

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Serious drought
Help save water!*

November 30, 2015

Ms. Maura Twomey
Executive Director
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)
445 Reservation Road, Suite G
Marina, CA 93933

Dear Ms. Twomey

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 5 is pleased to support the Salinas Valley Truck-to-Rail Facility Implementation Plan for consideration as a Pilot Project Idea within the California Sustainable Freight Action Plan. Such a facility would provide an efficient and sustainable option to ship agricultural products from the Salinas Valley to destinations throughout the United States. Currently, most agricultural goods leave the Salinas Valley by truck, leading to congestion on US 101, the region's single most valuable goods movement asset. Moving some of these goods by train could reduce congestion on US 101 and other roads by 10 percent, according to the AMBAG Salinas Valley Truck to Rail Intermodal Facility Feasibility Study (2011).

Thank you for consulting with us as you prepare the Pilot nomination. We look forward to working with you on this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aileen K. Loeb".

AILEEN K. LOE
Deputy District Director
Planning & Local Assistance

c. Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director, Transportation Agency for Monterey County