

From: West, Jack
Sent: Tue, 18 Feb 2025 15:44:16 +0000
To: Matesic, Hannah (OST)
Subject: California Central Coast and Central Valley Delegation Letter of Support - SR-152
Raise BUILD Application
Attachments: Central Valley - Central Coast SR152 BUILD Grant LoS.pdf

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Hi Hannah,

Please find attached a letter of support from Reps. Costa, Panetta, Swalwell, Khanna, Liccardo, Gray, Lofgren, DeSaulnier, and Harder for the SR-152 BUILD Grant application. Please let me know if there are any questions. I also sent this to the general inbox for congressional affairs at DOT. Thanks!



Jack West | He/Him
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Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority BUILD Grant Program Application for Fiscal Year 2025

Dear Secretary Duffy:

As more prolonged drought conditions and extreme weather events have continued to adversely affect California's water supply, we write in support of the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority's (Water Authority) application for FY2025 funding from the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program for the State Route (SR) 152 modification project. This project is a key component of the overall B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion project that will enhance resiliency and sustainability in California water by creating an additional 130,000 acre-feet of storage space in San Luis Reservoir.

SR-152 is an essential commute route for residents of Merced, Santa Clara, and San Benito Counties and an essential freight link in the state. This travel artery has no existing transit options and is a critical transportation link for the agricultural interests and low-income residents who work in and near Merced County, as well as those commuters in Silicon Valley who reside in Merced County. These funds will go towards providing climate adaptation features, which include the preservation and protection of critical transportation and environmental infrastructure that will ultimately help this project go from plan to completion.

The SR-152 Modification Project will elevate SR-152 above the new high-water line of the reservoir and improve the seismic safety of the existing roadway. The plans for this project will raise the B.F. Sisk Dam by ten feet and provide 130,000 acre-feet of desperately needed additional off-stream water storage. This effort will combat climate change and provide a more reliable water supply for the Water Authority member agencies, which serve numerous disadvantaged communities.

Given the potential benefits of the project to increase water supply and enhance resiliency against future drought conditions, we urge the Department of Transportation give full and fair consideration to the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority's FY2025 BUILD Grant application. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,