

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

February 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) to the United States Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) competitive grant program for the Nevada 49 Corridor Improvement Project (Project).

Caltrans and NCTC have prioritized this Project to address the numerous intermittent access points adjacent to State Route 49 (SR 49) which create conflicting movements of local traffic accessing the highway. Several collisions, some fatal, and many "near misses" have occurred at these locations.

The SR 49 corridor continues to see an increase in congestion that impacts operational performance which creates ongoing safety concerns and contributes to the increasing travel costs and delay for commuters and goods movement. To address these issues, this Project will construct a four-lane conventional access control highway with a continuous median/left-turn lane that will direct multiple conflicting movements to a single point, eight-foot shoulders to safely accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and a temporary refuge area for disabled vehicles, and offer an improved freight/goods movement corridor.

To better leverage the request of INFRA funding in the amount of \$10 million, Caltrans and the NCTC will leverage approximately \$65 million in federal and non-federal funds for the Project, in addition to the \$2 million that has already been spent on the preliminary design and environment phases.

Caltrans strongly recommends this application be given every consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "L Berman" with a stylized flourish.

LAURIE BERMAN
Director