

## EL DORADO COUNTY

## TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

http://www.edcgov.us/DOT/

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April 20, 2021

Congressman Tom McClintock District Office 8700 Auburn-Folsom Road, Suite 100 Granite Bay, CA 95746

RE: Community Project Funding

## Congressman McClintock:

The El Dorado County Department of Transportation (EDC-DOT) is closely monitoring the development of federal transportation funding programs and policies being considered in the House and Senate. EDC-DOT continues to explore every opportunity to secure limited and highly competitive state and federal transportation funding to support the vast transportation needs throughout the region. As you know, US Highway 50 bisects El Dorado County and serves as the foundational interregional tourism and economic connection between the large metropolitan regions of California and the extensive resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin, agritourism destinations, and the El Dorado National Forest. However, as the state focuses investments away from traditional automobile travel, EDC-DOT continues to be charged with maintaining rural roadways and highways by investing to improve safety, maintenance, and operations. As state and federal funding become more focused on system modernization to combat climate change, traditional surface transportation investments which are still in great need throughout El Dorado County, become much harder to fund and deliver.

The Community Project Funding (CPF) discretionary grant program, recently released by the House, presents an opportunity for EDC-DOT to secure funding to support these much-needed traditional and transformative transportation investments. The CPF provides an opportunity for a local or regional jurisdiction to advocate for a specific project in a way that clearly illustrates the need, impact, and value that will be realized by not just the local community, but by all users of the transportation system. CPF funding is awarded to a recipient based on their specific advocacy and therefore is not subject to competitive award processes, giving local jurisdictions a greater opportunity to secure transportation funding that will address the needs of their constituents. Furthermore, the CPF allows a local jurisdiction to secure funding for a project which they have deemed the highest and best use of transportation funding rather than require them to structure a project which fits the framework of a specific funding program.

We understand the CPF allows for each congressional district to submit up to ten priority projects. EDC-DOT appreciates the opportunity to work with you to submit high-priority projects for consideration of CPF funding. EDC-DOT would sincerely appreciate any support you can provide to

secure much-needed transportation funding for our community through the CPF and future opportunities.

Sincerely,

John Hidahl El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Chair