DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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Serious drought.
Help save water!

Tab 27

June 30, 2015

Mr. Will Kempton, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, MS - 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Kempton:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has completed the 2015 Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP). The 2015 ITSP was prepared to comply with California Government Code section 14524.4 requiring Caltrans to submit the ITSP to the California Transportation Commission (Commission) for approval on or before June 30, 2015. The final 2015 ITSP is enclosed for the Commission's consideration and adoption.

The 2015 ITSP incorporated the comments the Commission sent to Caltrans on June 2, 2015, as follows:

- Regional connections to major seaports and commercial airports were added to the interregional transportation priorities tables for the Strategic Interregional Corridors (Section 4.3).
- Interstate 5 was included as a Priority Interregional Facility in the South Coast-Central Coast Corridor (Section 4.3).
- State Route 74 was not included as a Priority Interregional Facility in the Southern California-Southern Nevada/Arizona Corridor since it was not a significant interregional freight corridor, which is the key priority for highway facility selection (Section 4.3).
- The link between the ITSP and the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program project selection process was clarified (Section 5.2 and 5.3).

If you have any questions about the ITSP, or require additional information, please contact Katie Benouar, Chief, Division of Transportation Planning, at (916) 653-1818 or katie.benouar@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

Enclosure

MEETING HANDOUT

TAB 27

STATE CAPITOL
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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
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California State Senate

SENATOR
TED GAINES
FIRST SENATE DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
VICE CHAIR
INSURANCE
VICE CHAIR
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS
TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING

August 18, 2015

Will Kempton, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, Room 2233 (MS-52)
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Executive Director Kempton,

We are writing regarding the recently released Draft 2015 Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) and urging the inclusion of US 395, state route 20 and state route 49 as identified Focus Routes. As members of the California State Legislature, we are aware of the need to prioritize and place transportation funding on projects that provide the highest benefit to our citizens. As recognized by the ITSP, the interregional transportation system must link regions together, urbanized and rural, to ensure a comprehensive transportation system. These corridors are important to that mission.

The 1998 ITSP noted that rural areas of the state contribute to the state's economic well-being and quality of life. The state has a vital interest in agriculture, mining, and timber production. Additionally, recreational travel and tourism are essential to the state and regional economies and are considered in all aspects of transportation planning. In the 1998 ITSP ten "Focus Routes" were identified as corridors of the highest priority for completion to minimum facility standards in the twenty-year period. Completion of the Focus Routes to a minimum facility standard would assure that a statewide trunk system is in place. Focus Routes serve as a system of high-volume primary arteries to which lower volume routes can connect for purposes of longer interregional trips and access into statewide gateways.

State Route 395 was considered one of the four major north-south corridors serving California, providing a consistent high level of service and lifeline accessibility for rural communities and for interregional and interstate movement of people, goods, and recreational travel along the eastern slope of the Sierras. State Routes 20 and 49 were also identified as Focus Routes as they serve the major east/west interregional movement for people and goods across the northern central Valley and link US 101, I-5, Route 99, Route 70 and I-80. These routes are part of a North state "crossroads" or "hub" for agricultural goods movement in the North Valley and through the Yuba City/Marysville urbanized area for connections to Routes 99 and70. These routes also connect the higher growth Route 49 corridor and Placer County to I-80.

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The 2015 ITSP identifies 11 Strategic Interregional Corridors for interregional travel in the State, provides new objectives that are consistent with the state sustainability policies, as well as Caltrans new Mission, Vision, and Goals. However, from the previously identified Focus Routes, US 395, state route 20 and state route 49 have been excluded from Strategic Interregional Corridors. As these corridors continue to be just as important as they were in 1998, we urge that they be re-included. Additionally, in order to preserve the ability of regional agencies to partner with Caltrans and jointly fund projects of interregional merit in the future it is important that these routes be included as part of the new Strategic Interregional Corridors in the 2015 ITSP.

Sincerely,

TED GAINES
Senator, 1st Senate District

BRIAN DAHLE
Assemblyman, 1st Assembly District

Cc:
Daniel B. Landon, Executive Director
Nevada County Transportation Commission
101 Providence Mine Road Ste. 102
Nevada City, CA 95959

Mike Woodman, Transportation Planner
Nevada County Transportation Commission

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