

City of Monterey Park



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February 8, 2006

Mr. Barry R. Sedlik
Undersecretary & Senior Advisor for Economic Development
California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
980 9th Street, Suite 2450
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Undersecretary Sedlik:

It was a pleasure to meet with you today. I'm always amazed at how small the world seems and how connected we are through various relationships, in our case Southern California Edison.

Both the Honorable Barbara Messina and myself were very pleased with your awareness of the 710 Gap Closure project and your personal experience with the impacts of not having the 710 completed for motorists in the San Gabriel Valley. We also agree with the idea that projects being discussed for funding by a possible infrastructure bond measure must be able to accomplish real congestion and air quality improvement.

The 710 Gap Closure does all that and more. Southern California Association of Governments has rated this project as the top project for meeting the air quality improvement required under the Clean Air Act. The Metropolitan Transportation Project and Caltrans have both previously stated that this project will have the single greatest impact on congestion relief in Los Angeles County.

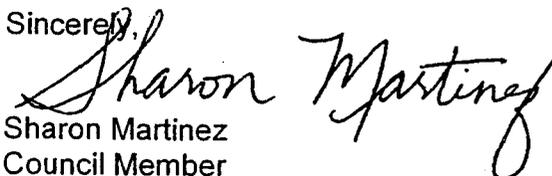
The 710 Gap Closure will assist directly nine different freeways in congestion relief when completed. As a motorist from our Valley, you can certainly understand the frustration that hundreds of thousands of drivers have every day sitting in that bottleneck of the 710, 60, 10 and 5 freeways. We appreciate your statements that you would "start to stir the pot" and make contacts with other points in the Administration on the project.

The 710 Gap Closure must be part of the State's Strategic Infrastructure Plan, if we are truly serious about making real progress in congestion relief, improved goods movement and real reduction in air pollution.

If you should need any additional information, I would urge you to contact either Nat Reed at (626) 8-0705 or Anthony Gonsalves at (916) 441-0597. Of course, feel free to contact me at (626) 307-1445 anytime.

Again, thank you for your time and we look forward to future discussions with you on these critical issues.

Sincerely,


Sharon Martinez
Council Member

C: City Council
City Manager
Nat Reed
Anthony Gonsalves

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