

# MONTEREY COUNTY



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February 27, 2023

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
U.S. Senator  
331 Hart Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Alex Padilla  
U.S. Senator  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren  
U.S. Congressmember, CA-18  
1401 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta  
U.S. Congressmember, CA-19  
406 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

### **SUBJECT: Pajaro to Prunedale G12 Corridor Project – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Feinstein, Senator Padilla, Representative Lofgren, and Representative Panetta:

I am writing on behalf of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors to express our support for the Pajaro to Prunedale G12 Corridor Project for federal funding.

The Pajaro to Prunedale G12 corridor is 10.5 miles in length and extends south from the Santa Cruz County/City of Watsonville limits in the disadvantaged and low-income community of Pajaro, terminating at US 101 in Prunedale. The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) and the County of Monterey prepared a corridor study to evaluate improvements to address safety and congested traffic conditions. The corridor study evaluated six project areas. Segment 6, "Salinas Road and Pajaro" is the northernmost segment that acts as the main street of Pajaro and runs adjacent to the future Pajaro/Watsonville Multimodal Station project site. The G12 corridor traverses the drainage basin for the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Reserve, which in turn flows into the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary at Moss Landing. This special status of the Elkhorn Slough and Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary makes planning for stormwater management and runoff a high regional priority.

The Pajaro to Prunedale G12 corridor is a north-south travel alternative between population centers in Santa Cruz County and Monterey County. Unfortunately, this regional commute route now competes with the goods movement needs of the region's rich agricultural lands. The G12 corridor has seen a significant increase in travel as well as an increase in the number of collisions over the past decade. There were 832 reported collisions along the G12 corridor over five years (2012-2018), with 11 fatalities, and 27 bicycle and pedestrian collisions. The collision rate for G12 is calculated to be 2.14 accidents per million miles traveled. This collision rate is three times higher than the statewide basic average rate for similar facilities. This project will address the circulation and safety needs for travel along the G12 corridor, specifically enhancing connections for pedestrians, bicycles, and transit users, improving operations for motorists, and providing a safe environment for all users.

Thank you for your consideration of this important regional project for federal funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luis A. Alejo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "A".

Luis A. Alejo, Chair  
Monterey County Board of Supervisors

Copy: Todd Muck, Executive Director, Transportation Agency for Monterey County