



COUNTY OF LAKE

Board of Supervisors

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January 14, 2020

Lisa Davey-Bates, Executive Director
Lake Transit Authority
367 N. State Street, Suite 204
Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: North State Intercity Bus System- Lake County Interregional Transit Center

Dear Ms. Davey-Bates:

This letter is written in support of Lake Transit Authority's (LTA) application for a Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grant to develop a regional transit center in the City of Clearlake, along with expanded infrastructure and services linking LTA to out-of-county urban areas.

The public transit services provided by Lake Transit are an essential means of transportation for many of the region's low-income and disabled residents. The current transfer site is located in a busy commercial parking lot in the City of Clearlake, and there are a number of concerns involving congestion, delay and safety that result from this. The proposed new facility would alleviate many such problems, making for a safer and more attractive location for the services of Lake Transit. Furthermore, as the proposed transit center would include new infrastructure for zero-emission buses for use in expanding local transit services to out-of-County locations, it would provide an environmentally friendly means of connecting Lake County to facilities in urban areas of the State.

The proposed project is located within walking distance of the highest density residential areas of the entire county, also known as Clearlake's Chapman Track, and would provide easy access to all commercial, educational, healthcare, and civic needs for those who live nearby as well as to all who live in Lake County. Not only will those living nearby have access to transit to take them out of county or to surrounding areas throughout the county, such as Lakeport and its many amenities, but the transit center will be a key drop off point for those living around the county as well for the amenities found nearby in this Clearlake region. Nearby the transit center there is a high school, community college, courthouse, Behavioral Health branch, and a shopping center consisting of fast food restaurants, Walmart, Big 5, Tractor Supply, and more.

Construction of the proposed transit hub would be a benefit to the future of Clearlake as well as to the region as a whole. The ability to provide more efficient operations and also to attract new ridership would further help to reduce the region's reliance on single occupancy vehicles, ultimately working towards State goals to curtail greenhouse gases. Overall, the project would serve the needs of our economically disadvantaged area while also benefiting larger and longer-term environmental goals.

We fully support the request and respectfully urge the State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) to approve funding for this important project.

Sincerely,

LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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