



March 25, 2021

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta
United States House of Representatives
406 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for Monterey-Salinas Transit's South Monterey County Zero Emission Bus and Infrastructure Local Transportation Priority Community Project

Dear Honorable Panetta:

LandWatch Monterey County strongly supports Monterey-Salinas Transit's (MST) request for funding from the Local Transportation Priority Community Project program.

MST is requesting \$1.8 million dollars to continue expansion of its electric bus fleet. In a unique public-private partnership, MST is currently working with BYD (bus manufacturer), and ChargePoint (electric infrastructure) on this and other similar projects. The resulting project will remove two fossil fuel powered buses from circulation and replace them with brand new all-electric buses and install the necessary charging infrastructure at MST's new South County Operations and Maintenance Facility.

Replacing fossil fuel powered buses with zero emission electric vehicles demonstrates MST's commitment to reducing greenhouse gases from the public transit sector as well as its commitment to improve regional air quality. Overall, new buses will help MST promote energy efficiency, reduce emissions, and decrease local dependence on oil and gas.

I urge you to give this application your full consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact at (650) 291-4991.

Sincerely,

Michael D. DeLapa
Executive Director