February 24, 2025

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| The Honorable Sean Duffy Secretary of the US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington DC, 20590  |  |

Dear Secretary Duffy:

On behalf of the Sun Valley Citizen Advisory Board, I am writing to express our strong support for the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Washoe County's application for the PROTECT Grant for the Sun Valley Community Gateway Project. This critical initiative, developed in partnership with the Nevada Department of Transportation, addresses key infrastructure vulnerabilities while enhancing the quality of life for the Sun Valley community.

Sun Valley Boulevard serves as a vital corridor in our community, yet it remains flood-prone and lacks the necessary infrastructure to support safe and reliable transportation. The Sun Valley Community Gateway Project aims to improve the resilience of this roadway, ensuring its accessibility to all modes of transportation during adverse weather conditions. By upgrading the drainage system and implementing enhanced pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit facilities, this project will foster a more connected, safe and vibrant community.

Securing this grant funding is essential to addressing the long-standing challenges associated with inadequate drainage infrastructure. The lack of capacity in the existing system causes significant runoff and sediment to flood the roadway and adjacent properties, creating hazardous conditions for residents and businesses. Constructing a new enclosed drainage system will mitigate peak flows in the Sun Valley Wash, a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. These measures will enhance flood protection and expand mobility options by creating opportunities for multimodal transportation improvements.

These upgrades will improve community connectivity and increase access to housing, jobs, education, and recreational opportunities. Additionally, the project aligns with broader goals of equity and sustainability, addressing the needs of a historically disadvantaged and overburdened community.

We believe this project will create valuable jobs while delivering lasting benefits to the residents of Sun Valley. By improving critical infrastructure and enhancing transportation options, this project represents a significant step toward building a more resilient and inclusive future for our community.

Thank you for considering the RTC’s application for this transformative initiative. We urge your full support to ensure its successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Michael Rider

Chair, Sun Valley CAB