February 20, 2006

Jean Bonander, Chairperson and Technical Advisory Committee Members
Transportation Authority of Marin
3501 Civic Center Dr Room #304
San Rafael, CA 94903

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Ms. Bonander and Fellow TAC Members:

I am writing to you concerning the "Major Roadway Projects Data Table" provided to committee members at the last TAC meeting. At that meeting it was stated that only local bicycle and pedestrian plans were considered pertinent to projects with a local sponsor.

I respectfully urge the committee to discuss this assumption and to ask staff and the consultants to include countywide bicycle facilities in their ranking of potential roadway projects even when these facilities are mentioned only in the County of Marin plan. I recommend this for the following two reasons:

1. **Missed opportunities**: Strictly speaking, the County of Marin Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan does not have jurisdiction over local projects. However, it would be fiscally irresponsible to not do these projects right the first time. We need to consider ALL bicycle and pedestrian plans as we rank these projects to ensure that we don't miss out an opportunity that results in a costly mistake down the road.
2. **Need for connections between communities**: While a local jurisdiction has surely done a good job of furnishing local routes, their plan's goal is not to make countywide connections and therefore may not be adequate as a guide for analyzing bicycle needs on roads of countywide significance. In at least one case, a local jurisdiction has no adopted bicycle and pedestrian plan. Surely nothing could be more germane to this discussion than insisting that we consider countywide bicycle connections when prioritizing these roadway projects.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your consideration of the above points. Feel free to contact me at your convenience should you have any questions about this matter. I can be reached at 415-897-2790 or mgiacomini@earthlink.net.

Sincerely,

Merv Giacomini

CC: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director, TAM
Craig Tackabery, TAM
Chris Lang, Measure A TAC
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