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May 5, 2023

Javier Almaguer  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
2015 Shields Avenue, Suite 100  
Fresno CA, 93726-5428

**RE: Support for State Route 99 Safety and Goods Movement, Delano to Pixley Project Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment**

Dear Mr. Almaguer,

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), please accept this letter of support for the State Route 99 (SR 99) Safety and Goods Movement, Delano to Pixley Project Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment. The Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) in partnership with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

The project is located along SR 99, from the City of Delano in Kern County to Pixley in Tulare County (13.5 miles in Tulare County, 1.1 miles in Kern County). The project was originally a State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) pavement rehabilitation project which required temporary travel lanes within the existing median of SR 99. Converting the temporary travel lanes to permanent lanes results in over \$80 million in savings versus the SHOPP project and widening project being completed separately. Non-SHOPP funding such as SR 99 Proposition 1B and Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 are being used for the capacity increasing portion of the project.

This Project will improve safety, reduce congestion, increase connectivity, improve travel-time reliability of time-sensitive goods, and preserve acceptable facility operation on SR 99. The 2020 annual daily truck traffic is 24% of total traffic and the number of truck trips is expected to double within 20 years. Traffic projections indicate current capacity will be exceeded within 15 years, resulting in greater delays, congestion, and safety issues.

Completion of this vital project on SR 99 achieves goals beyond the borders of the Tulare region but of those important to the rest of the San Joaquin Valley and California. SR 99 is known as the backbone of California, it is a major goods movement state

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

highway connecting southern and northern California through the major cities of the San Joaquin Valley. SR 99 is on the National Primary Freight Network and has high truck volumes. Adverse impacts from congestion, fatal accidents, and poor air quality are improved through the completion of projects like the SR 99 Safety and Goods Movement, Delano to Pixley Project.

The MCTC supports the SR 99 Safety and Goods Movement, Delano to Pixley Project and the thorough effort put towards preparing its Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Assessment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia Taylor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patricia Taylor  
Executive Director  
Madera County Transportation Commission