

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0520**

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Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves  
Committee On Transportation And Infrastructure  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for the US 101/SR 25 Interchange Phase 2 - Santa Teresa Boulevard Extension in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, located at 3331 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St, San Jose, California, 95134. The project is located in the City of Gilroy, Santa Clara County, California.

The funding is designated to construct a new two-lane roadway connection from Santa Teresa Blvd, just north of Castro Valley Rd, to the soon to be constructed US 101/SR 25 interchange Phase 1 project. The two-way Santa Teresa Extension would widen to four lanes as it approaches the SR 25/Southbound ramps intersection to match the proposed roadway width at that interchange. The roadway would accommodate bike lanes in both directions and require reconstruction of the Santa Teresa Blvd/Castro Valley Rd intersection.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars, as it will directly benefit the residents of Gilroy, California and Santa Clara County by increasing safety for bicyclists and motorists, decreasing traffic congestion, and increasing equity and accessibility throughout the county. The soon to be constructed US 101/SR 25 interchange Phase 1 project terminates the existing connection between Santa Teresa Boulevard and Castro Valley Road with US 101, which will cause local traffic to divert to other congested locations along US 101 and smaller local County roads. The proposed Santa Teresa Extension would provide an improved direct connection from the area south of the City of Gilroy to both US 101 and SR 25 that bypass existing bottlenecks and nonstandard access points further north on US 101. The new Santa Teresa Extension would also establish a new bike lane connection between Gilroy, SR 25, and destinations further south that would allow for bicyclists to avoid using the shoulders of US 101 as they currently do today, providing a much improved connectivity gateway to encourage bicycle use along this corridor.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

  
Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress