



Building Industry Association  
of the San Joaquin Valley

December 14, 2005

The Honorable Sunne Wright-McPeak  
Secretary of the California Business  
Transportation & Housing Agency  
980 Ninth St. #2450  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Alan Lloyd  
Secretary of the California Environmental  
Protection Agency  
1001 I St.  
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Secretary Wright-McPeak and Secretary Lloyd,

The Building Industry Association of the San Joaquin Valley (BIA) is requesting that State Route 99 (SR 99) be given the highest priority for funding and action in the Goods Movement Action Plan being developed under your direction. This priority is of significant importance to the movement of goods and services through the San Joaquin Valley.

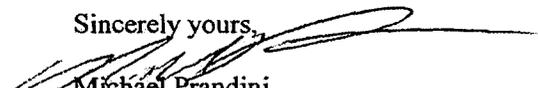
To be able to add new jobs in Fresno and Madera counties by 2008, which is a goal of the Regional Job Initiative and community leaders, and to build a more diversified Valley economy it is vitally important that SR 99 be improved. The restructuring of the Valley's economy will require a redress of decades of neglect of the Valley's physical infrastructure, especially SR 99.

The upgrade of SR 99 to an Interstate is a top priority of area representatives. A necessary step in that direction is the implementation of the Caltrans Master Plan for SR 99, developed and recently released by Caltrans under direction from Secretary McPeak. That plan needs to be implemented in the shortest possible time to relieve congestion, reduce emissions, and facilitate the movement of goods on SR 99.

Lack of investment in SR 99 would make the San Joaquin Valley the bottleneck for goods movement in California. SR 99 carries more goods than any other major north-south corridor in the country. It is the lifeline of the San Joaquin Valley and the commerce corridor for the State of California that is vital to the efficient movement of agricultural goods to the rest of the nation. The corridor already has three times the state average in truck traffic and, with expected growth over the next twenty years it is in urgent need of expansion.

The BIA would like to thank you both for your consideration of this request to include SR 99 as a priority project in the Goods Movement Action Plan.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Prandini  
President and CEO

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