



January 30, 2014

Ms. Jody Jones  
 District Director, District 3  
 California Department of Transportation  
 703 B Street  
 Marysville, CA 95901

Dear Ms. *Jody* Jones:

KEITH NESBITT  
 City of Auburn  
 TONY HESCH  
 City of Colfax  
 STAN NADER  
 City of Lincoln  
 SANDRA CALVERT  
 Town of Loomis  
 DIANA RUSLIN  
 City of Rocklin  
 SUSAN ROHAN  
 City of Roseville  
 JIM HOLMES  
 KIRK UHLER  
 Placer County  
 RON TREABESS  
 Citizen Representative  
 CELIA McADAM  
 Executive Director

We appreciate the ongoing partnership between PCTPA and Caltrans District 3 that continues to produce numerous and significant improvements to our state highway system. I am writing in reference to one of those projects, the I-80/SR 65 Interchange Improvements.

As you know, this is a significant undertaking to reconstruct this interchange to improve safety, reduce congestion, and allow travel between the two routes at normal speeds. Because of the estimated \$300 million cost, it is likely that the project will be constructed in phases over many years. One of the key issues we are dealing with is that Eureka Road, Taylor Road, and the I-80/SR 65 Interchanges are very close together, and there is a tremendous amount of weaving movements in this segment that impact safety. At the same time, congestion at the I-80/SR 65 Interchange makes those weaving movements even more difficult. As the right lanes of I-80 become backed up, weaving movements are shortened, and pushed to all the mixed flow lanes. In addition, some drivers try to jump ahead of the backup line, and often stop up adjacent lanes as they try to merge into the slow moving traffic.

This issue was the subject of discussion by the PCTPA Board at their January meeting. One promising idea to improve the situation while we work on the I-80/SR 65 improvements was allowing through traffic to move all the way to the left into the high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to avoid these local merge movements. Therefore, at the request of the Board, we would like Caltrans District 3 explore the idea of terminating the I-80 eastbound HOV lane at Eureka Road from an operational and safety standpoint. It is our intent that this would be a temporary change, and the original terminus east of SR 65 be restored once I-80/SR 65 Interchange Improvements are implemented.

Thank you for the ongoing partnership, and consideration of our request. If you should have any questions or would like more detail, please contact me or Project Manager Luke McNeel-Caird at 530.823.4030.

Sincerely,

*Celia McAdam*  
 Celia McAdam, AICP  
 Executive Director

cc: Rick Land, Chief Deputy Director, Caltrans