

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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ATTACHMENT - 2



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

February 14, 2005

Honorable Samuel Farr
United States House of Representatives
1221 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0517

Dear Congressman Farr:

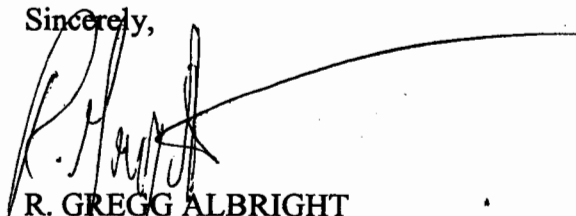
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY IMPROVEMENTS ON HIGHWAY 1

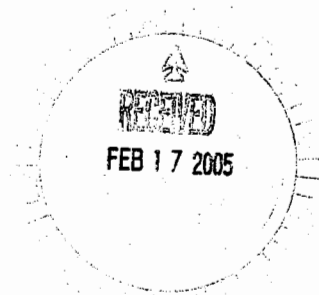
The California Department of Transportation (Department) District 5 is pleased to have an opportunity to comment on this proposed project for the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC). This project consists of northbound and southbound auxiliary lanes on Highway 1 in Santa Cruz County between the Soquel Avenue and Morrissey Boulevard interchanges. Additionally, this project will provide improved pedestrian and bicycle access, as well as soundwalls where needed.

This project was identified as one of five improvements listed in a 1997 Project Study Report (PSR – EA-45030K) for the Highway 1 corridor. This project is consistent with the Highway 1 - High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane project (EA 0C7300), which is currently in the development process and involves alternatives including auxiliary lanes in this same corridor. The Department strongly supports these auxiliary lanes as a logical step to reducing congestion along the Highway 1 corridor by improving traffic flow and merging opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer the Department's support for this project.

Sincerely,


R. GREGG ALBRIGHT
District Director
Caltrans – District 5



c: Pat Dellin, Executive Director, SCCRTC

"Caltrans improves mobility across California"

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