



ASSOCIATION OF MONTEREY BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

February 9, 2005

The Honorable Sam Farr
U.S. Representative
California 17th District
1221 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0517

Attn: Ms. Debbie Merrill

Re: TEA-21 Reauthorization Monterey Bay Region Priority Transportation Projects
Endorsement

Dear Congressman Farr:

At their meeting this evening, the Board of Directors of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), the Monterey Bay region Metropolitan Planning Organization, endorsed the following agencies' (in alphabetical order) requests for priority project consideration under the TEA-21 Reauthorization.

Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)

- Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail - as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), AMBAG supports the planning, construction and completion of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail

Council of San Benito County Governments (SBtCOG)

- SR 25 Hollister to Gilroy 4-Lane Widening/Safety Improvements Project - \$8.5 million for plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E) and/or construction

Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST)

- Bus Fleet Replacement - \$5.6 million for bus acquisition

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) – in priority order

- Highway 1 Soquel/Morrissey Merge Lanes Project - \$ 9.85 million for plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E) and/or construction

The Honorable Sam Farr
February 9, 2005
Page 2

Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC)

- Airport Boulevard Interchange at U.S. 101 (Salinas) - \$15 million for right-of-way and/or construction to facilitate interstate agricultural traffic
- Highway 156 Widening and U.S. 101/Hwy 156 Interchange (Castroville) - \$10 million to assist in relieving gridlock on this important gateway corridor to the Monterey Peninsula
- Rail Service to Monterey County – TEA Reauthorization listing as eligible for New Starts funding

We respectfully request your support for these proposals. AMBAG Executive Director, Nicolas Papadakis, or I would be more than pleased to talk with you to discuss this endorsement. Thank you for your continued assistance to the Monterey Bay region.

Sincerely,



Ralph Rubio
President

Cc: Alec Arago, 17th District Regional Office
Richard Scagliotti, Council of San Benito County Governments
Fernando Armenta, Monterey-Salinas Transit
Jan Beautz, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
Emily Reilly, Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
Ralph Rubio, Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Gregg Albright, Caltrans District 5
Gene Fong, FHWA CA Division

8-4