March 6, 2023

The Honorable Alex Padilla
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Padilla:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Monterey in support of fiscal year 2024 Community Project/Congressionally Directed Spending funding for the Monterey-Salinas Transit Hydrogen Fueling Facilities and Safety Modifications Project.

The Monterey-Salinas Transit Hydrogen Fueling Facilities and Safety Modifications Project would provide critical support for MST’s transition to zero-emission vehicles. The MST Zero Emissions Bus transition plan includes utilizing hydrogen fuel cell electric buses (FCEB) to continue to provide high-quality transit service in our region. In order to prepare for the transition to hydrogen fuel cell buses, MST existing facilities in Monterey and King City will need to be upgraded to hydrogen garage safety modifications and planning and pre-construction and site preparation activities conducted to prepare for hydrogen fuel dispensing. Thus, the facilities and safety modifications in this project request will directly benefit the residents of the City of Monterey who rely on public transportation to travel to work, school, medical appointments, or other essential aspects of everyday life.

The project will also bring positive benefits to our community by reducing air pollution and mitigating climate change through greenhouse gas emission reduction. The facility will be a regional resource that serves the public, being available for fueling private vehicles, freight and delivery operators and future school buses that use FCEB technology.

Please support this important request for federal funding to increase the opportunities for zero emissions hydrogen fueling in Monterey County.

Thank you,

Tyller Williamson
Mayor, City of Monterey