



Development Services Department  
Building & Engineering Division  
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May 19, 2009

Mr. Doug Failing  
Director, Caltrans District 7  
100 South Main Street, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Failing:

SUBJECT: Commendation of Employees

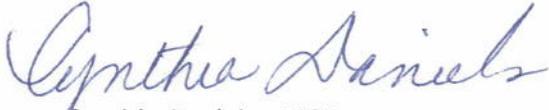
I am writing today to commend several of your employees who worked with the City on the Rice Avenue/Santa Clara Avenue interchange improvements at Highway 101 in Ventura County. This project was established in 1987 to rebuild the interchange in anticipation of population growth and to mitigate existing problems with congestion from trucks and automobiles. In the past several years, Hamid Toossi and Hector Bedolla have assisted us with the design review and oversight. Linda Tong provided assistance and encouragement through the right of way acquisition and relocation effort. David Lewis provided assistance with the environmental review. Each of these employees went out of their way, in my opinion, to assist us with the complexities in navigating the Caltrans processes to get this project approved.

Hamid Toossi was always gracious and supportive as the design engineer. Hector Bedolla, who became our main contact for design within the last year or so, likewise provided untiring support, remaining pleasant and helpful through many long meetings. Linda Tong was especially helpful through the right of way phase. I believe she genuinely wanted to see us succeed with this endeavor. David Lewis was helpful with the environmental review by offering suggestions for improvements and alternatives. He helped with the process for reviewing the existing environmental documents as well as the environmental re-evaluation. Each of these people served as appropriate advocates for us during the oversight. I know Caltrans hires competent people. These four individuals were obviously competent. They stand out because they also helped us in obvious and subtle ways that allowed the City and its consultants to complete the project. As I reflect on my experiences on this project with Caltrans, it is these employees' attitudes towards the City that made a positive difference. There is no doubt that many other employees involved with this project provided valuable contributions toward our success as well.

I am personally grateful for the service I received on the City's behalf. I hope you will give some recognition to Hamid, Hector, Linda, and David for their service to us. Please feel free to call me at (805) 385-7871 if you have any questions.

Cordially,

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



Cynthia Daniels, AICP  
Project Manager

