

RAUL RUIZ, M.D.
Member of Congress
36th District of California

## Washington, D.C. Office: 2342 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: 202-225-5330

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3605

January 3, 2022

California Department of Transportation 1120 N Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Letter of Support: City of Blythe and the Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency

To the California Department of Transportation:

I write in support of the City of Blythe and the Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency's (PVVTA) application for funding from the Caltrans Clean California Grant Program. If awarded, this funding would be used to beautify the southern area of the City of Blythe, encourage outdoor public engagement in the region, and improve transit stops throughout the Palo Verde Valley.

As the Representative of California's 36th Congressional District, I understand the impact that improving access to outdoor areas and public transit would have on the lives of the individuals I serve and represent. Caltrans funds would be used to beautify Miller Park and surrounding areas in southern Blythe, creating a safe and welcoming environment for Blythe residents. The addition of solar LED lighting and accessible parking would encourage community use of the area, increasing the number of outdoor events and redesigning public access to the park.

Further, by enhancing public transit stops through the addition of decorative walls and increased lighting, the project would promote sustainable travel through the Palo Verde Valley. Residents will be given increased access to local businesses, schools, and offices. PVVTA and the City of Blythe's collaboration on these redesigned spaces will simultaneously promote economic opportunity and community engagement.

I believe that the City of Blythe and PVVTA have the capacity to successfully beautify southern Blythe and surrounding areas while improving public transit throughout the Palo Verde Valley. For this reason, I support their joint application for Caltrans Clean California Grant Program funding and urge full and fair consideration, consistent with all relevant program rules and regulations. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact my office at (760) 424-8888.

Sincerely,

Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Member of Congress