



September 13, 2016

Priscilla Martinez-Velez
Division of Transportation Planning, MS-32
California Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

**RE: Comments on the 2016 Draft California Regional Transportation Plan
Guidelines for Regional Transportation Planning Agencies**

Dear Ms. Martinez-Velez:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the September 2016 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Guidelines for Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs). As the RTPA for Monterey County, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) is interested in providing feedback on the draft RTP Guidelines and the potential implications for our agency.

The Transportation Agency offers the following comments:

1. TAMC is supportive of the comments on the revised RTP Guidelines for RTPAs provided by the Rural Counties Task Force on October 12, 2016.
2. In particular, the RTP Guidelines for RTPAs should clearly distinguish between contents required by statute/regulation and those that are merely recommendations or best practices. Legal requirements should include a reference to applicable statute or regulatory authority. TAMC thinks that the word "should" in the text is too strong for optional or "best practice" items, because it implies an obligation or requirement. If something is not a legal requirement, it should be described as "recommended," rather than "should."

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed project. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Leonard of my staff at 831-775-0903.

Sincerely,

Debra L. Hale
Executive Director