



VICTOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Representing the Communities of Adelanto, Apple Valley, Barstow, Hesperia,
Victorville and San Bernardino County

January 30, 2018

California Transportation Commission
Susan Bransen, Executive Director
1120 N Street, MS-52
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: 2018 Local Partnership Program/Ranchero Road Widening Project

Dear Executive Director Bransen:

As Executive Director / CEO of Victor Valley Transit Authority (VVTA) I am writing in support of the City of Hesperia's application for the 2018 Local Partnership Program (LPP). The Ranchero Road Widening Project is Phase III of the Ranchero Corridor Improvement Project. This project has included the construction of a railroad undercrossing and an interchange at Interstate 15 providing one of two major arterial roadways with east-west mobility and freeway access for the City of Hesperia and neighboring cities. Prior to this project, the entire Victor Valley had only three (3) East – West arterial roads which are very congested and negatively impact VVTA's "on time performance."

Improvements along this five-mile stretch of Ranchero Road include widening of the roadway from two to four lanes, curbs, pedestrian and cyclist improvements, aqueduct bridge crossing, at-grade railroad crossing, drainage system improvements, utility relocations and traffic signal installations.

Ranchero Road is identified as a regionally significant corridor and is Hesperia's number one transportation priority. Since construction of the undercrossing and interchange, Ranchero Road has experienced significant increases in traffic and consequential congestion. Residential, commercial and educational development in Hesperia and neighboring jurisdictions will continue to further impact Ranchero Road.

Additionally, as a direct result of the railroad underpass, VVTA was able to initiate a new bus route #24 which serves previously unserved portions of the City of Hesperia and the Oak Hills portion of San Bernardino County. The new bus service now provides access to employment for underserved portions of VVTA's service area and assists VVTA in its Environmental Justice concerns

As the public transportation provider in the region, these vital improvements will allow VVTA to further improve service to its ridership, improve safety for the large number of motorists traveling Rancho Road, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions by reducing traffic congestion. Additionally, these improvements will improve public transportation access to employment for underserved portions of VVTA's service area and assists VVTA with its Environmental Justice concerns.

VVTA is appreciative of the City's efforts to improve traffic circulation and consider this a project of titanic importance. This project will benefit local and regional residents, businesses and visitors. It is for these reasons VVTA offers its support to the completion of this project so vital for our community. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kane', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kevin Kane
Executive Director
Victor Valley Transit Authority