## SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESCUE FIRE

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January 29, 2018

California Transportation Commission Susan Bransen, Executive Director 1120 N Street, MS-52 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: 2018 Local Partnership Program (LPP)/Ranchero Road Widening Project

Dear Executive Director Bransen:

Thank you for your commitment to investing in our nation's infrastructure. I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the City of Hesperia's Ranchero Road Widening Project, the final phase of three phases of the Ranchero Road Corridor Project that will improve east-west traffic circulation in the High Desert of San Bernardino County.

The proposed LPP grant project includes widening a five-mile stretch of Ranchero Road between the Interstate 15 (I-15) Interchange at Ranchero Road and the Underpass at Ranchero Road and the BNSF Railway tracks. The project also includes curbs, pedestrian and cyclist improvements, aqueduct bridge crossing, at-grade railroad crossing, drainage system improvements, utility relocations and traffic signal installations.

The Ranchero Road Corridor Project, with its direct access to I-15, is recognized as a project of regional significance by facilitating interregional connectivity and interregional movement of people and goods. As a major north-south freeway corridor, I-15 is the primary transportation connection between San Diego and Los Angeles, and the High Desert, Las Vegas, Salt Lake City and points beyond and is identified as a high priority corridor for transportation improvements and goods movement in San Bernardino County and throughout the Inland Empire.

With Phase I and II of the Ranchero Road Corridor Project completed, this Ranchero Road Widening Project, which is Phase III of this Corridor, is essential because it will improve motorist circulation and air quality; facilitate freight movement thereby promoting commerce; reduce congestion and greenhouse gases; improve safety response times for emergency vehicles; and improve the City's ability to accommodate future growth.

I am proud to support the City of Hesperia's efforts to pursue \$3.9 million for the LPP project. As the City and region continues to experience rapid growth, it is more important than ever that infrastructure be updated to meet the growing needs of its residents. I respectfully ask that you give serious consideration to this worthwhile project.

Best Regards.

Ron Walls

Hesperia Fire Chief

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