

March 15, 2024

The Honorable Administrator Michael S. Regan
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Subject: Letter of Commitment for Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Application – Implement Transit Signal Priority (TSP) Programs to Reduce Wait Times and Idling for Public Transit

Dear Administrator Michael S. Regan,

The City of San Jose is committed to working with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) to deliver the multi-jurisdictional Transit Signal Priority (TSP) Programs to Reduce Wait Times and Idling for Public Transit project proposed in VTA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) application. The project will implement TSP technologies that keep buses moving through intersections, making transit services faster and more reliable. The TSP measures will reduce GHG emissions and air pollution by minimizing idling time at intersections, improving the flow of transit vehicle traffic, and promoting mode shift behaviors by making transit a more attractive and efficient way to travel.

City of Jose staff previously collaborated with VTA to advance the TSP Programs to Reduce Wait Times and Idling for Public Transit project in 2022/2023 when VTA was awarded a Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant to develop a Systems Engineering Management Plan (SEMP).

To build off the success of the SMART grant and to support VTA in delivering the TSP Programs to Reduce Wait Times and Idling for Public Transit project, the City of San Jose is committed to the following:

This commitment is new, specific, and measurable because the City of San Jose Council adopted a Transit First policy on July 29, 2022. For the first time, the City has policy direction to prioritize transit operations in its plans and decision-making. This policy is critical because, as the roadway owner of 70% of VTA's bus routes and the home of most of the Disadvantaged Communities in the County, our operational decisions, combined with the TSP deployment, will improve transit speed and reliability. Faster transit speeds combined with the potential intersection efficiencies for all vehicles will also help the city work towards reducing vehicle miles traveled by 57% by 2050.

With our commitment comes experience collaborating with VTA to test centralized TSP in a pilot on one of the City's streets using VTA Route 77. This experience makes the City uniquely positioned to inform the TSP implementation process and share lessons learned with the rest of the project's partners.

If VTA is awarded this grant opportunity, CSJ-DOT looks forward to collaborating with VTA to deliver seamless TSP within the City of San Jose and across multiple jurisdictions in Santa Clara County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ho Nguyen', with a stylized, elongated loop at the end.

Ho Nguyen
ITS Manager
City of San Jose, Department of Transportation