

CARMEL VALLEY COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD
c/o MNA CONSULTING
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February 13, 2003

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

Re: SR 56 Connectors

Dear Congressman Cunningham:

As the Chairman of the Carmel Valley Community Planning Board, I am writing to extend the Board's support of your efforts to obtain federal funding for the missing freeway connectors at the Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 56 (SR 56) interchange.

The completion of the missing connectors is of particular importance to residents and businesses in Carmel Valley since freeway connecting traffic is presently forced onto local streets. This situation is a disruption to the community, creates unsafe traffic conditions and creates a very inefficient traffic flow. Traffic congestion is perhaps the biggest problem faced by my community.

The connectors should have been designed and built many years ago proactively in anticipation of the traffic trying to find a way to and from I-5 North and SR-56 East, especially from SR-56 West to I-5 North. The completion of these connectors is necessary to implement the growth planned for along the SR 56 corridor east of Carmel Valley. The planned development of approximately, 5,500 residential homes (including more than 1,000 "affordable" units) cannot be built until the missing connectors are completed and in service.

Notwithstanding the need for these connectors, my community is equally concerned with the environmental and visual impact that these connectors will cause. This section of the freeway systems is a gateway into the community of Carmel Valley as well as other communities to the east and El Camino Real, California's "Main Street." Most importantly, the south to east connector is projected to be a 70 ft. high flyover. Our community along with state and federal agencies has worked hard to preserve both the biological and scenic values of our highly visible coastal resources.

We are active members of the I-5/SR-56 Freeway Connectors Steering Group participating with the City of San Diego and Caltrans to achieve connections that are functionally direct and aesthetically and environmentally sensitive.

On behalf of the Planning Board and the residents of Carmel Valley, I want to thank you for your continued efforts to fund these vital links at the I-5/SR-56 interchange.

Sincerely,
Carmel Valley Community Planning Board



Frisco White, AIA, Chair

cc: Councilman Scott Peters