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Daniel S. Little, Executive Director

June 17, 2015

Gabriel Corley, CTP Project Manager
Caltrans, Division of Transportation Planning MS-32
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

Dear Mr. Corley:

Thank you for accepting additional California Transportation Plan (CTP) comments. Caltrans and stakeholders are to be commended in their efforts to make the CTP responsive to greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies; however, the stated plan strategy to “avoid funding projects that add road capacity and increase maintenance costs,” and the statement “any transportation projects on the State Highway System or on local streets that are capacity increasing should not be supported for funding” should be removed.

Although this language does not prohibit projects that provide additional road capacity, it broad-brushes capacity projects as universally negative which is not always the case when balancing all transportation needs. The plan should support projects that, when weighed against their alternatives, produce the most effective solution to transporting people and goods in the state. The best projects will often be inconsistent with a policy to “avoid funding projects that add road capacity...” This strategy, therefore, is not warranted in the CTP which should objectively address the entire system—balancing environmental goals with safety, economic, mobility, and goods movement needs.

SRTA staff appreciates the opportunity to provide this clarification. Please do not hesitate to contact me, at either 530-262-6191 or dlittle@srta.ca.gov, if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Little", is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (MPO)

DSL/KKU/jac

C: Jerry Barton, California Rural Counties Task Force Chair
Lisa Davey-Bates, North State Super Region
Randall Echevarria, Rural Counties Representatives of California
Dave Moore, Caltrans District 2 Interim Director