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June 4, 2022

The Honorable Lena Gonzalez  
Senate Transportation Committee, Chair  
State Capitol, Room 405  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2237 (Friedman) Transportation Planning: regional transportation improvement plan: sustainable communities strategies: climate goals – OPPOSE**

Dear Chair Gonzalez:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and state designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency for the Madera Region, I am writing to express our **opposition to AB 2237**, which would undermine local control and our fiduciary responsibility to deliver projects on voter-approved projects on the state highway system and assisting with state and regional mobility and air quality priorities.

AB 2237 would sever the state and local partnership by allowing the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and California Transportation Commission (CTC) to select projects from a voter-approved transportation local sales tax expenditure plan to determine which are compliant with the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI). If a project is determined to be non-compliant, local agencies would be prohibited from delivering that project. This bill undercuts the full benefit of previous investments for safety improvements or congestion management, particularly for disadvantaged communities in the San Joaquin Valley, who must contend with a high volume of commercial truck traffic and super commute to places of employment. Completion of corridors that facilitate goods movement and tourism and serve as evacuation routes would also be impacted. The Governor's plan to site as many as four inland ports in the San Joaquin Valley further underscores the need to update the state highway system.

Our region has made a commitment to local voters to deliver the investments that our voter-approved Measure T expenditure plan promised. A key part of keeping our promises is to secure state matching funds to pair with our local investments on state assets, since our county does not generate enough in local sales tax revenues to make up for the disproportionate cost of delivering projects. Therefore, a strong partnership with the state is mandatory.

This bill is also duplicative of existing law, which already requires agencies such as MCTC in consultation with state agencies, to prepare and adopt regional transportation plans which demonstrate growth in a financially and environmentally responsible way while contributing to the state's goals of reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and miles driven on the road.

**Member Agencies: County of Madera, City of Madera, City of Chowchilla**

For these reasons, we ask you to oppose AB 2237 when it is heard in your Senate Committee on Transportation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, at (916) 605-8975 or [gus@khouriconsult.com](mailto:gus@khouriconsult.com).

Sincerely,



Patricia Taylor  
Executive Director

cc: Members of the Senate Transportation Committee  
The Honorable Laura Friedman, Assembly Member, 43<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Frank Bigelow, Assembly Member, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 12<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Adam Gray, Assembly Member, 21<sup>st</sup> District