

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 6, 2025

The Honorable Tony Tavares
Director
California Department of Transportation
1020 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Darnell Grisby
Chair
California Transportation Commission
1020 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Director Tavares and Chair Grisby,

The undersigned members of the Congressional Delegation representing California's San Joaquin Valley write to urge you, as leaders of the state's transportation department and commission responsible for funding and building projects on the State Highway System, to prioritize funding for long-overdue projects aimed at completing State Route 99 (SR 99). As San Joaquin Valley residents, we can attest that SR 99 is not just a roadway—it is the backbone of our region's economy, a vital conduit for commerce, and an essential connection between our communities.

SR 99 plays a critical role in moving California's agricultural abundance from farm to market, helping feed families across the country. It connects people to jobs, students to schools, and communities to opportunity. Simply put, SR 99 is a quality-of-life corridor for the Valley and an economic engine for the entire state.

Despite its significance to the regional and state economies, SR 99 remains incomplete. Eight segments in the San Joaquin Valley totaling 35 miles through Merced, Madera, and Tulare counties need to be expanded from 4-lanes to 6-lanes to improve safety and goods movement.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is in the final stages of completing the SR 99 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP) which reestablishes and builds upon prior SR 99 plans, creating a bold vision prioritizing investments in multimodal safety, efficiency, air quality, and economic productivity. Central to the plan is the need to close the remaining gaps so that the corridor is six lanes between Kern and San Joaquin Counties—an upgrade essential to accommodating growing traffic demands and reducing congestion.

The segments of the corridor which continue to operate with only four lanes result in bottlenecks, unsafe conditions, and unnecessary delays. This incomplete work not only undermines the Valley's economic potential, but contribute to deteriorating air quality and worsening environmental outcomes.

We urge Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission to act upon the SR 99 CMCP and direct the necessary funding and staff resources to complete this vital corridor, including funding from every current and future cycle of the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program and the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program until all segments are complete. Committing state funds to these projects will also help California draw down critical competitive federal funds, such as the \$98.4 million Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program award for the Six-Lane Widening and Paige Avenue Interchange Improvement. We also strongly support the state's policy of synchronizing maintenance and capital projects to save precious taxpayer funds and reduce construction impacts to local communities while honoring the intent and statutory authorization for use of funds within various types of highway funding programs.

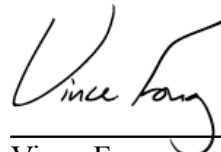
The residents of the San Joaquin Valley—and the businesses that rely upon this route—deserve a safe, modern, and fully realized transportation system.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to working with you to deliver the infrastructure our region needs and deserves.

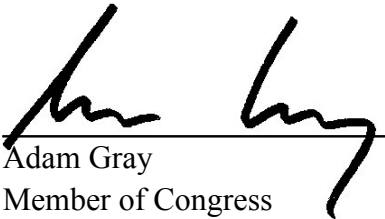
Sincerely,



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



Vince Fong
Member of Congress



Adam Gray
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress