

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



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August 12, 2009

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:

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On behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), I strongly urge your favorable consideration of the City of Anaheim's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant application. SCAG is the largest council of governments in the United States and functions as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for six counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial.

SCAG is dedicated to developing regional solutions for many of the transportation, air quality, land use and other issues facing Southern California. The purpose of the City of Anaheim's project is to provide efficient transportation operations along the I-5 Freeway and improve access across the freeway between the western and eastern portions of the City of Anaheim. This project will not only relieve congestion, improve regional air quality, and increase regional work productivity, but it will also enhance Orange County's economy through job creation. SCAG supports this transportation project as one that will improve the quality of life not only for those who live and work in Anaheim, but for the 250,000 people who visit the city daily.

Again, I urge your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Hasan Ikhrata  
Executive Director