

California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49 | SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
(916) 654-6130 | FAX (916) 653-5776 TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



March 18, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) to the United States (US) Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) competitive grant program for the US 101 Multimodal Corridor project (Project). SBCAG is requesting \$25 million to construct high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on US 101 in southern Santa Barbara County.

The Project includes a roundabout, Class I and Class II bikeways, and Americans Disabilities Act accessible sidewalks at a newly reconfigured interchange. Existing lanes and ramps within the project limits will be reconstructed with 40-year long-life pavement. This \$316 million multimodal project completes the final segments of a larger solution that integrates HOV improvements with regional rail and bus service expansion and has been developed with local community input in partnership with Caltrans. The requested INFRA funding will leverage \$109 million in local and state funds, and contribution from voter-approved sales tax.

US 101 is essential for interregional travel and goods movement between the San Francisco Bay Area and the Los Angeles basin. It supports the region's \$10 billion agricultural industry by moving about 23 million tons of goods annually. The project limits include the most critical portion of US 101 along the Central Coast, as it is the only designated Critical Urban Freight Corridor in the Central Coast. Completion of this project will improve goods movement, interregional travel for disadvantaged communities and low-income populations that commute to Santa Barbara, evacuation due to climate change events, active transportation and national, state and local economies. The project is scheduled to start construction in 2023 and to be completed in 2027.

Caltrans would like to thank the US Department of Transportation for its consideration of this Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Toks Omishakin', written over a blue circular stamp.

TOKS OMISHAKIN
Director

"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"