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February 18, 2026

**The Honorable Sean Duffy**  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project – Funding Commitment and Federal Matching Requirements**

Dear Secretary Duffy:

On behalf of the Tehama County Transportation Commission (TCTC), I am writing to formally certify the County’s funding commitment and financial capacity to fully deliver the Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project, submitted for consideration under the BUILD Discretionary Grant Program.

BUILD, other federal, and non-federal funds will be used to advance the Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project through final design, right-of-way, and construction, consistent with the approved project scope and eligible cost categories identified in the application budget.

The total future eligible cost of the project is \$39,550,000, supported by a diversified and resilient funding plan consisting of:

- BUILD Discretionary Grant Funds: \$21,926,362
- Other Federal Funds (including STIP, HSIP, CMAQ, and Congressionally Directed Spending): \$9,713,638
- Non-Federal Funds: \$7,910,000

The non-federal share will be satisfied through the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Toll Credits In Lieu of Federal Match. With adoption of the 2026 STIP Guidelines, completion of a Project Study Report (PSR) or PSR-equivalent document became a mandatory prerequisite for new projects prior to STIP programming, and the Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project is currently completing its PSR to meet this requirement.

The project is presently programmed in Engineering and Planning (E&P / PA&ED) in the 2026 Tehama County Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), with the remaining available STIP shares to be programmed in the 2028 STIP cycle following PSR completion and

acceptance. This sequence reflects established state programming requirements and does not indicate any funding constraint or project delivery uncertainty.

The total 2026 Tehama County RTIP programming capacity was \$7,817,000, of which \$1,615,000 has been programmed, leaving an available balance of \$6,202,000 entering the 2028 STIP cycle. Based on historical STIP fund estimate trends, Tehama County's county share has increased by approximately \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,000 in new programming capacity during each biennial cycle. Accordingly, Tehama County can reasonably anticipate a minimum available balance of approximately \$8,700,000 million entering the 2028 programming cycle, exclusive of any revenue forecast adjustments.

TCTC hereby certifies that sufficient funding capacity is available to fully deliver the Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project in accordance with federal and state requirements:

- Sufficient STIP share balance is available to fully fund the project's non-federal share.
- The Tehama County Transportation Commission formally commits to programming STIP funds at an amount sufficient to meet and exceed all applicable federal matching requirements.
- The County and the Tehama County Transportation Commission possess the financial capacity and administrative experience necessary to advance reimbursable costs and deliver the project in compliance with federal requirements.

By leveraging competitive federal discretionary funding, TCTC is able to preserve limited state and local formula resources for additional priority transportation needs while ensuring full delivery of this critical safety, evacuation, and complete streets project serving a single-access, rural community.

Based on the commitments outlined above, TCTC affirms that the Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project is fully fundable, financially complete, and ready to advance upon award.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your continued commitment to improving transportation safety and resilience in rural communities.

Respectfully,

Tom Provine  
Interim Executive Director  
Tehama County Transportation Commission