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March 17, 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 the VTA Visionary Transit Network

Dear Administrator Michael S. Regan,

The Milpitas Unified School District is committed to working with the City of Milpitas and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) to help implement the Visionary Transit Network in Santa Clara County.

VTA's CPRG application requests funding to improve the City of Milpitas' SMART microtransit service by converting the existing microtransit fleet to electric vehicles (EVs), increasing the number of microtransit vehicles in service, and expanding the microtransit service hours. This measure supports VTA's county-wide Visionary Transit Network by reducing the impact of *first* and *last mile* barriers to existing fixed-route services and by promoting mode shifts away from single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips. In addition, this measure will address historic transportation inequities and mobility gaps in Milpitas by expanding access to safe and affordable travel options, enhancing multimodal connectivity, and improving quality-of-life outcomes.

Our commitment to VTA for the CPRG application includes the following responsibilities:

- Partnering with the City of Milpitas to provide transportation for our youth and young adults who are or are at-risk of being unhoused (per McKinney Vento qualifications)
- Promoting the SMART program to our families via social media and school to home flyers

The School District is firmly committed to this measure because microtransit lowers the barriers to accessing essential educational opportunities and provides safe, affordable mobility options for students who live outside the fixed-route network or where fixed-route service is infrequent. The existing SMART service has proven effective in connecting students to schools and public libraries and offering a mobility option for students in early morning or evening extracurricular programs. In addition, improving access to public libraries provides at-risk students with a safe and positive place to study and spend their time. If VTA is awarded the CPRG funding to expand the SMART service, we strongly believe these benefits will be available to a greater number of students, especially for students who may feel isolated and unable to access the same opportunities as their peers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Jordan".

Cheryl Jordan
Superintendent