June 22, 2020

Metropolitan Transportation Commission Bay Area Metro Center 375 Beale Street, Suite 800 San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Re: State Route 262 (SR 262) Cross-Connector Project

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Tesla, Inc., in strong support of the SR 262 project in the City of Fremont. By separating the grade at Warms Springs Blvd., eliminating traffic signals, and undertaking other improvements, this project would significantly alleviate traffic congestion along the most congested state route in the Bay Area, improve multi-modal access, and, importantly, reduce vehicle fatality risk.

Tesla's mission is to accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy. Our only North American factory is located in Fremont and we are the largest manufacturing employer in California, employing over 10,000 workers in Fremont and over 20,000 in the state. By electrifying the transportation sector and decarbonizing electricity production, substantial progress can be made in addressing climate change and the serious threat it poses.

Tesla is proud to have manufacturing operations in Fremont. As the only auto manufacturer at scale remaining in the state, we offer skilled manufacturing jobs and long-term career paths unlike any other employer in the state. Because of this, many of our workers commute from the Central Valley communities like Tracy, Stockton, and Modesto and rely on SR 262 to reach our factory from I-680. The SR 262 project would significantly alleviate commute times for these workers and as a result enhance their overall work experience and quality of life.

Our supply chain would also benefit. Auto manufacturing relies on parts and components from a complex network of local, regional, and out-of-state suppliers. For example, we ship heavy-duty parts from our die casting facility in Lathrop, CA, and SR 262, again, is a key link to our factory. Any alleviation of congestion via the SR 262 project would enhance our "just-in-time" manufacturing operations while reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from heavy-duty vehicles, benefiting the environment and residents that live along the SR 262 corridor.

For these reasons, we ask that you approve and fund the SR 262 project. Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me at <u>dchia@tesla.com</u> or 510-299-0210 for any questions.

Sincerely,

Dan Chia Senior Manager Public Policy & Business Development



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