May 31, 2013

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I am writing on behalf of the North State Super Region (NSSR), a partnership representing the sixteen northern California Regional Transportation Planning Agencies. We represent 26% of California’s total land area that contains 37% of California’s state and federal roads. The primary focus of the NSSR is to support economic development, access, and efficient goods movement through strategic transportation network investments.

We are requesting your support for four regionally significant projects within the NSSR. The Butte County Association of Government’s request for funds, to facilitate the acquisition of land and development of the Butte Regional Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility, will allow for the consolidation of existing facilities and accommodate anticipated growth in operations and service. The City of Arcata’s request for construction funds for the Rail with Trail Connectivity project will ensure that the locally preferred alternative of the State Highway 101 Corridor Improvement Project is implemented. Shasta Regional Transportation Agency’s request for funds for the Buckhorn Grade Improvement Capstone project will complete Surface Transportation Assistance Act compliance and safety improvements along State Highway 299, one of ten focus routes in California. The Town of Truckee’s request for funds for the State Route 89 “Mousehole” UPRR Undercrossing Improvement Project will improve safety while expanding travel mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists by improving connections in the region.

We urge the Department of Transportation to recognize the collaborative efforts of the NSSR in your selection process.

Sincerely,

Marcella Clem, Chair
North State Super Region

cc: Andy Newsum, Butte County Association of Governments
    Karen Diemer, City of Arcata
    Dan Little, Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
    Daniel Wilkins, Town of Truckee