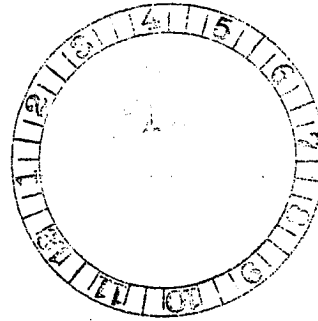


DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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January 6, 2004

Linda Wilshusen
Executive Director
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
1523 Pacific Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060-3911

Dear Ms. Wilshusen:

As discussed at the Route 1 HOV Project Development Team meeting in December, we are initiating a Project Study Report (PSR) to consider alternatives for a southbound Auxiliary Lane between Bay/Porter and Park Avenue. This PSR, to be prepared by Caltrans staff, is being initiated as a SHOPP candidate. If a suitable alternative is found, the project would compete with other SHOPP Mobility candidates statewide for funding in the 2006 SHOPP.

This PSR will build on recent efforts that have studied improvements in this area and will be done in coordination with ongoing efforts. The design team will coordinate with Nolte Engineering and the SCR 1 HOV Project Development Team members while preparing the document. The PSR will consider area interchange and ramp improvements that are being refined as part of the HOV widening project and replacement or reconstruction of existing structures will be designed to minimize or eliminate throwaway improvements.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (805) 549-3612.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Eades".

Scott Eades
Operational Systems Coordinator

c: Rich Krumholz, Caltrans Deputy District Director - Planning and Local Programs
Paul McClintic, Caltrans Traffic Operations Engineer

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