

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	12/9/14
SUBJECT:	Correspondence
AGENDA ITEM:	5-4
STAFF CONTACT:	Janie Coffman, Executive Assistant

Attached is correspondence determined to be of interest to the board of directors:

- Letters of support for the GoShasta Plan grant application received from:
 - City of Shasta Lake
 - City of Anderson
 - Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency
 - Shasta County Department of Public Works
 - City of Redding
 - Healthy Shasta
 - Shasta County Office of Education
 - Shasta Living Streets
 - North State Super Region
 - Shasta College
- Letters of support for the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant application received from:
 - Shasta County Farm Bureau
 - Superior California Economic Development District
 - ProPacific Fresh
 - North Valley Food Hub
 - Shasta College
 - Healthy Shasta
 - Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
 - University of California Agriculture & Natural Resources Cooperative Extension
 - Western Shasta Resource Conservation District
 - University of California, Davis
 - Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism
- October 30, 2014, letter from SRTA to Strategic Growth Council regarding the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program draft guidelines

A blue ink signature of Daniel S. Little, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director

City of Shasta Lake

P.O. Box 777 • 1650 Stanton Drive
Shasta Lake, CA 96019
Phone: 530-275-7400
Fax: 530-275-7414
Website: ci.shasta-lake.ca.us



October 20, 2014

Daniel S. Little
Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

The City of Shasta Lake supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. GoShasta will be a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. The city and county appreciate administrative oversight of the plan that allows for the cities and county to use SRTA's resources to administer the grant application; to prepare a request for proposal; to select a consultant to work with the jurisdictions at practical levels for each jurisdiction's respective staff; and to coordinate the plan's regional aspects. The GoShasta Plan will make all planned non-motorized projects in the region eligible for future grant funding.

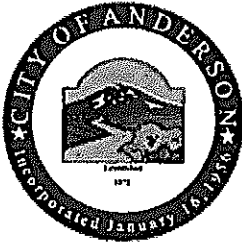
If awarded funds, the City of Shasta Lake will work closely with SRTA and the chosen consultant to develop a plan that focuses on improving safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for our pedestrians and cyclists. City of Shasta Lake looks forward to establishing inventories of existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities; identifying priority corridors, network safety and security vulnerabilities; and measuring accessibility and connectivity of disadvantaged neighborhoods. As a disadvantaged community (Shasta's median household income is 72% of the state's.) and with the countywide unemployment rate at 10.9%, the City of Shasta Lake understands the importance of having transportation options for our residents, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk and bicycle for their health and well-being.

The City of Shasta Lake looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta. Good luck on the grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John N. Duckett, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

John N. Duckett, Jr.
City Manager



October 21, 2014

Daniel S. Little
Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

The City of Anderson supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. GoShasta will be a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. The city and county appreciate administrative oversight of the plan that allows for the cities and county to use SRTA's resources to administer the grant application; to prepare a request for proposal; to select a consultant to work with the jurisdictions at practical levels for each jurisdiction's respective staff; and to coordinate the plan's regional aspects. The GoShasta Plan will make all planned non-motorized projects in the region eligible for future grant funding.

If awarded funds, the City of Anderson will work closely with SRTA and the chosen consultant to develop a plan that focuses on improving safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for our pedestrians and cyclists. The City of Anderson looks forward to establishing inventories of existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities; identifying priority corridors, network safety and security vulnerabilities; and measuring accessibility and connectivity of disadvantaged neighborhoods. As a disadvantaged community (Shasta's median household income is 72% of the state's) and with the countywide unemployment rate at 10.9%, the City of Anderson understands the importance of having transportation

City Manager's Office
1887 Howard Street
Anderson, CA 96007

www.ci.anderson.ca.us

Phone: (530) 378-6646
Fax: (530) 378-6648

Daniel S. Little
Page 2
October 21, 2014

options for our residents, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk and bicycle for their health and well-being.

The City of Anderson looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta. Good luck on the grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Kiser", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeff Kiser
City Manager



Health and Human Services Agency

Donnell Ewert, MPH, Director

2650 Breslauer Way
Redding, CA 96001-4246

Phone: (530) 225-5899

Fax: (530) 225-5903

CA Relay Service: (800) 735-2922

October 23, 2014

Daniel S. Little
Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

The Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) would like to express our support for the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. GoShasta will be a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. As such, GoShasta will be a plan that makes all planned non-motorized projects in the region eligible for future grant funding.

HHSA understands the importance of having transportation options for our residents, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk or bicycle for their health and well-being. HHSA knows that the built environment influences health behaviors, and thus has a huge impact on injury prevention, health outcomes, and equitable access to destinations. If awarded funds, HHSA will work with SRTA on a plan to improve safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for our pedestrians and cyclists. HHSA staff, with expertise in Safe Routes to School, is available to ensure safe routes to and from local schools are incorporated into the plan.

HHSA looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta and Safe Routes to Schools projects. We wish you the best of luck on the grant application. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Donnell Ewert, MPH
HHSA Director
(530) 245-6269
dewert@co.shasta.ca.us

"Healthy people in thriving and safe communities"

www.shastahhsa.net



Shasta County

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

1855 PLACER STREET
REDDING, CA 96001-1759
530.225.5661 530.225.5667 FAX
800.479.8022 California Relay Service at 700 or 800.735.2922

PATRICK J. MINTURN, DIRECTOR
C. TROY BARTOLOMEI, DEPUTY
SCOTT G. WAHL, DEPUTY

October 23, 2014

Daniel S. Little, Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

Shasta County supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. GoShasta will be a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. The city and county appreciate administrative oversight of the plan that allows for the cities and county to use SRTA's resources to administer the grant application; to prepare a request for proposal; to select a consultant to work with the jurisdictions at practical levels for each jurisdiction's respective staff; and to coordinate the plan's regional aspects. The GoShasta Plan will make all planned non-motorized projects in the region eligible for future grant funding.

If awarded funds, Shasta County will work closely with SRTA and the chosen consultant to develop a plan that focuses on improving safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for our pedestrians and cyclists. Shasta County looks forward to establishing inventories of existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities; identifying priority corridors, network safety and security vulnerabilities; and measuring accessibility and connectivity of disadvantaged neighborhoods. As a disadvantaged community (Shasta's median household income is 72% of the state's) and with the countywide unemployment rate at 10.9%, Shasta County understands the importance of having transportation options for our residents, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk and bicycle for their health and well-being.

Shasta County looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta. Good luck on the grant application.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Minturn, Director
Shasta County Department of Public Works

PJM//ldr



CITY OF REDDING

PUBLIC WORKS - ENGINEERING

777 Cypress Avenue, Redding, CA 96001-2718

P.O. Box 496071, Redding, CA 96049-6071

530.225.4170 FAX 530.245.7024

October 24, 2014

Daniel S. Little
Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

The City of Redding supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. The GoShasta Plan will include an individual non-motorized transportation plan for the City of Redding that will be incorporated into a larger, regional non-motorized plan. The City of Redding's local plan portion will be developed at the direction of the City with the overall regional plan effort administered by SRTA. The City of Redding Public Works Department appreciates the opportunity to direct the development of its portion of the plan while using SRTA's resources to administer the grant application; to prepare a request for proposal; to coordinate selection of a consultant; and to develop the plan's regional aspects. The GoShasta Plan will make the City's and all other planned non-motorized projects in the region eligible for future grant funding.

If awarded funds, the City of Redding will work closely with SRTA and the chosen consultant to develop a City plan that focuses on improving safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for the City's and Region's pedestrians and cyclists. The City of Redding looks forward to working with SRTA's consultant in establishing inventories of existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities; leading a comprehensive local public involvement process, identifying priority corridors, network safety and security vulnerabilities; and measuring accessibility and connectivity of disadvantaged neighborhoods. As a disadvantaged community (Shasta's median household income is 72% of the state's.) and with the countywide unemployment rate at 10.9%, the City of Redding understands the importance of having transportation options for our residents, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk and bicycle for their health and well-being.

The City of Redding looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta. Good luck on the grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Crane", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian Crane, Director of Public Works
City of Redding



Anderson Partnership for
Healthy Children

October 20, 2014

City of Anderson

Daniel S. Little

City of Redding

Executive Director

City of Shasta Lake

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency

County of Shasta

1255 East Street, Suite 202

First 5 Shasta

Redding, CA 96001

Mercy Medical
Center

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Redding Rancheria

Dear Mr. Little:

Redding School
District

Healthy Shasta would like to express our support for the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. GoShasta will be a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. As such, GoShasta will be a plan that makes all planned non-motorized projects in the region eligible for future grant funding.

Shasta College

Shasta County Office
of Education

Shasta Regional
Transportation Agency

Shasta Family
YMCA

Shasta Head Start

Simpson University

The McConnell
Foundation

Turtle Bay Exploration
Park

Healthy Shasta understands the importance of having transportation options for our residents, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk or bicycle for their health and well-being. Healthy Shasta knows that the built environment influences health behaviors, and thus has a huge impact on injury prevention, health outcomes, and equitable access to destinations. If awarded funds, Healthy Shasta will work with SRTA on a plan to improve safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for our pedestrians and cyclists. More specifically, Healthy Shasta will dedicate approximately \$2,000 in local in-kind match for support and public outreach. In addition, as a local cash match, Healthy Shasta has budgeted \$3,000 to fund a data collection project for bicycle parking in the county.

University of California
Cooperative Extension

Healthy Shasta looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta and Safe Routes to Schools projects. We wish you the best of luck on the grant application. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Viva Downtown

Whiskeytown
National
Recreation Area

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shellisa Moore".

Shellisa Moore

Healthy Shasta Coordinator



SHASTA

COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION

To provide leadership and assistance to the districts and community partners in Shasta County to ensure all students have equal access to a quality education that prepares them to graduate from high school and obtain a high skilled, high wage career.

Superintendent
Tom Armelino

Board of Education

Diane Gerard
Rhonda Hull
Sharon Hunter
Steve MacFarland
Linda McBride
William Stegall
Elizabeth "Buffy" Tanner

October 21, 2014

Daniel S. Little, Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

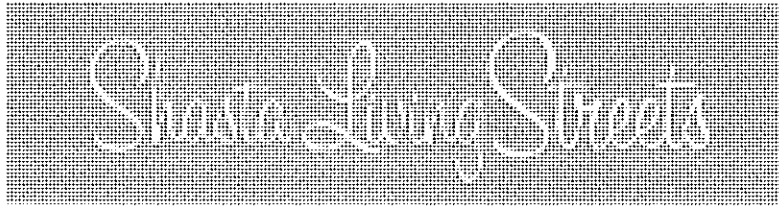
The Shasta County Office of Education (SCOE) would like to express our support for the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. GoShasta will be a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. As such, GoShasta will be a plan that makes all planned bicycle and pedestrian projects in the region eligible for future grant funding.

If awarded funds, SCOE and local school districts will work with SRTA on a plan to improve safety around schools for walkers and bikers and bikeway-walkway-school connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists arriving and departing from our schools. SCOE will coordinate with SRTA, the cities and the county on Safe Routes to Schools projects.

SCOE looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta. We wish you the best of luck on the grant application. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Tom Armelino
Shasta County Superintendent of Schools



What kind of community do we want to live in?

October 21, 2014

Dan Little, Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202, Redding, CA 96001

Re: Enthusiastic Support for GoShasta Plan

Shasta Living Streets enthusiastically supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's efforts to develop and administer a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County. This project will make a significant difference for people and transportation in the communities throughout Shasta County.

Shasta Living Streets vision and mission is a regional one because we recognize the vital importance of coordinated and comprehensive plans for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit and sustainable development in our region. Our individual, family and business members live, work and play in the various cities, towns and unincorporated areas of our county. They often share and discuss the challenges and opportunities for coordinated non-motorized transportation across the region.

Thus, we look forward to having a coordinated plan between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. We expect GoShasta to be a transportation plan that makes all planned bicycle and pedestrian projects in the region eligible for future grant funding. Our organization will work closely with SRTA and the chosen consultant to develop a plan that will focus on improving safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for our pedestrians and cyclists. We see a strong need for it, and we will assist development of a comprehensive and effective plan. And further, we will support adoption and implementation of the facilities outlined in the plan.

Strong interest in our community

Shasta Living Streets has a number of methods for gathering comments and input from people in our community about transportation issues – At one of our recent events, a survey (nearly 200 responses) showed strong local interest in bicycle and pedestrian improvements:

If there were better bicycle (like buffered or protected bike lanes) facilities and pedestrian facilities in town, I would ride my bicycle or walk more often.

95% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the above statement.

As further evidence, last summer Caltrans was flooded with hundreds of letters of support for downtown street improvements that included a street diet (lane reduction) and addition of bike lanes. The public meeting saw an unprecedented number of people (100-150) crowd into the room to support the transportation improvements to benefit people walking and bicycling downtown.

Great need in our community

We are also well aware of the need for improved non-motorized options to help families and individuals as indicated by local measures of wellbeing.

Disadvantaged community. Shasta county is considered a disadvantaged community by measures of income and unemployment: Shasta county's median household income is 72% of the state's, the countywide unemployment rate is 10.9%,

High rates of negative health outcomes. Shasta County is ranked in the lower third of the state for both Health Outcomes and Health Determinants. We are well aware of the research that has shown more active living and daily movement is key to addressing these health issues.

High cost of transportation. The lack of bicycle and pedestrian options in our community creates a real burden for families and individuals in cost and time commitment. Recently we heard from a mother who described the family burden created by a typical day of driving her children on daily errands - 60 miles by car in one day. She wants improved facilities so her family could make some of those trips without her driving, if they had safe and convenient bicycling and walking facilities.

County Health Rankings Measures and Data for Shasta County

Measure	Year	Shasta Co	State of CA	Difference
Adult obesity	2010-14	25% → 26%	23%	+5
Adult diabetes	2011-14	7% → 9%	7% → 8%	+1
Adult physical activity	2012-14	20%	18%	+2
Has access to exercise opportunities	2014	74%	81%	-17
Ped facility rate	2011-13	9.0% → 7.9%	9.0% → 8.6%	-0.7
Park access within 1 mi	2013	8%	52%	-50
Drive alone to work	2012-14	80%	73%	+7
Long commute to work and drive alone	2014	15%	27%	-22

Regional transportation thinking and planning is essential in Shasta County

Our region has three cities and many small towns and homes spread out in the county area. People's lives in these places are tied together in many ways. Homes, businesses and attractions are spread out – few people live, work and play exclusively in one city. Agency staff, however, are understandably focused on their particular boundaries.

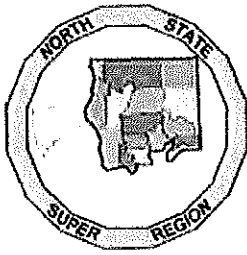
Thus, a regional transportation plan is essential to bring cohesive and comprehensive project implementation to the region – to help families and individuals, business and economy – grow and thrive in this area.

Thank you for improving the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and businesses in our community by developing the regional GoShasta Plan.



Anne Wallach Thomas
Executive Director, Shasta Living Streets

athomas@shastalivingstreets.org | 530 355-2230 | shastalivingstreets.org



North State Super Region

1255 East Street, Suite 202, Redding, CA 96001

(530) 262-6190 nssr16@gmail.com

www.superregion.org

Lisa Davey-Bates, Chair

Jon Clark

Butte County Assn. of Governments

Scott Lanphier

Colusa County Transportation Comm.

Tamera Leighton

Del Norte Local Transportation Comm.

DI Aulabaugh

Glenn County Transportation Comm.

Marcella Clem

Humboldt County Association of Govt.

Lisa Davey-Bates

Lake Co./City Area Planning Council

Larry Millar

Lassen County Transportation Comm.

Phil Dow

Mendocino County Council of Governments

Debbie Pedersen

Modoc County Transportation Comm.

Daniel Landon

Nevada County Transportation Comm.

Robert Perreault

Plumas County Transportation Comm.

Daniel S. Little

Shasta County Transportation Agency/MPO

Tim Beals

Sierra County Transportation Comm.

Melissa Cummins

Siskiyou County Local Trans. Comm.

Gary Antone

Tehama County Transportation Comm.

Richard Tippet

Trinity County Transportation Comm.

October 23, 2014

Daniel S. Little

Executive Director

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency

1255 East Street, Suite 202

Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

Please accept this letter of support from the North State Super Region (NSSR) for Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan. The NSSR is a compilation of sixteen Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies in northern California working together to make the California North State a better place to live.

GoShasta will be a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. As such, GoShasta will be a plan that makes all planned bicycle and pedestrian projects in the Shasta region eligible for future grant funding.

As a disadvantaged community (Shasta's median household income is 72% of the state's) and with the countywide unemployment rate at 10.9%, NSSR understands the importance of having transportation options for north state residents, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk and bicycle for their health and well-being.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any assistance with this effort.

Sincerely,

Lisa Davey-Bates, Chair
North State Super Region



Shasta College

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District
11555 Old Oregon Trail • P.O. Box 496006 • Redding, CA 96049-6006
Phone: (530) 242-7500 • Fax: (530) 225-4990
www.shastacollege.edu

October 30, 2014

Daniel S. Little
Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Subject: GoShasta Plan

Dear Mr. Little:

Shasta College would like to express our support for the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application to prepare the GoShasta Plan, a regional non-motorized plan, coordinated between the four jurisdictions in Shasta County and administered by SRTA. Shasta College's GIS Program has collaborated with SRTA on a number of projects in recent years, including one involving collecting non-motorized transportation data. We look forward to continuing to work with SRTA on this project that provides benefits to students and the community.

If SRTA is awarded grant funds, Shasta College will work with SRTA on a plan to improve safety and bikeway-walkway-transit connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists arriving and departing from the campus and satellite locations. As a local in-kind match, the Shasta College GIS Program plans to continue the efforts of a recent pilot project initiated by students to collect attribute-rich GIS data about our existing walkways and bikeways. Information such as bike lanes, street lights, bike racks, and benches were collected. The amenities express the level of service of the bikeways and walkways. There is a plan to continue these efforts in the remaining portion of the strategic growth area in downtown Redding. This continued effort will serve as an in-kind match of an estimated \$5,000.

Shasta College understands the importance of having transportation options for our students, both for those that do not have the option to drive and for those that make the choice to walk or bicycle for their health and well-being. Shasta College GIS Program looks forward to working with SRTA on GoShasta. We wish you the best of luck on the grant application. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joe Wyse
Superintendent/President

JW:tm

Governing Board Members

Rhonda E. Nehr
McArthur

Harold J. Lucas
Red Bluff

Duane K. Miller
Anderson

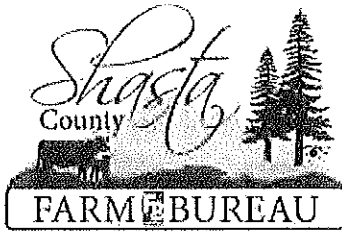
Kendall S. Pierson
Redding

Rayola B. Pratt
Shasta

Robert M. Steinacher
Coming

Scott J. Swendiman
Redding

Superintendent/President
Joe Wyse, Ed.D.



Shasta County Farm Bureau

P.O. Box 970 • Palo Cedro, CA 96073 • (530) 547-7170 • E-mail: shastacountyfarm1@frontiernet.net

California Department of Transportation
Caltrans
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 916-654-5266

October 14, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Shasta Farm Bureau strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

As a non-profit organization made up of farmers, ranchers and agriculture enthusiasts, the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant will directly benefit many of our members who derive the majority of their income from agriculture commodities produced in Shasta County.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Shasta Farm Bureau in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Martinez-Manager
Shasta Farm Bureau



Superior California Economic Development

350 Hartnell Avenue, Suite A • Redding, CA 96002

(530) 225-2760 • Fax (530) 225-2769

October 24, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Caltrans Sustainable Communities Grant Application

Gentlemen:

Superior California Economic Development (SCED) is pleased to support Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) proposal for a Caltrans Sustainable Communities grant. The purpose of the proposed project is to investigate ways to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by the greater than \$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions occurring within the region, while optimizing the use of existing private sector transportation facilities.

As the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) designated regional economic development district serving Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou and Trinity Counties, SCED authors the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Several of the activities and initiatives identified in the strategy have applicability to this sustainable communities grant opportunity. These initiatives include:

- Support the development and marketing of value added products utilizing agriculture, timber, nontimber forest resources, and other natural resource products.
- Support initiatives that will open new markets for agriculture, timber, non-timber forest resources, and other natural resource products.
- Work with land owners, industry, development organizations and agencies to promote the concept of sustained yield and multiple use for forest lands, including timber production, grazing and recreation.

SCED will continue to actively collaborate with SRTA and other project partners to explore production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

We look forward to hearing that this application has been funded. Please feel free to contact me at (530) 225-2760, extension 205 should you wish to discuss our participation in further detail.

Sincerely,

Robert Nash
Chief Executive Officer



Shasta Regional Transportation Agency *When Freshness Counts*
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

October 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Chico Produce, Inc. dba ProPacific Fresh strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in your application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

Chico Produce, Inc. dba ProPacific Fresh has been serving the North state of California with warehousing, distribution, cold storage and logistics services since 1983. In our view, utilizing and leveraging existing cold storage and logistics systems is paramount to the cost effective and efficient distribution of locally produced agricultural products in any geographic area, particularly northern California. As a company, we feel a strong obligation to give back to the local communities we service. In demonstrating our support of this very worthwhile initiative, we are more than willing to provide input and guidance on developing and optimizing the efficient aggregation, storage and distribution of locally grown agricultural products throughout northern California. Given the opportunity, in addition to providing guidance on this initiative, it is very likely that the existing warehousing, cold storage and logistic capabilities of ProPacific Fresh can be leveraged in support of this initiative.

We support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Growing Local in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Richardson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Terry Richardson
President & CEO
Chico Produce, Inc.
DbA ProPacific Fresh

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

October 31, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:



On behalf of the North Valley Food Hub I am writing to express our support for the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

The North Valley Food Hub is committed to building a vibrant, active and efficient localized food system in California's North Valley. The North Valley Food Hub is an online marketplace designed to expand existing local food markets and create new opportunities for wholesale and retail food buyers and growers. The critical services offered by the North Valley Food Hub include: providing educational opportunities and resources, consolidating food transaction costs, creating a one-stop shopping platform for buyers and a marketplace for growers to post and promote their products, and serving as a centralized facilitator for creating and expanding local food markets in California's North Valley.

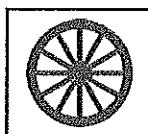
We support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and the North Valley Food Hub in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melba", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Director and Co-Founder
North Valley Food Hub

PO Box 4092, Chico, CA



www.northvalleyfoodhub.com



Shasta College

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District
11555 Old Oregon Trail • P.O. Box 496006 • Redding, CA 96049-6006
Phone: (530) 242-7500 • Fax: (530) 225-4990
www.shastacollege.edu

October 7, 2014

California Department of Transportation
Division of Transportation Planning, MS #32
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

RE: Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Shasta College is pleased to offer a letter of support for the grant application submitted by Growing Local and their partners, the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Superior California Economic Development. This grant will allow Growing Local to identify opportunities and barriers to food production and distribution in northern California and create a plan to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions.

Shasta College is part of the California Community Colleges system, and serves the counties of Tehama, Shasta, and Trinity, and portions of Lassen, Humboldt, and Modoc. Our mission provides a diverse student population open access to educational programs and learning opportunities, thereby contributing to the social, cultural, intellectual and economic development of our communities.

Shasta College has a vibrant and strong Agriculture Department with degrees and course offerings that prepare students for a number of agriculture related career opportunities. Our students are provided the opportunity to work in an industry that makes up 20% of the nation's economy using the latest technology on our 90-acre college farm laboratory using sustainable and renewable practices. We support Growing Local and their partners in this endeavor to bring sustainability through agriculture and transportation that will strengthen the economic outlook of the north state region.

Sincerely,

Joe Wyse, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President

JW:tm

Governing Board Members

Rhonda E. Nehr
McArthur

Harold J. Lucas
Red Bluff

Duane K. Miller
Anderson

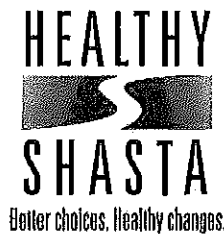
Kendall S. Pierson
Redding

Rayola B. Pratt
Shasta

Robert M. Steinacher
Corning

Scott J. Swendiman
Redding

Superintendent/President
Joe Wyse, Ed.D.



Anderson Partnership for Healthy Children
City of Anderson
City of Redding
City of Shasta Lake
County of Shasta
First 5 Shasta
Mercy Medical Center
Redding Rancheria
Redding School District
Shasta College
Shasta County Office of Education
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
Shasta Family YMCA
Shasta Head Start
Simpson University
The McConnell Foundation
Turtle Bay Exploration Park
University of California Cooperative Extension
Viva Downtown
Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

Daniel S Little
Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

October 13, 2014 2014

Dear Mr. Little:

Healthy Shasta strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the Caltrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

Healthy Shasta is a partnership of multiple organizations formed to address growing rates of obesity and chronic disease in our community. Our vision is to create a community where the healthy choice is the easy choice, especially around physical activity and nutrition.

Healthy Shasta's strategic plan focuses on four areas: Fruits and Vegetables, Sugary Beverages, Walking and Biking and Fitness and Play. This project falls under increasing access to fruits and vegetables and supporting locally grown food. Healthy Shasta staff and members of the Fruits and Vegetables workgroup look forward to working with SRTA on this project. We can bring a health perspective to the table, provide data, and help with public outreach.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Healthy Shasta in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shellisa Moore".

Shellisa Moore
Healthy Shasta Coordinator



California Department of Transportation
Caltrans
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5680

October 27, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCD) strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agricultural products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (primarily trucking).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

The RCD would be pleased to assist with sharing information about this project through our existing or upcoming projects. The project aligns with our mission, vision and purpose:

Mission: To provide assistance with managing, conserving and improving the natural resources of Tehama County.

Vision: A balanced management of the county's natural resources, where all land use decisions are locally driven, socially acceptable, environmentally sound and economically feasible.

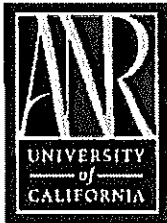
Purpose: To coordinate technical, financial and educational resources, to ensure the long term use of natural resources.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Victoria Dawley".

Victoria Dawley
District Manager



UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA
Agriculture & Natural Resources



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, SHASTA COUNTY
1851 Hartnell Avenue, Redding, CA 96002-2217
Telephone: (530) 224-4900 Fax: (530) 224-4904

October 27, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

To Whom It May Concern:

The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agricultural products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

We believe that educating and encouraging communities to change their behavior for healthier eating and lifestyles is strongly influenced by their environment. The food system is an essential part of the individual and community environment, in which sustainable food production, processing, distribution and consumption are integrated to enhance the environmental, economic, social and nutritional health of a particular locale. This project will contribute to the building of an effective and sustainable local food system in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,

Larry Forero,
County Director
University of California Cooperative Extension,
Trinity and Shasta County
Redding (530) 224-4900





6270 Parallel Road, Anderson, CA 96007-4833 · Phone: (530) 365-7332 · Fax: (530) 365-7271

October 28, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

To Whom It May Concern:

Western Shasta Resource Conservation District strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in your application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

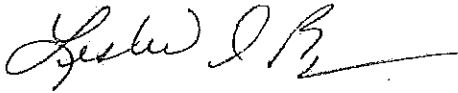
Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

The project fits in well with the District's organizational objectives. The District is a subdivision of the State of California with the mission to collaborate with willing landowners, government agencies, and other organizations to facilitate the conservation or restoration of Western Shasta County's natural resources. The District has a long history of working with farmers and ranchers to implement projects that result in co-benefits to the environment, landowners and society. Examples of these benefits include wildlife habitat improvement, water and soil conservation, water quality improvement, and increased economic stability within our region.

As a result of community interest in climate change, the District formed a stakeholder team to identify potential effects in our area from climate change and develop an adaptation plan for forest and water resources in Shasta County. Through the planning process the nexus between natural resources, agriculture and the economy became apparent. The county expects to continue to experience changes in temperature and precipitation affecting storms and flooding, seasonal shifts in stream flow, heat waves, vector biology, air pollutants, and food supply. Secondary effects will include impacts to farming conditions, pests and invasive species, frequency and severity of forest wildfires, water quality and fisheries degradation, and incidences of human and animal disease. The 2013 report documents transportation sector emissions are projected to more than double by 2050, thus exacerbating the climate change dilemma. As such, it is vital for our region to reduce greenhouse emissions and increase food security in our area. The project proposed by the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency will be a large step in that direction.

We support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's proposal and look forward to working with you to help our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie A. Bryan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leslie A. Bryan
Project Manager/Climate Stewardship Coordinator
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

October 28, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
c/o Steve Sibilsky, Growing Local

As Leader of the University of California's Small Farm Program, I strongly support your application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from Caltrans. Your community has assembled in-kind donations to make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities regarding the aggregation and distribution of agricultural products in the 8-county far northern California region (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*).

I understand that the objective will be to increase load sizes, thereby reducing "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by over \$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities. In our 2010 report on food supply chains published by USDA, my co-authors and I compared the fuel efficiency of farmers who direct marketed their production with those in the mainstream and intermediated food distribution channels. We concluded that, although the direct marketers had the lowest food miles, they nevertheless had the highest fuel consumption per pound of product hauled.

In the findings of the 2013 National Food Hub Survey, the authors noted that "...food hubs may serve to provide much-needed, size-appropriate infrastructure and marketing functions for local food produced by small and midsized producers" (p.4). According to USDA's 2012 Census of Agriculture, 92% of agricultural producers in your 8-county region are small farms (with gross annual revenues of less than \$250,000), compared to 82% of producers statewide. With such a high proportion of small farms, your interest in a food hub is clearly warranted.

I understand that the proposed project's findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on the transportation system's performance. I commend the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's efforts to secure funding to help the region's agricultural industry grow while making most effective use of its regional highway systems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Shermain Hardesty".

Shermain Hardesty, Ph.D., Extension Economist, Agricultural & Resource Economics
& Leader, Small Farm Program, University of California Davis, CA 95616
530 752 0467, shermain@primal.ucdavis.edu



Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism MORT-ALS

(Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism—America's Land Stewards)
"Exploring Open Spaces and Historic Places."

California Department of Transportation
Caltrans
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 916-654-5266

September 30, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism Inter-Agency Group strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

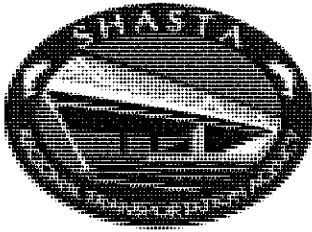
Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

Lorissa Soriano - Chairperson
Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism



1255 East Street, Suite 202 • Redding, CA 96001 • (530)262-6190 • FAX (530)262-6189
E-Mail srta@srta.ca.gov • HOME PAGE www.srta.ca.gov

Daniel S. Little, Executive Director

October 30, 2014

Mr. Mike McCoy, Executive Director
Strategic Growth Council
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM DRAFT GUIDELINES

Dear Mr. McCoy,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program. We greatly appreciate your role and that of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) in developing the tools and programs needed to build a more sustainable California. Six years following SB 375, we are eager to see capital funding make its way to local and regional governments for implementation activities.

We concur with the comments submitted by the California Association of Council of Governments (CalCOG) and do not repeat these comments herein. We use this opportunity to focus attention on several key points for consideration:

1. It appears that great effort has been expended to ensure a balance of project types and locations. This worthy goal looks to be accomplished through program categorization and sub-categorization – each having a share of program funds and various terms and conditions. A simpler solution would be proportional set asides to regions. This is not new feedback, but it's worth noting again that the AHSC program need not be complicated and convoluted by layers of elaborate guidelines. The best projects vary by region and take a great deal of groundwork and coordination to prepare for funding. Streamlined guidelines based on SB 862, combined with local experience, would maximize the funds available for capital projects by minimizing unnecessary layers of administration.

2. Clarification is requested on a few items:

- **Section 104 (g):** In discussions with other regions, some have interpreted to this section to mean that a minimum 50% local match is required. Our understanding is that this is intended to mean up to 50% of the grant amount is eligible for these types of capital projects, and that the balance must go toward the other eligible project types – e.g. housing developments and housing related infrastructure.
- **Section 103(a)(1)(D)(i):** Please provide clarification that the minimum housing development size of 100 units (50 in a non-metropolitan area) is specifically for “preservation of at-risk affordable housing”, and not for other projects types listed.
- **Section 103(c)(3):** One of our region’s highest priority projects is the redevelopment of a city-owned parking garage into a high-density, mixed use project that would include parking for residents. This project site is immediately adjacent to the region’s central transit transfer station that includes a passenger rail station, intercity bus service, and new buffered bike lanes for enhanced active transportation accessibility. It would appear that such a project would, however, be ineligible for grant funds under this clause without explanation of intent in the guidelines.

As this is the beginning of an ongoing program, it is critical that all partners take the time to get it right. Alternatively, if the program is to proceed under the June 30, 2015, deadline, it should be made clear to all that the program guidelines and initial round of grants will be a learning process, and that adjustments to the guidelines will likely be needed in response to real-world lessons learned.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft AHSC guidelines. We look forward to working together with the SGC in implementing the program and achieving a more sustainable California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Wayne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Wayne
Senior Planner

DTW/jac