



July 13, 2018

9300 Valley Children's Place  
Madera, CA 93636

(559) 353-3000  
valleychildrens.org

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support Madera Region SR 99 Widening Project

Dear Secretary Chao,

On behalf of Valley Children's Healthcare in Madera California, I am writing to express strong support for the Madera County Transportation Commission's regionally significant project currently under consideration for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program.

Valley Children's fully supports 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 passenger and freight traffic corridor through California.

State Road 99 (SR 99) serves as the backbone of the Central Valley's economy and way of life. Identified in the California Freight Plan, this project will strengthen major goods and people movement section of SR 99 through the City of Madera. This project will reduce the transit time for perishable commodities being shipped from farms to markets throughout the United States and around the world. Additionally, of significant importance to Valley Children's, the project will also make it easier for the thousands of families that live north of the City of Madera to take their children to our hospital for needed specialty care services.

Renewed investment in this critical route will improve safety, reduce congestion, and allow for future development along the corridor leading to job creation in an area faced with continued high unemployment.

Due to the foregoing reasons we support the full funding of this application. If you have any questions I can be reached at 559-353-8610.

Sincerely,

Tim Curley  
Director of Community and Government Relations