May 5, 2020

The Honorable Elaine Chao

Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

Napa County is in full support of the application of the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) to the United States Department of Transportation’s Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD 2020) competitive grant program for the Soscol Junction Interchange project.

NVTA is requesting $18 million in BUILD funds and will provide a match using a mix of, State Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Measure 3 and local funds for a total project cost of $64 million. This is the highest transportation priority for NVTA and the local community. The project is identified in the Countywide Transportation Plan and is currently funded in the State Transportation Improvement Program. The project is consistent with the Regional, State and Federal Transportation Planning Goals identified in California’s Transportation Plan 2040 and the Regional Transportation Plan, Plan Bay Area 2040.

The main transportation artery in the Valley is State Route (SR) 29, which runs north-south, serving as a lifeline for all six jurisdictions in Napa County. The continued population growth of the southern part of the Valley, coupled with over 4 million visitors per year has caused excessive congestion and delays on the SR 29 corridor. The Soscol Junction project will include operational and multimodal improvements at the intersection of SR 29/SR 221/Soscol Ferry Road, which is currently a signalized intersection. The Project will eliminate the traffic signal and elevate SR 29 to be a free flowing north-south connection with SR 221 constructed below grade with roundabouts facilitating turning movements on and off the highways.

The Soscol Junction intersection project will provide additional safety for all modes but especially bicyclist and pedestrians by providing a dedicated class I multipurpose path around the intersection. The project will also serve transit by improving a major intersection that is within 1.5 miles from the future Vine Transit maintenance facility.

We strongly support this project and recommend it be funded under the U.S. BUILD Grant.

Please contact Danielle Schmitz ([707-259-5968 or dschmitz@nvta.ca.gov](mailto:707-259-5968%20or%20dschmitz@nvta.ca.gov)) should you have any questions or require additional information about this project.

Sincerely,

Diane Dillon

Chair, Napa County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Congressman Mike Thompson

Kate Miller, Executive Director, NVTA