



# SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

*Leo Zuber*

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CITIES OF  
ESCALON,  
LATHROP,  
LODI,  
MANTECA,  
RIPON,  
STOCKTON,  
TRACY,  
AND  
THE COUNTY OF SAN  
JOAQUIN

The Honorable Jerry McNerney  
2265 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Josh Harder  
209 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives McNerney and Harder:

The San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOC) would like to thank you for your efforts this year in supporting legislation to ensure the region can address our critical infrastructure needs. Members of the SJCOC were especially pleased by the restoration of Congressionally Designated Projects this year, which have allowed members of the House of Representative to pursue funding for significant local projects. Your advocacy on behalf of several Community Project Funding and Member Designated Project requests in our region was essential to their inclusion in the FY22 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriations bill (H.R. 4550) and the *Invest in America Act (H.R. 2)*.

As you are aware, the Senate-passed *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684)* does not include Member Designated Projects, however, we understand that there are ongoing efforts to include these projects through reconciliation in the historic Build Back Better Act. We hope that these funds will ultimately be included in a final bill, and we encourage you to support and participate in the efforts of Chairman DeFazio and other House members advocating for the inclusion of Member Designated Projects. We also request that Community Project Funding requests remain in the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations bills, after consideration and negotiations with the Senate.

The COG supports six projects that were designated to receive Congressionally Directed Spending. Three of these projects were included in the House T-HUD appropriations bill, and three projects were included in the House-passed Invest in America Act bill. Those projects are listed below.

*Invest in America Act Projects*

- 1) Port of Stockton, CUFC Washington Street Widening Project (\$1,200,000)
- 2) Stockton Rail Maintenance Facility Expansion (\$6,715,000)
- 3) San Joaquin Regional Transit District, Solar Energy Project (\$5,300,000)

*House Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriations Projects*

- 1) Valley Link, North Lathrop Transfer Station (\$1,500,000)
- 2) ACE, Manteca Station Rider Safety Improvement/Station Modernization (\$4,485,000)

3) ACE, Locomotive Zero Emission Engine Conversion (\$1,500,000)

These projects represent over \$20,000,000 in proposed investments to help us improve our regional transportation systems, provide more efficient, resilient, and accessible service to the millions of people who utilize our transportation infrastructure, and advance the goals of the San Joaquin Council of Governments and the participating local jurisdictions.

We are also highly appreciative to you both for your nominations of SJCOG's priority project, Route 99/120 interchange. While this project did not end up in the current version of the infrastructure bill, we know your advocacy work for 99/120 remains just as strong and steadfast. SJCOG fully recognizes that your continued efforts will be instrumental in moving Route 99/120 into construction next year. Our office will be working with you on strategic funding approaches to leverage and to open other ladders of opportunities.

We are grateful for your efforts to date to secure Congressionally directed spending for these important local projects. In the critical weeks ahead, The San Joaquin Council of Governments asks for your continued advocacy to ensure our requests are ultimately funded. Please let us know if we can provide any additional information that would be helpful as discussions continue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo Zuber", written over a horizontal line.

Leo Zuber  
SJCOG Board Chair & City of Ripon Councilmember

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane Nguyen", written over a horizontal line.

Diane Nguyen  
SJCOG Executive Director