

City of Tulare City Council

411 East Kern Avenue, Tulare, California 93274 AGRI-CENTER OF THE WORLD Tel: (559) 684-4200 Fax: (559) 685-2398

September 13, 2011



Dario Frommer, Chair
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Wayne Ross
Mayor

Re: Cartmill Avenue Interchange Project -- State-Local Partnership Program Funding

Dear Commissioner Frommer:

Skip Barnick
Vice Mayor

Thank you for considering the City of Tulare's application for \$1 million in funding from the State-Local Partnership Program (SLPP) for the \$30.2 million Cartmill Avenue Interchange Project.

David Macedo
Councilmember

This project is the most important single project occurring within the City of Tulare; not just the most important transportation project, but the most important project—period. Its benefits include job creation (temporary jobs during construction and an estimated 4,800-plus permanent jobs after completion), freeway access for businesses trying to move their goods and services onto State Route (SR) 99, access for existing businesses and the Tulare outlet mall, travel safety, and an increased local tax base because of increased commercial opportunities.

Craig Vejvoda
Councilmember

Mark Watta
Councilmember

The project promises regional benefits which is why the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) supports the project and has committed \$25 million in Measure "R" funds. The project also promises statewide benefits by removing the narrow existing interchange to construct a state-of-the-art interchange that will not constrain future SR-99 widening projects into the City.

The accompanying Project Summary contains additional information for your reference. In addition to TCAG, the City's application has received the support of Assembly Republican Leader Connie Conway and Senator Fuller.

Thank you again for your consideration of this very important project to the City of Tulare. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (559) 684-4200.

Sincerely,

Don Dorman
City Manager

Enclosures

cc: Members, California Transportation Commission
Bimla Rhinehart, Executive Director, California Transportation Commission

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote a quality of life making Tulare the most desirable community in which to live, learn, play, work, worship and prosper.

California State Senate

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ROOM 3063
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
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5001 CALIFORNIA AVENUE #105
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JEAN FULLER
SENATOR, EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
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WATER

RULES

August 22, 2011

Bimla G. Rhinehart, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
Mail Station 52, Room 2231
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support—State-Local Partnership Program Nomination of the Cartmill Avenue Interchange

Dear Ms. Rhinehart:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Cartmill Avenue Interchange project nominated for funding by the City of Tulare through the Proposition 1B State-Local Partnership Program (SLPP).

The proposed project would modify the existing interchange to provide the necessary capacity for future traffic volumes, and would facilitate the future development of the entire Cartmill Avenue regional corridor. Construction of the Cartmill Avenue Interchange project is coming at just the right time to help implement local, regional, and statewide developments in smart growth principles.

In addition to addressing safety and design concerns with the current interchange, the project will allow and encourage the economic development of the area surrounding Cartmill Avenue. The development and resulting jobs are so critically needed in the City, with unemployment rates among the highest in the State that the City Council has committed a very significant amount of funding to the project.

Thank you for your consideration of SLPP funding for the Cartmill Avenue Interchange project. I truly appreciate the California Transportation Commission's consideration of this project which is vital to the safety and sustainability of the City of Tulare.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean Fuller".

Jean Fuller
Senator, 18th District

cc: Darius Assemi, Commissioner, California Transportation Commission

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CONNIE CONWAY
ASSEMBLY REPUBLICAN LEADER
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-FOURTH DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE
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Thank you for your consideration of SLPP funding for the Cartmill Avenue Interchange project. I truly appreciate the California Transportation Commission's consideration of this project which is vital to the safety and sustainability of the City of Tulare.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Connie Conway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail.

Connie Conway
Assemblywoman, 34th District

Cc: Darius Assemi, Commissioner, California Transportation Commission



State-Local Partnership Program: Cartmill Avenue Interchange Project

Summary: The City of Tulare has submitted an application to the California Transportation Commission for competitive funding from the Proposition 1B State-Local Partnership Program for construction and improvements to the Cartmill Avenue Interchange on State Route 99 (SR 99) in Tulare County.

State-Local Partnership Program Funds Requested: \$1 million

Total Project Cost: \$30.2 million

Project Description: Cartmill Avenue and the new Cartmill Avenue overcrossing will be constructed to a 6-lane divided arterial standard with a design speed of 50 mph. The project will construct a new northbound SR 99 off-ramp to Cartmill Avenue with a two-lane exit from SR 99 and a 1,300' long auxiliary lane. A new direct connecting on-ramp from Cartmill Avenue to southbound SR 99 with a single lane entrance to SR 99 and a 1,000' auxiliary lane will be constructed. The proposed project would modify the existing interchange to provide the necessary capacity for future traffic volumes, and would facilitate the future development of the entire Cartmill Avenue regional corridor.

Project Benefits: In addition to addressing safety and design concerns with the current interchange, the project will allow and encourage the economic development of the area surrounding Cartmill Avenue. The development and resulting jobs are so critically needed in the City, with unemployment rates among the highest in the State that the City Council has committed a very significant amount of funding to the project. The range of benefits from the project includes:

- Provide additional capacity both to relieve existing traffic congestion and accommodate planned growth;
- Provide improved east-west traffic circulation within the City by accommodating the ultimate build-out of Cartmill Avenue in accordance with the City's Circulation Element;
- Provide improved access to SR 99 within the northern area of the City;
- Enhance safety through the correction of existing conditions that do not meet current design standards; and
- Accommodate the future widening of SR 99 by correcting existing vertical and horizontal clearance deficiencies.

For more information, please contact Don Dorman, City Manager, at (559) 684-4200 or Richard Harmon at (916) 447-4086 and rharmon@townsendpa.com.