

May 21, 2003

HMC

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

Architecture
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Dear Congressman Cunningham:

One of San Diego's critical transportation infrastructure projects that would benefit significantly from your continued support is the completion of the missing State Route 56 (SR-56)/Interstate 5 (I-5) freeway connectors in Carmel Valley. These connectors are needed to improving traffic flow in the Carmel Valley region, and this is especially important to those of us who operate businesses in this community.

When it is completed, SR-56 will create an important 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 extensive congestive surface traffic, additional wear-and-tear to local roads from increased traffic volume, and likely increases in traffic delays due to accidents.

Without the necessary funding needed to complete this project, San Diego's housing shortage will continue to grow. There are approximately 6,500 housing units slated for construction in the communities adjacent to SR-56, including more than 1,000 affordable homes. However, development of these homes will be delayed until the connectors are completed at a time when the demand for new housing continues to increase.

Securing funding for the completion of the SR-56/I-5 connectors is a top priority among local business leaders. Your assistance in securing funding for completion of this vital transportation project will help ensure businesses can continue to run efficiently and the Carmel Valley community to operate safely.

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Sincerely,



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