

February 1, 2023

Toks Omishakin Secretary California State Transportation Agency 400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2340 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support for the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System's Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Cycle 6 Application

Dear Secretary Omishakin,

On behalf of <u>Climate Action Campaign</u>, I write to you today to support the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System's (MTS) application submitted to the California State Transportation Agency for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).

MTS's Zero-Emission Transit Enhancements 2.0 Project (Project) application includes a program of capital investments with a direct and meaningful benefit to disadvantaged and low-income neighborhoods designed to increase light rail and bus capacity, improve safety performance, increase ridership, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Specifically, the Project will build upon previous TIRCP investments and provide widespread infrastructure improvements along the Orange Line Trolley corridor, which will deliver improved safety benefits and reliability as well as increased speeds to allow for faster service. Additionally, the Project will install bus charging infrastructure to electrify the Kearny Mesa Division as part of the transition to a fully zero-emission bus fleet. The installation of charging infrastructure is critical to continue towards achieving regional climate and mobility goals as well as reaching a fully zero-emission bus fleet by 2040.

Together, these projects will increase light rail and bus capacity, improve safety performance, increase ridership, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, providing a substantial regional benefit. Climate Action Campaign respectfully requests your support in awarding MTS's TIRCP project proposal.

Sincerely,

Mikey Knab Director of Policy Climate Action Campaign