

## Rep. Ellen Tauscher Comments on California Transportation Commission CMIA Staff Recommendations

Washington, DC &ndash; Today, Rep. Ellen Tauscher, the Bay Area's senior member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, commented on the release of the recommendations made by the staff of the California Transportation Commission on funding for projects throughout the state through the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account.

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Rep. Ellen Tauscher Comments on California Transportation Commission CMIA Staff Recommendations

Says Congestion Relief Must be Top Priority

Washington, DC &ndash; Today, Rep. Ellen Tauscher, the Bay Area's senior member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, commented on the release of the recommendations made by the staff of the California Transportation Commission on funding for projects throughout the state through the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account. Some key Bay Area congestion relief projects, such as improvements to the I-80/I-680/Highway-12 interchange, were left off the initial list.

Below is Rep. Tauscher's statement:

"I am convinced that the best use of these one-time bond funds is to benefit California's economy and the people who drive that economy, and that means delivering the most congestion relief possible. It troubles me that a project as vital as improving I-80/I-680/Highway-12, that will relieve congestion and connect our growing region was left off this list of staff recommendations, while other projects that made the list are very expensive and in areas with much less traffic congestion. It really just doesn't make sense to me.

"The staff of the California Transportation Commission was given a tight time-line from the legislature, and it is clear that a lot more work needs to be done these next two weeks. I will work with the Commissioners to develop a list that addresses congestion in the Bay Area, benefits California's economy and commuters, and serves as a stepping stone for future investment."

The Bay Area is the 2nd most congested place in America, and endures 85% of the congestion in the northern portion of the state.

While the Bay Area is roughly 20% of the state's population, the strong Bay Area economy is an economic engine that delivers over 1/3 of the state's general fund revenues, funds that will be used to repay these bonds.

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