

Fiscal Year 2015-16 SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

Check One Grant Program:

- Strategic Partnerships
 Sustainable Communities

PROJECT TITLE	
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PROJECT LOCATION (city and county)	
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	APPLICANT	SUB-APPLICANT	SUB-APPLICANT
Organization			
Mailing Address			
City			
Zip Code			
Executive Director/designee and title	Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>
E-mail Address			
Contact Person and title	Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Contact E-mail Address			
Phone Number			

FUNDING INFORMATION

Use the Match Calculator to complete this section.

[Match Calculator](#)

Grant Funds Requested	Local Match - Cash	Local Match - In-Kind	Total Project Cost
\$	\$	\$	\$

Specific Source of Local Cash Match (i.e. local transportation funds, local sales tax, special bond measures, etc.)

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**Fiscal Year 2015-16
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
GRANT APPLICATION**

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

Information in this section must directly be tied to the applicant's address.

All legislative members in the project area do not need to be listed.

State Senator(s)		Assembly Member(s)	
Name(s)	District	Name(s)	District

*Use the following link to determine the legislators.
<http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/> (search by address)

Grant applications must clearly demonstrate how the proposed transportation planning project promotes State and Federal Transportation Planning Goals. Select all that apply.

STATE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GOALS

- Improve Multimodal Mobility and Accessibility for All People: Expand the system and enhance modal choices and connectivity to meet the state's future transportation demands.
- Preserve the Multimodal Transportation System: Maintain, manage, and efficiently utilize California's existing transportation system.
- Support a Vibrant Economy: Maintain, manage, and enhance the movement of goods and people to spur the economic development and growth, job creation, and trade.
- Improve Public Safety and Security: Ensure the safety and security of people, goods, services, and information in all modes of transportation.
- Foster Livable and Healthy Communities and Promote Social Equity: Find transportation solutions that balance and integrate community values with transportation safety and performance, and encourage public involvement in transportation decisions.
- Practice Environmental Stewardship: Plan and provide transportation services while protecting our environment, wildlife, historical, and cultural assets.

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FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GOALS

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
 - Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
 - Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
 - Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
 - Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
 - Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
 - Promote efficient system management and operation.
 - Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
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1. Project Description (100 words maximum) (25 points): Briefly summarize project.

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2. Project Justification (Do not exceed the space provided.) (25 points): Describe the problems or deficiencies the project is attempting to address, as well as how the project will address the identified problems or deficiencies.

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3. Project Management (50 points)

- A. Scope of Work in required Microsoft Word format (25 points)
- B. Project Timeline in required Microsoft Excel format (25 points)

**Fiscal Year 2015-16
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
GRANT APPLICATION**

Application Signature Page

If selected for funding, the information contained in this application will become the foundation of the contract with Caltrans.

To the best of my knowledge, all information contained in this application is true and correct. If awarded a grant with Caltrans, I agree that I will adhere to the program guidelines.



Signature of Authorized Official (Applicant)

Executive Director

Title

Dan Little

Print Name

10/30/14

Date

Signature of Authorized Official (Sub-Applicant)

Print Name

Title

Date

SCOPE OF WORK:

Far Northern California Consolidated Goods & Freight Hub Study

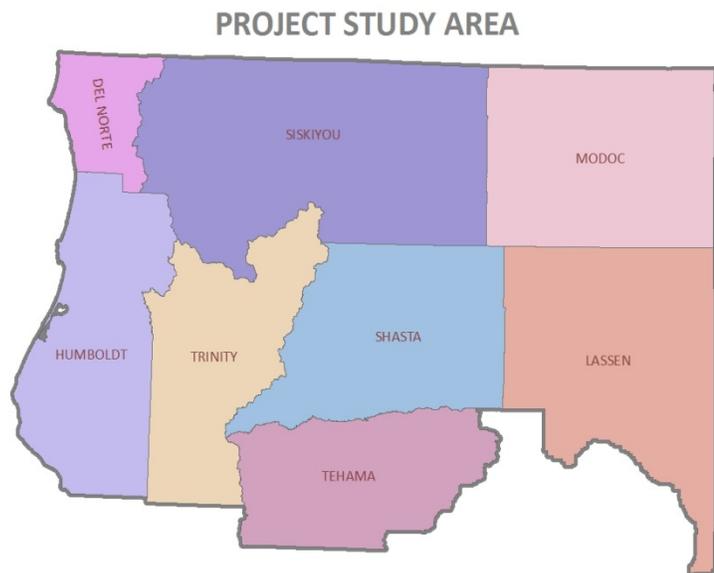
INTRODUCTION:

A priority initiative of the Superior California Economic Development District (SCEDD) and Growing Local (a coalition of agriculture-related stakeholders representing the counties of Shasta, Tehama, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou) is the development of a regional hub for the aggregation, wholesale, and distribution of agricultural goods. The need for such a facility – one that also includes forest products and other natural resource-based industries – was identified in SRTA’s recently completed North State Transportation for Economic Development Study. The proposed project would study the feasibility of a multi-industry hub located in Shasta County and evaluate the practical benefits related to transportation efficiency, economic development, and greenhouse gas emission reductions.

The eight-county project study area covers 30,569 square miles and is home to a rich variety of working landscapes. A limited number of interregional transportation corridors serve as collectors of agricultural and natural resource-based products on the way to processing, storage, and market delivery. Urban nodes located at the crossroads of such corridors are well-suited for consolidating transport of such commodities.

Unfortunately, the movement of \$953 million per year in regional food production, as well as the import of \$102 million in feed, \$17 million in seeds, and various other farm production inputs, is largely uncoordinated. The region’s 6,399 farms transport food and receive farm inputs almost entirely by truck, ranging in size from multi-trailer semis to delivery vans. Partial loads, deadheading, and other inefficient practices generate unnecessary interregional travel demand and greenhouse gas emissions while adding little if any economic value to the region.

It is proposed that the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA), in strategic partnership with public, private, non-profit and educational sector partners, map and measure the production, aggregation and distribution patterns of agricultural outputs and inputs in the eight-county far northern region of California. Results of this analysis, combined with travel demand modeling, will be used to identify the most transportation-efficient clusters of agriculture-related industry and evaluate the feasibility of a centralized hub to make the large volume of industry outputs and inputs more efficient.



The following scope of work is the result of extensive discussion, information exchange, and coordination between project partners over the course of 7+ months. All entities required to carry out the study and the implementation thereof have signed on as project partners or have provided letters of support. As lead applicant, SRTA will provide project and fiscal management in accordance with all grant program requirements. To ensure adequate project oversight and the highest quality final deliverable, each major work task will be accompanied by a technical memorandum documenting methods, results, and preliminary findings.

Project partners have coordinated with Caltrans Transportation/Freight Modeling & Data Branch, who will provide technical support, assist with preparing data for input into the California Statewide Travel Demand Model, and coordinate efforts related to the California Truck Classification Count schedule to begin July 2015.



RESPONSIBLE PARTIES:

- Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)
- Superior California Economic Development District, Inc. (SCED)
- Growing Local (eight-county coalition of agriculture industry leaders)
- ProPacific Fresh (North State food distributor)
- Center for Economic Development (CED) at California State University, Chico
- Caltrans Transportation/Freight Modeling & Data Branch

OVERALL PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Optimization of existing transportation systems to delay or avoid the need for costly capacity increasing projects;
- Reduction of 'food miles traveled' and associated greenhouse gas emissions;
- Management of transportation-related expenses relative to the region's total food production costs;
- Cultivation of agriculture-related industry clusters around transportation infrastructure; and
- Development of a more holistic food value chain that addresses economic, social, and environmental goals.

SCOPE OF WORK:

1. Project Initiation

Task 1.1 – Prepare request for proposals, administer procurement process, consultant contracting.

Task 1.2 – Grant contract and fiscal management, including quarterly reports and invoicing.

Task 1.3 – Project kick-off between consultant and project partners.

Task 1.4 – Review and benchmarking of best practices related to food hubs and coordinated aggregation and wholesale distribution transport.

- **Responsible Parties:** SRTA, consultant

Task	Deliverable
1.1	<i>RFP, consultant contract (SRTA)</i>
1.2	<i>Quarterly reports and invoicing (SRTA)</i>
1.3	<i>Kick-off meeting agenda and minutes (SRTA and project partners)</i>
1.4	<i>Benchmarking matrix and findings memo (Consultant)</i>

2. Data Development

Task 2.1 – Aggregate, assemble, and merge pertinent existing data, including but not limited to: travel counts, travel modeling, AgCensus, and the North State Transportation for Economic Development Study.

Task 2.2 – Fill data gaps required for spatial analysis and travel demand modeling through interviews and surveys of producers and distributors, actual and modeled travel data, Caltrans Truck Classification County Study, and other data sources where available.

Task 2.3 – Prepare data for input into Shasta County’s regional travel demand model (ShastaSIM) and the California Statewide Travel Demand Model (CSTDM) in consultation with Caltrans Transportation/Freight Modeling & Data Branch.

Task 2.4 – Prepare and publish data to the FarNorCalGIS (www.farnorcalgis.org) online map portal.

- **Responsible Parties:** Consultant with support from SRTA, CED, SCED, Growing Local, and Caltrans

Task	Deliverable
2.1	<i>ArcView GIS shapefiles (consultant w/ partner support)</i>
2.2	<i>Schema, data, metadata (consultant w/ partner support)</i>
2.3	<i>Minutes from coordination meetings with Caltrans (SRTA, Caltrans)</i>
2.4	<i>FarNorCalGIS.org online map viewer (SRTA)</i>
<i>Technical memo documenting process and summarizing findings (consultant)</i>	

3. Outreach and Stakeholder Communication

Task 3.1 – Organize and manage project technical advisory committee.

Task 3.2 – Communications between project partners, including project updates, presentations, web-posting, etc.

Task 3.3 – Administer focus groups, interviews, site visits, and other targeted stakeholder communications and document input.

- **Responsible Parties:** Consultant, SRTA, SCED, Growing Local

Task	Deliverable
3.1	<i>TAC membership list, sign-in sheets, agendas, minutes (SRTA, SCED, Growing Local)</i>
3.2	<i>Project updates, presentation material, web-postings</i>
3.3	<i>Coordination meeting notes</i>
<i>Technical memo documenting process and summarizing findings (consultant)</i>	

4. Technical Analysis & Logistics

Task 4.1 – Data processing/mining: convert data to spatial data, perform queries and other analysis to validate qualitative findings from Task #3.

Task 4.2 – Cluster analysis: identify and map patterns and clusters of industry and support industries that have congregated for mutual benefit and support and that are most likely to benefit from coordinated transportation of outputs and inputs.

Task 4.3 – Economic impact analysis

- **Responsible Parties:** Consultant, CED, SCED, Growing Local

Task	Deliverable
4.1	<i>Part of technical memo (consultant w/ partner support)</i>
4.2	<i>Part of technical memo (consultant w/ partner support)</i>
4.3	<i>Economic impact analysis results (Center for Economic Development (CED) at Chico State)</i>
<i>Technical memo documenting process and summarizing findings (Consultant)</i>	

5. Agricultural Goods Movement Demonstration Project

Task 5.1 – Planning and design of demonstration project, including: communications protocols, transportation logistics, partner responsibilities, and operational procedures/guidelines.

Task 5.2 – Perform demonstration project, including detailed documentation of all aspects of communications, transportation logistics, data collection, and other transactions between project participants.

- **Responsible Parties:** Consultant, ProPacific Fresh

Task	Deliverable
5.1	<i>Demonstration project plan (consultant w/ partner support)</i>
5.2	<i>Documentation of demonstration project, including photographs, data, transcripts/notes from post-project partner interviews (consultant)</i>
<i>Technical memo documenting process and summarizing findings (Consultant)</i>	

6. Prepare and Present Final Report

Task 6.1 – Prepare draft final report, circulate for review and make revisions as appropriate.

Task 6.2 – Final report printing and circulation.

Task 6.3 – Present final report to project partner governing bodies and regional stakeholders.

- **Responsible Parties:** Consultant with support from project partners.

Task	Deliverable
6.1	<i>Draft final report (consultant)</i>
6.2	<i>Final report document and distribution list (consultant)</i>
6.3	<i>Presentation material and meeting agendas (consultant w/ partner support)</i>



When Freshness Counts

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

October 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Chico Produce, Inc. dba ProPacific Fresh strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in your application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

Chico Produce, Inc. dba ProPacific Fresh has been serving the North state of California with warehousing, distribution, cold storage and logistics services since 1983. In our view, utilizing and leveraging existing cold storage and logistics systems is paramount to the cost effective and efficient distribution of locally produced agricultural products in any geographic area, particularly northern California. As a company, we feel a strong obligation to give back to the local communities we service. In demonstrating our support of this very worthwhile initiative, we are more than willing to provide input and guidance on developing and optimizing the efficient aggregation, storage and distribution of locally grown agricultural products throughout northern California. Given the opportunity, in addition to providing guidance on this initiative, it is very likely that the existing warehousing, cold storage and logistic capabilities of ProPacific Fresh can be leveraged in support of this initiative.

We support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Growing Local in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

Terry Richardson
President & CEO
Chico Produce, Inc.
Db a ProPacific Fresh

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

October 31, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:



On behalf of the North Valley Food Hub I am writing to express our support for the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

The North Valley Food Hub is committed to building a vibrant, active and efficient localized food system in California's North Valley. The North Valley Food Hub is an online marketplace designed to expand existing local food markets and create new opportunities for wholesale and retail food buyers and growers. The critical services offered by the North Valley Food Hub include: providing educational opportunities and resources, consolidating food transaction costs, creating a one-stop shopping platform for buyers and a marketplace for growers to post and promote their products, and serving as a centralized facilitator for creating and expanding local food markets in California's North Valley.

We support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and the North Valley Food Hub in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melba", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Director and Co-Founder
North Valley Food Hub





Shasta County Farm Bureau

P.O. Box 970 ▪ Palo Cedro, CA 96073 ▪ (530) 547-7170 ▪ E-mail: shastacountyfarm1@frontiernet.net

California Department of Transportation
Caltrans
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 916-654-5266

October 14, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Shasta Farm Bureau strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

As a non-profit organization made up of farmers, ranchers and agriculture enthusiasts, the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant will directly benefit many of our members who derive the majority of their income from agriculture commodities produced in Shasta County.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Shasta Farm Bureau in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Martinez - Manager
Shasta Farm Bureau



Anderson Partnership for
Healthy Children
City of Anderson
City of Redding
City of Shasta Lake
County of Shasta
First 5 Shasta
Mercy Medical
Center
Redding Rancheria
Redding School
District
Shasta College
Shasta County Office
of Education
Shasta Regional
Transportation Agency
Shasta Family
YMCA
Shasta Head Start
Simpson University
The McConnell
Foundation
Turtle Bay Exploration
Park
University of California
Cooperative Extension
Viva Downtown
Whiskeytown
National
Recreation Area

Daniel S Little
Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

October 13, 2014 2014

Dear Mr. Little:

Healthy Shasta strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the Caltrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

Healthy Shasta is a partnership of multiple organizations formed to address growing rates of obesity and chronic disease in our community. Our vision is to create a community where the healthy choice is the easy choice, especially around physical activity and nutrition.

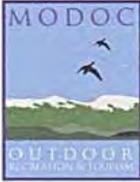
Healthy Shasta's strategic plan focuses on four areas: Fruits and Vegetables, Sugary Beverages, Walking and Biking and Fitness and Play. This project falls under increasing access to fruits and vegetables and supporting locally grown food. Healthy Shasta staff and members of the Fruits and Vegetables workgroup look forward to working with SRTA on this project. We can bring a health perspective to the table, provide data, and help with public outreach.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Healthy Shasta in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shellisa Moore".

Shellisa Moore
Healthy Shasta Coordinator



Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism MORT-ALS

(Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism—America's Land Stewards)
"Exploring Open Spaces and Historic Places."

California Department of Transportation
Caltrans
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 916-654-5266

September 30, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism Inter-Agency Group strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agriculture products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

Lorissa Soriano - Chairperson
Modoc Outdoor Recreation & Tourism



California Department of Transportation
Caltrans
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5680

October 27, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCD) strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agricultural products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (primarily trucking).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

The RCD would be pleased to assist with sharing information about this project through our existing or upcoming projects. The project aligns with our mission, vision and purpose:

Mission: To provide assistance with managing, conserving and improving the natural resources of Tehama County.

Vision: A balanced management of the county's natural resources, where all land use decisions are locally driven, socially acceptable, environmentally sound and economically feasible.

Purpose: To coordinate technical, financial and educational resources, to ensure the long term use of natural resources.

Please support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County in helping our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Victoria Dawley".

Victoria Dawley
District Manager



Superior California Economic Development

350 Hartnell Avenue, Suite A • Redding, CA 96002
(530) 225-2760 • Fax (530) 225-2769

October 24, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Caltrans Sustainable Communities Grant Application

Gentlemen:

Superior California Economic Development (SCED) is pleased to support Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's (SRTA) proposal for a Caltrans Sustainable Communities grant. The purpose of the proposed project is to investigate ways to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by the greater than \$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions occurring within the region, while optimizing the use of existing private sector transportation facilities.

As the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) designated regional economic development district serving Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou and Trinity Counties, SCED authors the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs). Several of the activities and initiatives identified in the strategy have applicability to this sustainable communities grant opportunity. These initiatives include:

- Support the development and marketing of value added products utilizing agriculture, timber, nontimber forest resources, and other natural resource products.
- Support initiatives that will open new markets for agriculture, timber, non-timber forest resources, and other natural resource products.
- Work with land owners, industry, development organizations and agencies to promote the concept of sustained yield and multiple use for forest lands, including timber production, grazing and recreation.

SCED will continue to actively collaborate with SRTA and other project partners to explore production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

We look forward to hearing that this application has been funded. Please feel free to contact me at (530) 225-2760, extension 205 should you wish to discuss our participation in further detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Nash".

Robert Nash
Chief Executive Officer



October 7, 2014

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

RE: Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Shasta College is pleased to offer a letter of support for the grant application submitted by Growing Local and their partners, the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and Superior California Economic Development. This grant will allow Growing Local to identify opportunities and barriers to food production and distribution in northern California and create a plan to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions.

Shasta College is part of the California Community Colleges system, and serves the counties of Tehama, Shasta, and Trinity, and portions of Lassen, Humboldt, and Modoc. Our mission provides a diverse student population open access to educational programs and learning opportunities, thereby contributing to the social, cultural, intellectual and economic development of our communities.

Shasta College has a vibrant and strong Agriculture Department with degrees and course offerings that prepare students for a number of agriculture related career opportunities. Our students are provided the opportunity to work in an industry that makes up 20% of the nation's economy using the latest technology on our 90-acre college farm laboratory using sustainable and renewable practices. We support Growing Local and their partners in this endeavor to bring sustainability through agriculture and transportation that will strengthen the economic outlook of the north state region.

Sincerely,

Joe Wyse, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President

JW:tm

Governing Board Members

Rhonda E. Nehr McArthur	Harold J. Lucas Red Bluff	Duane K. Miller Anderson	Kendall S. Pierson Redding	Rayola B. Pratt Shasta	Robert M. Steinacher Corning	Scott J. Swendiman Redding
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Superintendent/President
Joe Wyse, Ed.D.



October 28, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
c/o Steve Sibilsky, Growing Local

As Leader of the University of California's Small Farm Program, I strongly support your application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from Caltrans. Your community has assembled in-kind donations to make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities regarding the aggregation and distribution of agricultural products in the 8-county far northern California region (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*).

I understand that the objective will be to increase load sizes, thereby reducing "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by over \$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities. In our 2010 report on food supply chains published by USDA, my co-authors and I compared the fuel efficiency of farmers who direct marketed their production with those in the mainstream and intermediated food distribution channels. We concluded that, although the direct marketers had the lowest food miles, they nevertheless had the highest fuel consumption per pound of product hauled.

In the findings of the 2013 National Food Hub Survey, the authors noted that "...food hubs may serve to provide much-needed, size-appropriate infrastructure and marketing functions for local food produced by small and mid-sized producers" (p.4). According to USDA's 2012 Census of Agriculture, 92% of agricultural producers in your 8-county region are small farms (with gross annual revenues of less than \$250,000), compared to 82% of producers statewide. With such a high proportion of small farms, your interest in a food hub is clearly warranted.

I understand that the proposed project's findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on the transportation system's performance. I commend the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's efforts to secure funding to help the region's agricultural industry grow while making most effective use of its regional highway systems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shermain Hardesty".

Shermain Hardesty, Ph.D., Extension Economist, Agricultural & Resource Economics
& Leader, Small Farm Program, University of California Davis, CA 95616
530 752 0467, shermain@primal.ucdavis.edu



UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA
Agriculture & Natural Resources



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, SHASTA COUNTY
1851 Hartnell Avenue, Redding, CA 96002-2217
Telephone: (530) 224-4900 Fax: (530) 224-4904

October 27, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street,
Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

To Whom It May Concern:

The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in their application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

Combined with in-kind donations, this funding will make it possible for public, private, non-profit, and educational stakeholders to identify and analyze barriers and opportunities to the aggregation and distribution of agricultural products in an eight-county (*Tehama, Shasta, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou*) area. The objective will be to reduce "food miles traveled" and greenhouse gas emissions generated by >\$1 billion in annual agricultural transactions within the region while optimizing the use of existing private sector, transportation facilities (*primarily trucking*).

Findings will be shared region-wide with community and business leaders to help manage the production, collection, aggregation and distribution of local foods and to quantify the possible impact of a regional hub on transportation system performance.

We believe that educating and encouraging communities to change their behavior for healthier eating and lifestyles is strongly influenced by their environment. The food system is an essential part of the individual and community environment, in which sustainable food production, processing, distribution and consumption are integrated to enhance the environmental, economic, social and nutritional health of a particular locale. This project will contribute to the building of an effective and sustainable local food system in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,

Larry Forero,
County Director
University of California Cooperative Extension,
Trinity and Shasta County
Redding (530) 224-4900





6270 Parallel Road, Anderson, CA 96007-4833 · Phone: (530) 365-7332 · Fax: (530) 365-7271

October 28, 2014

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

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Western Shasta Resource Conservation District strongly supports the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) in your application for a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the CalTrans Division of Transportation.

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The project fits in well with the District’s organizational objectives. The District is a subdivision of the State of California with the mission to collaborate with willing landowners, government agencies, and other organizations to facilitate the conservation or restoration of Western Shasta County’s natural resources. The District has a long history of working with farmers and ranchers to implement projects that result in co-benefits to the environment, landowners and society. Examples of these benefits include wildlife habitat improvement, water and soil conservation, water quality improvement, and increased economic stability within our region.

As a result of community interest in climate change, the District formed a stakeholder team to identify potential effects in our area from climate change and develop an adaptation plan for forest and water resources in Shasta County. Through the planning process the nexus between natural resources, agriculture and the economy became apparent. The county expects to continue to experience changes in temperature and precipitation affecting storms and flooding, seasonal shifts in stream flow, heat waves, vector biology, air pollutants, and food supply. Secondary effects will include impacts to farming conditions, pests and invasive species, frequency and severity of forest wildfires, water quality and fisheries degradation, and incidences of human and animal disease. The 2013 report documents transportation sector emissions are projected to more than double by 2050, thus exacerbating the climate change dilemma. As such, it is vital for our region to reduce greenhouse emissions and increase food security in our area. The project proposed by the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency will be a large step in that direction.

We support the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency's proposal and look forward to working with you to help our local agriculture industry grow while making use of our regional highway systems most effectively.

Sincerely,



Leslie A. Bryan
Project Manager/Climate Stewardship Coordinator
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District