

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49
SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
PHONE (916) 654-5266
FAX (916) 654-6608
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



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March 12, 2012

Mr. Matt Machado
Director of Public Works
Stanislaus County
1716 Morgan Road
Modesto, CA 95358

Dear Mr. Machado:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) fully supports Stanislaus County's (County) TIGER 2012 application for the regionally significant Claribel Road Widening Project (Project). Caltrans recognizes the San Joaquin Valley is an important contributor of agricultural goods and products to the nation, within the global economy. Long-term economic stability is highly dependent on a road, rail and port transportation network that promotes efficient goods movement. The Project is an important component of that network.

This project is needed to manage growth in the region. It will promote multimodal transportation uses with the implementation of a new bus route and Class 1 bicycle lanes, along with goods movement between newly established commercial and industrial centers within the region. The Project is needed to manage existing operational deficiencies by providing additional capacity that will accommodate growth forecasts, including new jobs and traffic projections.

Stanislaus County will improve 2.1 miles of Claribel Road between Oakdale Road and McHenry Avenue (SR 108) to better accommodate existing and projected vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic anticipated from implementation of planned housing and business development in the Community of Salida Community and the cities of Riverbank, Modesto and Oakdale.

The current two lane configuration with a four way stop at Coffee Road will be widened to a four lane facility with a center median. Shoulders will be widened to include Class 1 Bike Lanes and a signal at the Claribel/Coffee intersection will be constructed. The Project will also widen a canal bridge. The design incorporates drainage swales and best management practices to manage storm water runoff and improve water quality. The new configuration will allow for implementation of a new bus route that will provide service to over 8,855 residents in the planning area.

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A successful TIGER award of \$6,300,000, along with \$4,150,000 in non-federal match and \$750,000 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds, will complete the overall project cost of \$11,200,000.

Caltrans looks forward to working with Stanislaus County to facilitate this Project should the U. S. Department of Transportation approve an award of National Infrastructure Investments "TIGER Discretionary Grants" (TIGER 2012) funds.

Sincerely,



MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Acting Director