

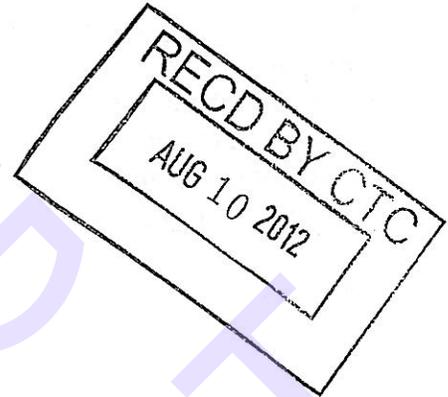


# CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

Home of The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

August 6, 2012

Ms. Bimla Rhinehart, Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N St., Room 2222 (MS 52)  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Ms. Rhinehart:

I am writing to provide the City of Simi Valley's full support for the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink) nomination of crossings at Sycamore Drive, Erringer Road, and First Street for Proposition 1B Highway-Rail Crossing Safety Account, Part 2, (HRCSA) Round 2 funding. These three grade crossing improvements are part of the Metrolink Sealed Corridor Program, a comprehensive program to enhance the safety of trains, passengers, motorists, pedestrians and the community along the railroad corridors.

In addition to providing important safety improvements to Simi Valley, the nominated crossings each satisfy the criteria outlined in the HRCSA program guidelines. Specifically:

- a. The crossings are in the Metrolink system on a segment that serves at least 26 weekday passenger trains and at least seven weekday freight trains.
- b. The crossings have shown a high incidence of motor vehicle-rail and pedestrian-rail collisions.
- c. The proposed improvements will result in savings in both rail and roadway traffic delay due to elimination of the above collisions.
- d. The proposed improvements will result in emission reductions due to the elimination idling of motor vehicle and rail vehicles associated with delays accompanying the aforementioned collisions and incidents.
- e. The proposed projects will improve the operational flow of trains, surface street vehicles, and pedestrians due to the reduction/elimination of the above collisions.

Additionally, these proposed projects meet Metrolink's Sealed Corridor Standard for improving grade crossings across the Metrolink rail network.

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Although not required for Part 2, previously approved Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) funding will provide 51.73% of the total project cost for First Street and 69.99% of the total project cost for Sycamore Drive and Erringer Road, respectively. Your investment in these projects will enhance safety at some of the busiest crossings in Southern California and further Metrolink's Sealed Corridor program. I thank you in advance for your review and support of these applications. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Louise Rice, Metrolink's Strategic Programming and Development Manager, at [ricea@scrra.net](mailto:ricea@scrra.net) or (213) 452-0211.

Sincerely,

  
Laura Behjan  
City Manager

cc: Director of Public Works  
Assistant Public Works Director/B. Siemer  
Senior Engineer/F. Miran  
Senior Management Analyst/S. Argabrite  
Teresa Favila/California Transportation Commission  
Anne Louise Rice/SCRRRA