2.8v(5)**

Dear Chairman Guardino:

As the Chief Executive Officer of the 22nd District Agricultural Association (the District), which owns and operates the Del Mar Fairgrounds (Fairgrounds), I would like 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 the San Dieguito Double Track Phase 1 construction allocation.

SANDAG is requesting this time extension of the TCEP grant to combine the Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the San Dieguito Bridge Replacement, Double Track and Special Events Platform Project (Project). This time extension will allow time for SANDAG to combine the Phase 1 and 2 improvements into one Project; reduce at least 18 months of construction time to significantly lessen impact on Fairgrounds operations and the environment; and eliminate the Phase 1 funding gap by removing duplicative soft costs so the project can be constructed sooner.

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

- SANDAG will need to temporarily occupy several acres of the Fairgrounds for construction staging, laydown, and access to construct the phases. Events that are typically located in those areas will need to be relocated during the construction phase. If SANDAG constructs the project in two phases, the areas will be occupied for over seven (7) years. SANDAG anticipates 18 – 36 months of time savings if the project is to be constructed in one phase, which will allow the Fairgrounds to reclaim the areas to host events sooner.
- The District and City of Solana Beach are jointly responsible for the stormwater quality for Stevens Creek. The creek is an emergency flood control channel. It is a long shallow creek with very little elevational drop, which results in increased siltation within the creek. Coupled with heavy vegetation, the creek is difficult to access and maintain, which has contributed to the poor water flows over the years. SANDAG plans to construct the double box culvert and realign the creek to allow the

flow from Stevens Creek to quickly outlet onto the San Dieguito lagoon. SANDAG believes this will greatly improve the creek's water quality, helping to ensure compliance with Regional Water Quality Control Board standards.

- SANDAG proposes to construct fire water service improvements in support of the special events platform. The fire water will complete the full loop on the Fairgrounds property, providing an additional fire water source for future needs. This new water service can be completed earlier if SANDAG is allowed to combine the phases. SANDAG will install a new electrical service in Phase 2 improvements in support of the special events platform. SANDAG's plan for the electrical service will provide additional power for the special events platform, and additional electrical transformers will be available sooner to support Fairgrounds events.

Thank you for your consideration, your time, and attention to this matter. Please let us know if you have any questions about our position or operations.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and SANDAG in the years ahead on this and other critical projects for our region.

Sincerely,



Carlene Moore  
Chief Executive Officer  
22nd District Agricultural Association

Cc: Ms. Dee Lam, Division Chief, California Department of Transportation