



AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

April 18, 2003

The Honorable Randy "Duke" Cunningham  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2350 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0550

Dear Congressman Cunningham:

One of San Diego's key transportation infrastructure projects that would greatly benefit from your continued support is the completion of the missing State Route 56 (SR-56)/Interstate 5 (I-5) freeway connectors in Carmel Valley. This transportation infrastructure is critical to improving traffic flow in the Carmel Valley region, and is especially important to those of us who operate businesses and live in this community. When my colleagues Dan Beal and Steve Finnegan met with Katie Harvey of your staff on April 2, she identified this project as a key priority of yours, and your support is very much appreciated.

Once completed, SR-56 will create an invaluable link between Interstates 5 and 15. However, motorists traveling west on SR-56 will be forced to use local roads in Carmel Valley to access I-5 North, and motorists exiting I-5 south will be forced to use those same local roads to access SR-56 East. This will result in traffic volumes beyond those that these local roads were designed to handle, intrusion into local areas, congestion, crashes and attendant delays, and additional wear-and-tear on local roads from increased traffic volume.

Failure to secure funding and complete this project also will affect San Diego's housing shortage. There are approximately 6,500 housing units slated for construction in the communities adjacent to the SR-56, including more than 1,000 affordable homes. However, development of these homes will be delayed until the connectors are completed, dramatically at a time when the demand for new housing continues to increase at an unprecedented pace.

Securing funding for the completion of the SR-56/I-5 connectors is a top priority to enhance mobility for our members in San Diego. I encourage your continued efforts to secure funds for the missing SR-56 connectors.

Sincerely,

Ralph Jungk  
District Manager, Del Mar

