



MAYOR ALAN AUTRY

December 15, 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:

On behalf of the City of Fresno and all its citizens, I cannot over emphasize the importance of including improvements to State Route 99 (SR99) as part of the Goods Movement Action Plan currently being developed by the State of California. As you know, the Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley has recently taken action to support implementation of the Caltrans Master Plan for State Route 99 in addition to a request that the State of California work with the Partnership to develop a strategic plan that would provide \$6 billion over ten years to fund improvements along this corridor. It is vital that this plan be implemented in the shortest possible time to relieve congestion, reduce emissions, and anticipate the growth in goods movement on SR99.

While I understand and can appreciate the positive economic contributions associated with improving the delivery of goods to and from California's ports, we must also be cognizant of how these investments will continue to negatively impact the quality of life in our region. The impacts are cumulative in nature and include the accelerated wear and tear to one of the country's busiest north/south truck corridors, increased vehicle congestion, poor air quality and its related health effects, and reduced safety to the general driving public.

The San Joaquin Valley has already been designated as an "extreme" non attainment area for ground level ozone and "severe" particulate matter by the Environmental Protection Agency. In fact, a strong argument could be made that further development of the State's port and shipping facilities, without taking steps to mitigate the environmental impacts associated with those investments, violates the basic principals of environmental justice and law.

Therefore, on behalf of my community I would like to thank you both in advance for your consideration and respectfully request that full funding of the \$6 billion identified in the Caltrans Master Plan for State Route 99 be included as a priority project in the Goods Movement Action Plan.

Sincerely,



ALAN AUTRY
Mayor

CITY OF FRESNO
CITY HALL • 2600 FRESNO STREET • FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93721-3600
(559) 621-8000 • FAX (559) 621-7990