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August 14, 2009

EDWARD R. ROYCE
Fortieth District-California

Mr. Raymond H. LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: City of Anaheim, California (Orange County)- Gene Autry Way (West)
Highway/Interstate 5 HOV Interchange Project**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of California's 40th congressional District, I support the Gene Autry Way (West) Highway/Interstate 5 HOV Interchange Project being submitted for consideration to the Department of Transportation for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant Recovery Act program. The \$75 million project, of which the City is requesting \$29 million, will improve conditions and promote safe passageways for all Californians and those just passing through the city.

The City of Anaheim is a part of the 40th Congressional District, located in Orange County, California, the 5th most densely populated County in the nation. This project will increase traffic flow by enabling the use of HOV lanes through the I-5/SR-57/SR-22 junction known as the "Orange Crush" which is the 13th most congested interchange in the nation. Interstate 5 moves an estimated 390,000 vehicles per day in the proposed project area. Currently, public transit, carpool vehicles and tourist coaches are not able to travel West on Gene Autry Way. This created increased traffic congestion, as within about a 2-mile radius of the project site are many of Southern California's largest tourist destinations: Anaheim Convention Center, Disneyland, Disney's California Adventure, Honda Center, and Angel Stadium, as well as the future Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center (ARTIC). The TIGER grant will allow the City of Anaheim to address these challenges and create tangible solutions that will relieve the stress of traveling this major tourist area.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. It is my hope that after a thorough review, the City of Anaheim's TIGER grant request will be given fair consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ed Royce".

EDWARD R. ROYCE