



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

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February 24, 2006

Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency
State of California
980 9th Street, Suite 2450
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Comments on California Goods Movement Action Plan-Phase II

Dear Secretary McPeak:

On behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), we would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on Phase II of the Goods Movement Action Plan. The SGVCOG is a Joint Powers Authority of 31 cities in the San Gabriel Valley with 2 million residents. Each day, the flow of goods to and from the nation affects our Valley. Daily, tons of goods are transported to and from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach through the San Gabriel Valley. Trucks carrying the nations' goods travel east and west along the SR-60, I-10, and I-210; north and south along the I-710, I-605 and the SR-57; and the trains carry goods moving east and west along the Union Pacific rail corridor. Goods movement negatively impacts our traffic, environment, and safety of our residents. However, the economy and vitality of our Valley also greatly depends on the manufacturing industries who locate to the Valley to be in proximity to the ports.

In 1998, SGVCOG unanimously adopted the Alameda Corridor East (ACE) Project and formed the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority in order to construct the \$950 Million project for grade separations in our communities. It is supported on a bi-partisan basis by the Valley's 13 state legislators and five Congressional members. The project is also supported by the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership as a key transportation infrastructure improvement necessary to ensure the delivery of goods and services to local businesses. We have also initiated truck traffic studies in the Valley to better understand the affect of the goods movement by trucks to our Valley.

The Goods Movement Action Plan documents these challenges facing California and recommends actions necessary to preserve the State's premier standing as the nation's trade capital. We appreciate the Governor's leadership to establish an Action Plan to keep goods moving in California. We support the goal of promoting the efficient and safe delivery of goods, as well as mitigating the environmental impacts of goods movement on adjacent communities and businesses.

We appreciate the support for the ACE Project in the Plan by categorizing it in the list of recommended infrastructure and operations projects. However, while we accept the premise that projects cannot be listed more than once, we strongly believe that the ACE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/
SECRETARY
Nicholas T. Conway
Arroyo Associates, Inc.

Project easily qualifies for the public health and environmental impact mitigation category, the community impact mitigation and workforce development category, and the public safety category. We hope through the state's partnership and the financing options that have been identified in the Plan, the San Gabriel Valley cities can secure the needed funding and have the remaining ten grade separations built or in construction by 2010. We believe that the ACE Project is a model for providing adjacent community mitigations, reducing congestion chokepoints, reducing air pollution, and expanding freight capacity, while preserving economic vitality for local businesses.

In conclusion, we support your Phase II Action Plan and look forward to its implementation. Thank you for your leadership and energy in undertaking this important effort that affects the quality of life in the San Gabriel Valley. Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Nicholas T. Conway, Executive Director at the SGVCOG office (626) 564-9702.

Sincerely,



Carol Herrera
President
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

cc: SGVCOG Governing Board
ACE Board of Directors
Bill Carney, Executive Director SGV Economic Partnership
SGV State Senators & Assemblymembers
SGV Congressional Members
Barry Sedlik, Deputy Secretary BT & H