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FRANK BIGELOW
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June 20, 2018

Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission
2001 Howard Road, Suite 201
Madera, CA 93637

Re: Support Madera Region SR 99 Widening Project

Dear Ms. Taylor,

I am writing to express support for the Madera County Transportation Commission's regionally significant project currently under consideration for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program funding. I support the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) BUILD grant application for the California State Route 99 – Avenue 12 to Avenue 17 in Madera County – widen from 4-6 lanes project. Federal funding for this project will assist in enhancing a vital freight corridor through California. MCTC has also contributed \$2.6 million in local transportation measure funds.

SR 99 serves as the backbone of the Central Valley's agriculture economy. Identified in the California Freight Plan, this shovel-ready project would strengthen a major goods movement section of SR 99 through the City of Madera and reduce the time it takes for perishable commodities to go from farm to markets throughout the United States and around the world. Renewed investment in this critical route will improve safety, reduce congestion, and better facilitate the flow of goods and services in the San Joaquin Valley. Furthermore, funding this shovel-ready project will stimulate job creation in an area faced with high unemployment.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project application for BUILD program funding. I appreciate the opportunity to support the Madera County Transportation Commission in their efforts to complete this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Bigelow".

Frank Bigelow
Assemblymember, 5th District