

From: [Amy Dunnigan](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: TAM 2/26/26 6pm meeting remark
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 2:38:37 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from amydunnigan@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Transportation Authority of Marin, My name is Amy Dunnigan and I live in San Anselmo (90 Ridge Road).

I encourage you to help make the newt wildlife crossing a reality. I feel like most everyone in Marin takes great pleasure in our critters both big and small and approving this road improvement will only help our biodiverse animals continue to grow and thrive. Keeping the roadways safer for drivers is also a no-brainer.

This year has been tough for so many reasons out of our control. We lost Jane Goodall this year, but I must remind you of her famous quote, "What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what type of a difference you want to make." The newt brigade is comprised of a tireless demographic all ages, including my biophile daughter, and so many more including. I've witnessed their hard, tireless, admirable work for years. They deserve a win. All living things do!

From: [Faeryn Dunnigan](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment for 2/26/2026 meeting 6:00pm
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 2:24:10 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from faerynshead@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Good afternoon,

My name: Faeryn Dunnigan

My address: 90 Ridge Road San Anselmo CA, 94960

Agenda item number: N/A (Speaking towards the Chileno Valley wildlife passage.)

My comment:

“Good evening,

My name is Faeryn Dunnigan and I live within Marin County.

Tonight, I would like to use my voice to advocate on behalf of those unable; the newts of Chileno Valley. At the same time, I would like to acknowledge that designated wildlife passages in Chileno Valley would also be beneficial to the human community of Marin. I see incorporating these crossings as a big opportunity to improve road safety conditions, lower street maintenance costs as well as to protect the beauty that drives Marins’ economy. As a current College major in Biology, I understand the impact wildlife crossings have; from preventing traffic collisions, to reducing habitat fragmentation as well as helping to increase genetic diversity. As a young adult, I want to look back on my life in years to come and smile, recognizing the accomplishments, our community has established. With TAM’s help, I know this dream can be made possible. TAM, I urge you to partner with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade to make wildlife passages in Chileno Valley a reality in order to enhance the protection of generations to come for all animals, humans and non-humans alike.”

Thank you for your time,
Faeryn Dunnigan

From: [k.scott](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: **Please Support A Safe Crossing For Wildlife on Chileno Valley Road**
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 9:46:29 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kathyscott.sf@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board Members,

I'm writing to urge your funding support of a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road in northern Marin County.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road as they migrate between the forest and Laguna Lake where they breed. I am one of hundreds of volunteers with the citizen science non-profit group Chileno Valley Newt Brigade (CVNB) who have stepped in to help provide safe passage during the annual rainy migration season, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. A recent study of Chileno Valley Road by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) concluded that unless the problem is solved, the population of newts in this area will go extinct.

There's a solution: a wildlife undercrossing so animals can connect to food, water, and mates. And CVNB volunteers can stay home instead of patrolling the hazardous road in the dark and the rain. An undercrossing effort like this is already underway in nearby Santa Clara County, where Mid-Penninsula Open Space is partnering with the county and other agencies to investigate undercrossing designs to improve amphibian connectivity near Lexington Reservoir.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Kathy Scott
Tuesday Night Co-Captain, Chileno Valley Newt Brigade

[kathy.scott](#) | kathyscott.sf@gmail.com |

From: [MaryButler](#)
To: [Anne Richman](#)
Subject: New submission for Anne Richman
Date: Saturday, January 31, 2026 10:19:35 AM

Name

Mary Butler

Email

mb.butler@comcast.net

Question or Comment

Please save the newts in Chileno Valley by building a tunnel under the road, or other feasible solution.
Thank you.
Mary Macey Butler

To: Susannah Mrazek <Susannah.Mrazek@MarinCounty.gov>; Sonia Saltzman <Sonia.Saltzman@MarinCounty.gov>

Subject: FW: Approve Measure AA Funds for Chileno Valley Road [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]

From: No-Reply <No-Reply@MarinCounty.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:09:04 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

To: Brian Colbert <Brian.Colbert@MarinCounty.gov>

Subject: Re: Approve Measure AA Funds for Chileno Valley Road [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]

Contact Us

Email To: Brian.Colbert@marincounty.gov

Hosted Page: <https://www.marincounty.gov/departments/board/district-2>

To: Brian Colbert

From: William Webb

Sender's Email Address: williamwebb35@gmail.com

Subject: Approve Measure AA Funds for Chileno Valley Road

Message: Dear Supervisor Colbert,

I am writing to encourage your support for the approval of Measure AA funds for Chileno Valley Road. Vehicle traffic on Chileno Valley Road creates a serious hazard to wildlife, especially native amphibians migrating after winter rains.

Work has already been conducted by the United States Geological Survey, Dokken Engineering, and dedicated volunteers to identify a potential solution for reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions on this roadway. Wildlife-friendly tunnels allowing safe passage under the roadway were determined to be the best solution. However, Measure AA funds are essential for completing the job in order to allow for CEQA compliance and finalizing the designs.

Thanks for your consideration!

Bill Webb
Larkspur

2026-02-09 08:12AM -0800

From: [MaryAnne Flett](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Newt undercrossing at Laguna Lake, Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 10:11:19 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from maryanne.flett@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good morning,

I'm writing to advocate for building a crossing for newts and other amphibians on Chileno Valley Road. The California where and when I grew up was full of amphibians on the move during rainy nights but sadly, that has become rare with increased development and traffic. I believe that this is a chance to preserve a large population of amphibians and that everything possible should be done to protect them.

Thank you!
MaryAnne

--

Mary Anne Flett
Wildlife Biologist

maryanne.flett@gmail.com

text:

USFWS T&E permit #TE- PER2438806 **or TE233373-2**
CDFG SCP & MOU # S-211740004-21175-001

From: [David Wimpfheimer](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Allocation of Funds Needed
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:04:52 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from calnatureguide@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sirs,

For many years on wet, winter nights I have seen hundreds of newts crossing Chileno Road to go to and from breeding habitats. Sadly, I have also seen many dead animals that have been run over by cars.

This shocking loss of wildlife does not have to happen. The solution is to build tunnels under the road so that the animals, and other amphibians can cross safely.

I urge the Authority to allocate \$1.2 million to complete studies that are necessary to receive state and federal funds for construction of the project.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

David Wimpfheimer

From: [Katherine Mitchell](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: California Newts and others
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 9:38:39 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from kmmhighland@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Please allocate the \$1.2 million for the studies required to receive state and federal funding for construction of tunnels under Chileno Valley Road so the California Newts and other salamanders and frogs can safely cross between the forest on one side and Laguna Lake on the other where they can complete their breeding cycle migration.

Thank you.

Katherine Mitchell
Inverness, 94937

From: [Ann Gessert](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chelino Valley newt project
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 7:21:41 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from agessert@live.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom It May Concern

I am in full support of the project that will add culverts (or whatever are the best changes) under the road in Chelino Vallleyto allow newts, salamanders and other creatures to cross to their breeding grounds. An allocation of \$1.2 million would complete the studies necessary to receive state and federal funding for this construction, a very small part of your budget. Please approve this allocation so this project can move forward and help these creatures survive.

Thank you

Ann Gessert
Inverness CA

From: [Aubree Ellison](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Newt Project
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 10:11:54 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from aubree@napalandtrust.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi there,

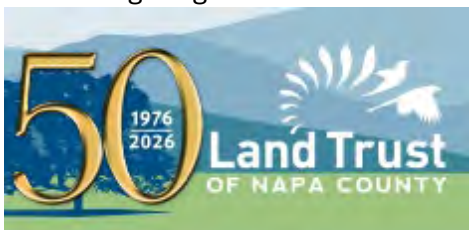
My name is Aubree Ellison, I currently work at the Land Trust of Napa County after received my environmental studies degree at Sonoma State. As a passion project, I both volunteer with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, and have started my own newt-crossing group in the city of Napa.

I'm writing today to express my support for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing under Chileno Valley Road. This will not only assist the precious *Taricha torosa* (California newt), but provide an important example of a successful wildlife crossing project, which other municipalities can follow

A great amount of data has been collected to demonstrate the need for a final solution to help these newts cross the road. It has been great to volunteer with the Brigade but creating an established undercrossing would allow volunteers to move on to helping the next vulnerable population somewhere else.

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Aubree Ellison
Monitoring Program Assistant



Land Trust of Napa County
1700 Soscol Ave, Suite 20
Napa, CA 94559

www.napalandtrust.org

From: nancy@wisdomtracks.com
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Newt Study
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 7:16:36 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from nancy@wisdomtracks.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to support the allocation of \$1.2 million to complete the necessary studies for state and federal funding of a safe tunnel crossing under Chileno Valley Road for California Newts and other salamanders.

This may seem like a small thing but taking action that recognizes we share this planet with, and therefore have a responsibility to, the more-than-human world as well as ourselves is critical to all survival,

Thank you,

Nancy Binzen
Woodacre

From: [martha davis](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Newts
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 8:13:07 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mlcmarthadavis@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Transportation Authority of Marin,

In these times, saving lives -- including the lives of creatures as humble as the Chileno Valley newts -- makes a difference.

Please fund the studies that will enable Marin County to receive the state and federal funding needed to protect these innocent creatures. All they are doing is trying to complete their natural life cycle but cannot because they are massacred by the thousands by passing cars.

We are the ones who have built these roads and we are the only ones who can modify the roads to reduce our impact on these creatures. Other transportation districts have made similar accommodations, such as the wildlife tunnels built in southern California to accommodate mountain lions and other migrating species .

This fix is simple. Please look in the mirror and think about what your decision means to ensuring the survival of the newts in Chileno Valley. Please be a hero for the newts. The communities you serve in Marin will thank you.

Martha Davis
Nicasio, CA

--

mlcmarthadavis@gmail.com

"Adjust to changing times while staying true to your principles."

Jimmy Carter

"The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference."

Elie Wiesel

From: [Charlie Lai](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Road - Measure AA Wildlife Undercrossing Funding
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 4:16:57 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from charlie.lai@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

My name is Charlie Lai, and I am reaching out to ask for your support in funding a **planning grant** for a permanent wildlife undercrossing on Chileno Valley Road!

Chileno Valley Road happens to bisect a natural migratory path for numerous amphibian species. Especially in the winter months, thousands of frogs, newts and salamanders emerge from the hillside to breed in Laguna lake. The California Newt and the Red Legged Frog, in particular, are "Species of Special Concern". At the Federal level, the Red Legged Frog is "Threatened".

To reach the lake, they cross a limited stretch of Chileno Valley Road - we call this section a "hot spot". Unfortunately because of their small size, they are difficult for drivers to see. Moreover, they come out en masse in the early evening, making sightings even harder. As a result, most are crushed. In recent years volunteers have patrolled the road nightly to help mitigate the number of deaths, but this is unsustainable.

As the board considers Measure AA allocations, it is an ideal time to pair road repair considerations together with wildlife crossing considerations. Wildlife crossings - both overpasses and underpasses (or undercrossings) - are becoming more and more prevalent across California ([link](#)). I am truly hopeful that the board can support funding for the Chileno Valley Road wildlife undercrossing **planning grant**!

Thank you so much for your time,
Charlie Lai

From: [patrice moore](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Road funding
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 8:48:16 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from all5moores@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Patrice Moore

From: [Randy Breaux](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Cc: [Sally Gale](#); [Indigo Bannister](#); [Nancy Stclair Breaux](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Road Newt Brigade volunteer plea!
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 12:05:00 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gobroman@sbcglobal.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Subject: Please Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Funding

To the Editor,

I appreciated the Marin Voice column "Chileno Valley Road crossing is deadly for our newts" (Jan. 30). As the article explains, this road has become a dangerous barrier for wildlife trying to reach Laguna Lake.

I have been an active volunteer for over 5 years with the CVNB helping newts and frogs and other reptiles and amphibians cross safely, but hand-carrying animals across a busy road is not a permanent solution. What's needed is infrastructure that allows wildlife to cross safely on their own.

The Transportation Authority of Marin is currently deciding Measure AA funding priorities. This is a rare opportunity to support a planning grant for a permanent wildlife undercrossing that protects animals, improves safety, and reflects community environmental values.

I urge TAM to make this project a priority.

Randy Breaux, CEBS, CRPS
Bodega Bay, CA 94923

From: [Fred Rinne](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Road Undercrossing
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 5:27:28 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from fredrinne@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern:

I urge your organization to endorse a funding grant for wildlife undercrossing at Chileno Valley Road to protect the biodiversity of this special place where newts and other animals must cross this dangerous road to get to water they have done thousands of years. That this is a wildlife hot spot shows it should be priority for an undercrossing there.

Thank you for your time,
Fred Rinne

From: [Christine Flaga](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Road Wildlife Crossing
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 10:47:15 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cflaga@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the TAM Board,

I have been a brigadier of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade for three years now. I've been on the road during peak California Newt migration conditions, and it's astounding to watch the adult newts, as well as other amphibian species like the federally threatened red legged frog, pour out of the hills towards the laguna to breed. Later in the season, we see the adults emerging from the opposite side of the road to make their journey from the lake back into the hills. Their journey back into the hillside means that they have successfully bred and laid their eggs in the lake. You can see that they have been in the lake with little bits of algae still clinging to their bodies. The earliest sign of the migration, in October and November, are the small, juvenile newts emerging from the lake and migrating to the hills where they spend the next five years maturing to a breeding adult. After reaching adulthood, they can travel to the lake and back to the hillside for up to 30 years! Of course that means they have to successfully cross the road twice every year. Once you learn to appreciate the beauty and life cycle of these creatures, it is devastating to find their smashed bodies on the road knowing that you didn't get to them in time before a car or truck ran over them.

I'm asking for your support to fund a grant for a permanent wildlife under-crossing infrastructure on Chileno Valley Road. As much as I love being a brigadier and spending evenings to assist these animals in successful passage across the road, this is not a sustainable long term solution to the problem. This wildlife crossing will provide improved road conditions and serve to protect environmental quality and biological diversity. It will also serve as a model for similar locations across the country. Please join us in saving the wildlife whose continued existence depends on safe passage across Chileno Valley Road.

Sincerely,

Christine Flaga

Brigadier, Chileno Valley Newt Brigade

From: [michael neuman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley road
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 12:22:24 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from barnasailor@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Transportation Authority of Marin,

Every rainy night on Chileno Valley Road in northern Marin County, California Newts and a variety of other salamanders and frogs cross the road between the forest on one side and Laguna Lake on the other side to complete their breeding cycle migration.

Volunteers from the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade move as many animals as possible but cannot save them all. Every year, thousands of these innocent creatures are run over by cars and trucks.

One solution is to create tunnels under the road that the animals can safely use. This is a wise use of funds managed by the Transportation Authority of Marin. An allocation of only \$1.2 million would complete the studies necessary to receive state and federal funding for construction.

Thank you,

Michael Neuman
Inverness Park resident and Chileno Valley bicycle rider

From: [Susan Gladwin](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley tunnel
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 7:28:15 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from segladwin@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I'm writing in support of the budget needed to build a tunnel under Chileno Valley to protect the wildlife (newts, etc.) who die crossing the road there.

Please refer to the success of the Devil's Slide tunnel on Highway One that successfully protected falcons and red-legged frogs.



Thank you for supporting this.
Susan Gladwin
Mill Valley, CA

From: [Diana Barnes](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley under-crossing
Date: Saturday, February 14, 2026 10:40:24 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from diaba@sbcglobal.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Please approve the Chileno Valley under-crossing to kept our treasured newts safe.
Thank you, Diana Barnes

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rick parmer](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Cc: [Jerry Meral](#); [Sally Gale](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley wildlife crossing project allocation request
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 7:13:45 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from rrparker@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear TAM board,

There are road projects and there are road projects. Most have no appreciable impact on climate change or native wildlife protection.

Please consider breaking the TAM project allocation “norm” and supporting the 1.2 million ask for the Chileno Valley road wildlife crossing.

The newts have been arguably using their own migration “road” since the last ice age. They need us humans to right the wrong of ignoring their “right to safe passage” as fellow earth dwellers since we disrupted their peaceful annual trek with placement of that perilous road.

Cheers, Rick Parmer

Former student of Park Elementary school, Mill Valley

“Survivor/boat evacuee at 3 years old” Starling Road, Mill Valley flood of 1955....there should have been a TAM project to prevent that neighborhood flooding back then!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Greg Haskins](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Project: Funding Allocation Request
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 9:18:31 AM

You don't often get email from haskins02@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Jennifer Doucette:

I am long-term resident of Marin County (since I was born in December 1951). I would like to go on record in supporting the funding request for the Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Project for the protection of amphibians, which are being slaughtered by the thousands along Chino Valley Road.

Thank you.

Greg R. Haskins
San Rafael, CA.
94901
Haskins02@yahoo.com

From: [Lynette La Mere](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Crossing
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026 11:01:48 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lynette@purejoyliving.blog. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please help secure a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road

Thank you

From: [Andrew Chou-Belden](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: fund studies for newt tunnels
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 6:02:03 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from andrewchoubelden@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the Transportation Authority of Marin,

I, Andrew Chou-Belden, am writing to express my wholehearted support for the Authority allocating research funds that will lead to the construction of tunnels for California Newts and frogs crossing Chileno Valley Road for their breeding cycle migration.

As a California Species of Special Concern, newts are especially vulnerable to being struck by vehicles, and this occurs thousands of times a year. I have no doubt that future generations of Marin county residents would look kindly upon a construction project to protect these iconic creatures.

Sincerely,
Andrew Chou-Belden

From: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: FW: A bridge to safety
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:15:34 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Kris Iwasaki <krisiwasaki@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:03 AM
To: TAM Info <info@tam.ca.gov>
Subject: A bridge to safety

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from krisiwasaki@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To whom it may concern, TAM, please consider this when appropriating funds:

>> 'create tunnels under the road that the animals can safely use. This is a very appropriate use of funds managed by the Transportation Authority of Marin. The Authority spends more than \$50 million a year. An allocation of only \$1.2 million would complete the studies necessary to receive state and federal funding for construction.'

Thank you,
Kristine Iwasaki
Belvedere, Ca

From: [Sonia Saltzman](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: Fw: Chileno Valley Road Improvements [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:44:22 AM

From: No-Reply <No-Reply@MarinCounty.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 1, 2026 8:48:09 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Brian Colbert <Brian.Colbert@MarinCounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Chileno Valley Road Improvements [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]

Contact Us

Email To: Brian.Colbert@marincounty.gov
Hosted Page: <https://www.marincounty.gov/departments/board/district-2/brian-colbert>
To: Brian Colbert
From: Owen Gump
Sender's Email Address: owenmgump@yahoo.com
Subject: Chileno Valley Road Improvements
Message: Dear Supervisor Colbert,

Per Jerry Meral's "Marin Voice" editorial in the Marin IJ from 1/31/26, I'm writing to encourage you to support using Measure AA funds to address numerous issues on Chileno Valley Road as part of the six-year Measure AA expenditure revision plan. Meral outlines the need for reptile tunnels to protect the local newt population (I'm sure you've heard of the Newt Brigade), and as a cyclist I'd like to both second this and highlight the road's general maintenance condition. Due to both ranch traffic and an increase in tourism, many sections of the road's pavement are in dire need of repair. The area is remote and far from emergency services, which could render any accident all the more serious. Please take both these issues into consideration as you work to revise the Measure AA expenditure revision plan for the safety of both humans and wildlife.

Thanks and best regards,

Owen Gump, Fairfax

2026-02-01 08:33PM -0800
IP: 2600:1700:50e0:88bf:447:c69f:d6a:60cc

From: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: FW: New submission from TAM Contact Form
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 1:38:22 PM

From: TAM Contact Form <info@tam.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 11:53 AM
To: TAM Info <info@tam.ca.gov>
Subject: New submission from TAM Contact Form

Name

Pat Dickens

Email

pwdickens@yahoo.com

Phone

Leave A Comment

Please allocate 1.2 million to complete the studies for tunnels under the road on Chileno Valley Road to protect newts and other amphibians who cross the road. Thank you!

From: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: FW: Please Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Funding
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 5:49:55 PM

From: LINDA SHEPPARD <lsheppard08@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 5:15 PM
To: TAM Info <info@tam.ca.gov>
Subject: Please Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Funding

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lsheppard08@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

TAM Commissioners,

I have been a member of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade for seven years and I know that crossing Chileno Valley Road is deadly for our newts. This road has become a dangerous barrier for wildlife trying to reach Laguna Lake. Over the years traffic, especially speeding traffic, has increased. Only the countless hours of the volunteers have prevented increased deaths of newts, red-legged frogs, and other fauna.

Hand-carrying animals across a busy road is not a permanent solution. What's needed is infrastructure that allows wildlife to cross safely on their own. Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

You as a commissioner on the Transportation Authority of Marin, are currently deciding Measure AA funding priorities. This is a rare opportunity to support a planning grant for a permanent wildlife undercrossing that protects animals, improves safety, and reflects community environmental values. Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Linda Sheppard

Petaluma, CA 94954

"When I was young, I admired intelligent people. Now I admire kind people."

From: [Sonia Saltzman](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: Fw: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Fund on Chileno Valley Rd [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 12:03:07 PM

From: No-Reply <No-Reply@MarinCounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 7:06:03 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Brian Colbert <Brian.Colbert@MarinCounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Fund on Chileno Valley Rd [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]

Contact Us

Email To: Brian.Colbert@marincounty.gov
Hosted Page: <https://www.marincounty.gov/departments/board/district-2/brian-colbert>
To: Brian Colbert
From: Robin Clarke
Sender's Email Address: robinlynnclarke@gmail.com
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Fund on Chileno Valley Rd

Message: Dear Mr Colbert

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

I am new to the Newt Brigade, and what I have found is a tremendous amount of volunteers that come from all over the greater Bay Area to hand carry newts across the road to safety at the cost of their own safety. And even with all these volunteers walking a mile long stretch of road we still miss some. Finding dead newts you were steps away from helping is a disheartening feeling.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both. Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Robin Clarke

2026-02-09 07:02AM -0800
IP: 2601:645:b83:f480:3015:4be:7401:b12

Email Disclaimer: <https://www.marincounty.gov/privacy-policy>

From: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: FW: Protect salamanders on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 1:14:03 PM

From: Paul Barnett <paul@barnettfamily.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 11:09 AM
To: TAM Info <info@tam.ca.gov>
Cc: Kate.Colin@cityofsanrafael.org
Subject: Protect salamanders on Chileno Valley Road

Some people who received this message don't often get email from paul@barnettfamily.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayor Colin and TAM Board,

I am writing to ask Transportation Authority of Marin to include as a priority the protection of salamanders with wildlife crossings at Chileno Valley Road. Other Bay Area jurisdictions have taken steps to protect these creatures from automobile traffic, most notably, the seasonal closings of South Park Drive in Tilden Park, in Berkeley. Seasonal road closure does not seem feasible in this location. Please support below grade wildlife crossings to protect these amphibians as they migrate to and from their breeding areas.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Barnett

San Rafael, CA 94903

From: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 4:20:01 PM

From: Daniela Powers <danielapowers@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 3:26 PM
To: TAM Info <info@tam.ca.gov>
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. I am an active volunteer with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade and have been for 4 years. Despite our dedication, newts still get run over by the thousands each year, as it is not feasible to patrol the road 24/7. What is needed is a long-term, practical, scalable solution for safe wildlife crossing.

Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

I urge TAM to support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Daniela Powers

From: greenchange@googlegroups.com <greenchange@googlegroups.com> **On Behalf Of** Max Perrey
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 10:27 PM
To: Green Change <greenchange@googlegroups.com>
Subject: Fwd: save marin wildlife

Passing along from Jerry Meral...



[Create your own email signature](#)



----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jerry Meral <jerrymeral@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, 9 Feb 2026 at 19:52
Subject: save marin wildlife
To: Jerry Meral <jerrymeral@gmail.com>

Dear Friend of Marin County Wildlife



Every rainy night on Chileno Valley Road in northern Marin County, California Newts and a variety of other salamanders and frogs cross the road between the forest on one side and Laguna Lake on the other side to complete their breeding cycle migration.

Volunteers from the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade move as many animals as possible but cannot save them all. Every year, thousands of these innocent creatures are run over by cars and trucks.

The solution is to create tunnels under the road that the animals can safely use. This is a very appropriate use of funds managed by the Transportation Authority of Marin. The Authority spends more than \$50 million a year. An allocation of only \$1.2 million would complete the studies necessary to receive state and federal funding for construction.

Please contact the Transportation Authority of Marin and ask them to make this allocation. Send your request to TAM at info@tam.ca.gov . They will decide this issue in the next few weeks.

Thank you for caring about the creatures with whom we share Marin County, and the planet.

Jerry Meral
Chileno Valley Newt Brigade

www.chilenovalleynewtbrigade.org

apologies for any cross posting

--

Jerry Meral

jerrymeral@gmail.com

--

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Green Change" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to greenchange+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion visit

https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/greenchange/CAE%2BN0m29-_Db2Rc_5wUe98aL157JL2bunJLTJEyrprtCC%2BX%2B4Q%40mail.gmail.com.

From: [Sonia Saltzman](#)
To: [Jennifer Doucette](#)
Cc: [Susannah Mrazek](#)
Subject: Fw: Transportation Authority of Marin [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 9:04:24 AM

Hi Jennifer,

Forwarding this public comment. Thanks!

From: Brian Colbert <Brian.Colbert@MarinCounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2026 7:21 PM
To: Susannah Mrazek <Susannah.Mrazek@MarinCounty.gov>; Sonia Saltzman <Sonia.Saltzman@MarinCounty.gov>
Subject: FW: Transportation Authority of Marin [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]

From: No-Reply <No-Reply@MarinCounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2026 7:21:04 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Brian Colbert <Brian.Colbert@MarinCounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Transportation Authority of Marin [SENT FROM A PUBLIC FORM]

Contact Us

Email To:	Brian.Colbert@marincounty.gov
Hosted Page:	https://www.marincounty.gov/departments/board/district-2
To:	Brian Colbert
From:	Paul da Silva
Sender's Email Address:	pgsilva@sonic.net
Subject:	Transportation Authority of Marin
Message:	Dear Brian -

Marin County now has a great opportunity to show leadership and compliance with emerging public policy multiple levels. The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), in deciding its Measure AA funding priorities, can dedicate funds to the proposed Chileno Valley undercrossing. This will help newts and frogs survive by avoiding getting crushed by automobiles and will also support the amazing volunteers of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade who have turned out at night and in the

rain for years to save these imperiled animals.

Such action would comply with California's Room to Roam Act (AB 1889), which directs cities and counties to minimize the disruption of wildlife movement, as well as with the spirit of the state's Safe Roads and Wildlife Protection Act (A.B. 2344), which requires the California Department of Transportation to prioritize wildlife crossing structures when improving or building roads. It would also help Marin to do its part in reaching Targets #1, #4 & 14 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).

I respectfully ask that you do all that you can as a TAM Commissioner to help this dream become reality.

All the best,
Paul

2026-02-16 07:16PM -0800
IP: 162.234.254.236

From: magwhls@comcast.net
To: [TAM Info](#)
Cc: kjacobs@novato.gov
Subject: Input for Measure AA 6-Year Review
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026 11:47:40 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from magwhls@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear TAM Board,

I write in support of using Measure AA funds to create an amphibian-friendly wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. Across the country municipalities are creating wildlife crossings - it's all the rage! Mortality of wildlife on our roads is an ongoing crisis - a number of books, for children and adults, have been written about the importance of these crossings.

California has a mapping system showing the existing crossings - lets get on there!

<https://www.wildlandsnetwork.org/newsroom/interactive-ca-wildlife-crossings-map>

Please, make this a priority for this round of funding and help our vulnerable amphibians, and reptiles, make it across Chileno Valley Road. I am counting on you all and especially my TAM representative Kevin Jacobs!

Thank you for your anticipated compassion and environmental stewardship.

Maggie Rufo
Novato

From: [Lewis Baden](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Laguna Lake Amphibians
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 3:20:19 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lewisbaden@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Transportation Authority of Marin,

Please allocate an estimated 1.2 million dollars to build tunnels for our amphibian-friends, including California Newts and the threatened Red Legged Frogs, near and around Laguna Lake. These tunnels, if built, will help the local amphibians in their spawning travels to cross roads safely.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lewis Baden

From: [Jerry Meral](#)
To: [Anne Richman](#); [TAM Info](#)
Subject: legal status of Chileno Valley Road fix
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026 1:16:45 PM
Attachments:

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jerrymeral@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Anne

Please distribute the attached to the TAM Commissioners. We have had some feedback questioning whether this project is eligible for TAM funding. The attached is our analysis of why the project is eligible, and why it meets the criteria set out in the 2050 plan.

Many thanks for your help.

best regards

Jerry

--

Jerry Meral

jerrymeral@gmail.com

Repairing Chileno Valley Road in a way which allows safe animal passage
Submitted by Chileno Valley Newt Brigade
February 22, 2026

There are two important questions about TAM's involvement in repairing Chileno Valley Road, including animal passage.

Does TAM have the legal authority to install animal passage facilities as part of repairing the road? Do the key TAM authorizing documents support the repair of Chileno Valley Road to include safe animal passage?

The answer to both these questions is "yes". The texts of Measure AA, the accompanying implementation plan, and the TAM 2050 transportation plan all support this conclusion.

The 2050 transportation plan noting habitat destruction and climate change is the overarching justification for all county transportation projects. Measure AA is a funding mechanism that must conform to the mission of the 2050 plan

The Chileno Valley road project should be considered for funding pursuant to Measure AA since it meets the overall criteria of the 2050 plan. There may not be any other single project that meets all the criteria. Other road repair projects the TAM board is considering don't mitigate climate change or habitat destruction in any direct way.

There is substantial scientific evidence for the effectiveness of the habitat protection elements of the Chileno Valley road project.

This project will reduce animal mortality. The Monkton Amphibian Crossing project in Vermont is an example of a successful initiative designed to protect migrating newts, salamanders, and frogs from roadkill, utilizing specialized tunnels and drift fencing. Located on Monkton-Vergennes Road, it has reduced amphibian mortality by over 80%, ensuring safe passage for thousands of creatures.

Case law under the federal Endangered Species Act makes it clear that the current condition of the road is a violation of the Act, since it results in substantial take of a listed species, the California Red Legged Frog.

All the following material in *italics* are quotes from TAM documents. **Bold** text is simply for added emphasis.

Measure AA. SECTION 14. PROPOSITION

There shall be proposed to the voters of Marin County the following proposition:

In order to:

- *relieve traffic congestion on Highway 101 and local roads;*
- *fix potholes/maintain local roads;*
- *improve interchanges/access to/from Highway 101;*
- *expand safe routes to schools, including school bus service/funding crossing guards; and,*
- *provide local transit, including options for seniors/persons with disabilities;*

There is no question that maintaining local roads can include repairing Chileno Valley Road in a way which provides safe passage for animals underneath the road.

Measure aa further states:

SECTION 5. PURPOSE

*The Board of Supervisors, and a majority of the cities of Belvedere, Larkspur, Mill Valley, Novato, San Rafael, and Sausalito, and the towns of Corte Madera, Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo, and Tiburon, representing all of the cities and towns in Marin County and all of the incorporated population have approved the Sales Tax Renewal Expenditure Plan as required by Public Utilities Code Section 180206(b). Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 180201, TAM requests the Board of Supervisors to call for a special election (to be consolidated with the County of Marin's General Election) to be held on November 6, 2018 and to submit a measure to the voters of Marin County for their approval that would, if so approved, authorize TAM to extend collection of the existing one-half of one percent retail transactions and use tax through March 31, 2049 and authorize TAM to issue limited tax bonds to finance the transportation improvements set forth in **the 30-Year Sales Tax Renewal Expenditure Plan**.*

The 30-Year Sales Tax Renewal Expenditure Plan states

*It supports **an environmentally sustainable future** while providing transportation options throughout the county. (p. 6).*

Without providing animal passage, this promise cannot be kept, since the animal populations using Chileno Valley Road are in danger of extinction.

All the projects and programs included in this Expenditure Plan provide essential transportation infrastructure and services in Marin. (p.12).

It is undeniable that Chileno Valley Road is essential transportation infrastructure, including its ability to maintain wildlife populations that are influenced by its use.

*The Expenditure Plan is organized around four categories or strategies designed to meet the current needs of our businesses and residents, while **protecting the environment** and ensuring the high quality of life enjoyed in Marin. P. 12.*

Improving Chileno Valley Road is critical to protecting the environment.

The TAM Marin Countywide Transportation Plan 2050 includes the following:

*Page 3. In this new era of climate change, sustainability in transportation planning refers both to the desire to mitigate environmental degradation (air, noise, and light pollution, carbon emissions, **habitat destruction**, etc.) locally while also accepting the global reality of a changing planet and the need to adapt infrastructure and system operations to account for hazards such as more extreme temperatures, storm events, flooding, wildfires, tsunamis, and sea level rise. A sustainable transportation system is a resilient transportation system.*

Page 6

*This plan provides essential transportation infrastructure and services for people who live and work in Marin County. The Expenditure Plan will improve traffic operations and infrastructure on city streets and highways; fix potholes and maintain local roads; provide transit services within the county, including services for youth, seniors, and people with disabilities; improve air quality; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and create local jobs. It **supports an environmentally sustainable future** while providing transportation options throughout the county.*

Page 8

*This funding stream has provided significant benefits that have helped improve mobility, reduce local congestion, **protect the environment**, enhance safety, and provide a variety of high quality transportation options to meet local needs.*

Page 12

*Supports an efficient and effective transportation system that **protects and sustains Marin County's natural environment** and unique quality of life.*

PLAN COMPONENTS

*The Expenditure Plan is organized around four categories or strategies designed to meet the current needs of our businesses and residents, while **protecting the environment** and ensuring the high quality of life enjoyed in Marin.*

*The four categories outlined in Figure 3 will help achieve Expenditure Plan goals: Providing congestion relief and enhancing mobility, improving infrastructure, and providing diverse choices for all travel modes **to benefit the environment** and our community.*

PLAN COMPONENTS *The Expenditure Plan is organized around four categories or strategies designed to meet the current needs of our businesses and residents, while **protecting the environment** and ensuring the high quality of life enjoyed in Marin.*

Page 16

*The Expenditure Plan is organized around four categories designed to **protect the environment** and quality of life enjoyed in Marin County.*

From: [Lance Barlas](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Measure AA Expenditure Plan
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 10:53:06 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lbarlas1@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Transportation Authority of Marin
900 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100
San Rafael, CA 94901

This letter is intended as a Public Comment regarding the Measure AA Expenditure Plan Review

Dear TAM Board:

I have an intensely personal relationship with Chileno Valley Road and the wildlife that utilize it. I am one of some 80 volunteers with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade who spend our winter nights, often in the wind and rain, transporting newts safely across this roadway. California newts and rough-skinned newts have evolved in this location over thousands of years. Their life cycle requires them to breed in Laguna Lake and but spend the majority of their adult lives on the wooded hillside adjacent to the lake. To do so they must cross Chileno Valley Road, where each breeding season they are run over by the thousands. Over the past seven years we have documented and transported to safety over 38,000 newts, but were unable to save over 11,000 that we documented dead on the road.

Several other amphibian species are also present on Chileno Valley Road. Of particular note is the California Red Legged Frog (*Rana draytonii*), a federally listed threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Its population has undergone a major decline in recent decades, and it has been extirpated from approximately 70% of its former range in California. Over the past 2 1/2 years our group has documented about 1600 live California RLF's on Chileno Valley Road, but also 300 dead.

According to the Federal Register, 11 September 2000, "Based on movements of *Rana draytonii*, USFWS recognized the primary constituent elements for critical habitat to be, at a minimum, two (or more) suitable breeding locations, a permanent water source, associated uplands surrounding these water bodies up to 150 m from the water's edge, all within 2 km of one another and connected by barrier-free dispersal habitat . . ."

The Chileno Valley Newt Brigade is completing a reconnaissance level study of designs for improving the road, paid for by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and undertaken by the United States Geological Survey and Dokken Bridge Engineering.

I am requesting that as part of your six-year Measure AA capital outlay review, that you allocate \$1.2 million over the next two years for the purpose of modifying Chileno Valley Road in the vicinity of Laguna Lake, both to repair and improve this section of the road, and to build an undercrossing to prevent ongoing road kill of the amphibians that cannot currently avoid crossing this road. This fund allocation will be sufficient to bring the road repair design to 65%, and to complete a CEQA analysis. I believe that this falls squarely within the mandate of the Transportation Authority of Marin. The Marin Countywide Transportation Plan 2050 Executive Summary

(December 2024), under the heading "A Sustainable Future Built on Innovation and Resilience" (Page 8) states its goal:

"Actively partner to implement transportation strategies to support climate resiliency, *environmental protection*, and economic development throughout Marin's communities."

It goes on:

"In this new era of climate change, sustainability in transportation planning involves *mitigating local environmental degradation* while adapting infrastructure and system operations to account for more extreme temperatures, storm events, fire risk, and sea level rise."

I believe that the vast majority of Marin County citizens would support this project. I urge TAM to strongly consider this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lance Barlas, M.D.

From: [Jack Liebster](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Cc: sallygale@gmail.com
Subject: Measure AA funding is Needed for Newts.
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:22:40 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jackliebster01@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

For at least seven years, an intrepid band of volunteers have come out in the middle of rainy nights, at risk to their own lives, to help keep thousands of newts and other wildlife from being crushed by cars passing along Chileno Valley Road. More than 40,000 animals have been saved by this effort. But we need a permanent infrastructure solution.

To address the environmental objectives included in Measure AA, to protect wildlife, and to make needed safety and road improvements along Laguna Lake, TAM should support a planning grant for undercrossings of Chileno Valley Road so wildlife can safely cross on their own. A variety of wildlife undercrossings are being developed across the state, and we need one of our own.

Please make this project a priority.

Thank you very much.

Jack Liebster, Corte Madera.

From: [K.F.S.](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Measure AA Funds Use
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026 7:09:12 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kriyanow@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello TAM,

I am writing to request the allocation of funds for the Chileno Valley Road newt/wildlife permanent crossing.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Best regards,

Kriya Stevens

, Forest Knolls, CA 94933

"The greatness of a nation can be judged by how it treats its weakest member,"

From: [Cec](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Measure AA funds
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:14:14 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from cmrejas@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To Whom This Concerns,

Please use Measure AA funds for an under crossing for wildlife on Chileno Valley Road. I lived in Marin County for many years and I've personally stopped and tried to help move amphibians and reptiles out of the roadways. Please appropriate funding to this very worthy cause.

Cecilia Rejas, Santa Rosa, CA
Sent from my iPhone

From: [TAM Contact Form](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: New submission from TAM Contact Form
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:48:50 PM

Name

Sandra Wallace

Email

woodwan@earthlink.net

Phone**Leave A Comment**

We Marinites love our natural world. Where else would you see folks of all ages patrolling county backroads late at night, and rejoicing with each amphibian they can pick up and relocate safely?

However, this is not a safe pastime, and it's a wonder that said Marinites are not themselves hit by cars in the darkness.

We think it would be an ideal project for Marin County to build an underpass to facilitate the road crossing for the salamanders and newts. Perhaps a series of pipes under the road bed would suffice—nothing as elegant as the larger crossings for deer and other large mammals we see on major highways.

We hope this gets some attention and discussion at the upcoming TAM meeting.

Thanks!

Sandra Wallace and Michael Frankel
Nicasio, CA

From: [TAM Contact Form](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: New submission from TAM Contact Form
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 1:09:38 PM

Name

Claudia Wornum

Email

claudiawornum@comcast.net

Phone

Leave A Comment

Dear [Commissioner / TAM Board],

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Claudia Wornum

From: [TAM Contact Form](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: New submission from TAM Contact Form
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:03:03 PM

Name

David Wimpfheimer

Email

calnatureguide@gmail.com

Phone**Leave A Comment**

Dear Sirs,

For many years on wet, winter nights I have seen hundreds of newts crossing Chileno Road to go to and from breeding habitats. Sadly, I have also seen many dead animals that have been run over by cars.

This shocking loss of wildlife does not have to happen. The solution is to build tunnels under the road so that the animals, and other amphibians can cross safely.

I urge the Authority to allocate \$1.2 million to complete studies that are necessary to receive state and federal funds for construction of the project.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

David Wimpfheimer

From: [hilde simon](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: newt crossing
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 5:22:08 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hildesimon@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Staff,

I add my name to others to encourage you to allocate funds for newt crossings on Chileno Valley Road.

We do not have to accept the killing of thousands of newts as unavoidable when there is such an easy fix.

Thank you,

Hilde Simon

Corte Madera, CA 94925

From: [Judith Ciani Smith](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Newt crossing
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 4:48:10 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from jeciani@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Transportation Authority

I am writing to respectfully urge you to fund the studies needed to facilitate construction of tunnels under the roads where newts and frogs cross to their breeding grounds near Laguna Lake.

All denizens of the natural world deserve the opportunity to exist and thrive in and thereby enrich the fabric of life which we humans have a sacred duty to protect and preserve.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Judith Ciani Smith
!Inverness CA
94937

Item 7 - Public Comment

From: [CHRISTINE CORDARO](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Newt tunnels
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 2:44:43 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from christinecordaro@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To whom it may concern:

Apparently there is a request to allocate up to \$1.5 million dollars to fund the construction of tunnels under Chileno Valley Road to save the newts during their mating crossings.

Please do NOT allocate money to this absurd idea! Would newts actually find and use these tunnels? I think not.

We have so many pressing priorities here in West Marin and newt safety is NOT one of them.

Sincerely,
Christine Cordaro
Inverness Resident

Sent from my iPad

From: [Marcin Whitman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Newt/wildlife crossing for Chicano Valley road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 6:48:13 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from water@terraserve.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

For seven years, hundreds of volunteers of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, have walked the mile-long route on cold, rainy winter nights to help move newts — as well as frogs, salamanders, toads, turtles and other vulnerable wildlife between their forest home and the lake, and back again when they are done breeding

Since the group's inception, the volunteers have rescued more than 40,000 animals. But despite the heroic effort, thousands of newts and other animals are still being run over.

IN ADDITION, this volunteer effort is just a stopgap measure. According to USGS the newts future is in peril: Unless the problem is solved, populations of newts in this area will go extinct.

I urge you to include moving forward the construction of newt- and frog-friendly tunnels under the road. Such have effectively been used in similar situations. Time is running out for the newt and we cannot continue to rely on volunteers to mitigate a problem caused by a public road alignment. Time to step up and take care of this issue. This means, among other actions, **adding expedient funding of this newt tunnel project to the Measure AA budget** (soon up for a rare opportunity for revision).

M Whitman

From: [Ingrid Noyes](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Cc: [Tess Elliott](#)
Subject: Newts and frogs of Laguna Lake
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 2:48:45 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ingridnoyes@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

February 24, 2026

To the Transportation Authority of Marin:

I'm writing to ask that you allocate some funds towards getting tunnels under Chileno Valley Road to reduce the amount of newts and frogs that get squished on that road every year. I can't think of a better way to use these funds, and it sounds like it would only require a very small portion of our transportation budget. We humans put that road right between the lake and the forest, and the amphibians need to get from one place to the other to complete their breeding cycle. It seems only fair that we mitigate the damage created from this deadly obstacle we have put in their way. They were here first, after all, and as fellow residents of the planet, they deserve our consideration.

I hope you will seriously consider this (and do it!).
Thank you very much.

Ingrid Noyes
Novato CA

From: [Carina DeVera](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Now is the time to invest in a wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 8:41:24 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-kzvf031.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_9f85c0.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_92717e.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_b1b598.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_9d6574.png](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cdevera@marinhumane.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to express my strong support for funding a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. While I work in animal welfare in Marin, I am writing today in my personal capacity as a community member who cares deeply about protecting local wildlife.

Every year, large numbers of amphibians struck by vehicles as they attempt to cross the road to breed at Laguna Lake. Community volunteers have stepped up to reduce the loss of life, but volunteer patrols are not a substitute for a safe, permanent solution.

Planning funding now would ensure that wildlife crossing infrastructure can be thoughtfully incorporated into future road improvements, making the project more cost-effective and aligned with long-term transportation goals. Voters approved Measure AA to maintain our roads while protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly advances both priorities.

In a world where so much feels out of our control, it's rare that we get to make such an immediate, meaningful difference for a small creature completely at our mercy. I respectfully urge you to include funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you for your time and leadership,

Warmly,

Carina DeVera

Digital Marketing Manager

she/her

415.506.6248 Direct

415.883.4621 Campus

marin humane
Lives made happy.



From: [Judith Forrest](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Permanent Safe Newt Crossing
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 1:38:51 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from judith@perspective2.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Professionals,

I am writing to encourage the funding of the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant. The construction of an under-road tunnel would be of enormous benefit to the breeding newts and also a wise safety measure for the many volunteers rescue workers who have put many hours into transporting the newts across the road.

In these times, it is increasingly important and necessary that we do what we can to protect wildlife and preserve Marin's natural heritage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judith

Judith Forrest
judith@perspective2.com
perspective2.com

From: [Heather Clapp](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please allocate \$1.2 million for Chileno Valley Road Wildlife Corridor Studies
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 8:42:41 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from heatherc@ptreyes.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom it May Concern at the Transportation Authority of Marin,

I'm writing to urge you to allocate \$1.2 million from your annual project budget to complete the studies for underground wildlife tunnels on Chilleno Valley Road. Every year, thousands of innocent creatures (salamanders, newts, frogs, etc) are run over by cars and trucks, particularly during their breeding season. The road runs directly through their route: from the forest on one side and Laguna Lake on the other. Fellow friends and neighbors have stepped in to help with their crossing, organized by the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, and while admirable, this is not a sustainable, long-term solution for the health of wildlife populations. When these roads were built, there was never forethought as to which wildlife this would impact. It is upon us now, as we are increasingly aware of how our roadways cause harm to individuals and breeding populations of many species, to do what is right. We must use the tools and information we have to support our fellow community members (wildlife) with whom we share these lands, waterways, and planet. In this case, I urge you to allocate \$1.2 million towards completing the necessary studies and taking steps towards building a wildlife corridor along this route in Chileno Valley.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Heather Clapp

--

Heather Clapp | [she/her](#)
Director of Community Engagement and Philanthropy
[Point Reyes National Seashore Association](#)
heatherc@ptreyes.org
Office: (415) 663-1200 x310

From: [Carolyn Placente](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please fund a planning grant for Chileno Valley Rd
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:09:33 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from carolynplacente@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Members of the Transportation Authority of Marin Board,

Each year during the rainy months, newts leave their forest burrows to reach ponds to mate and lay their eggs. That means they have to cross Chileno Valley Road. They need our protection.

Please allocate Measure AA transportation funds to fund a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing under Chileno Valley Road so that construction will be possible later.

Wildlife is integral to what makes Marin so very unique. It is our duty to plan to protect wildlife of all sizes.

Thank you.

Kindly,
Carolyn

Carolyn Placente
Longtime West Marin Resident

From: [Greg Reis](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please fund Chileno Valley wildlife undercrossing
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 6:36:39 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gregreis@gmx.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Transportation Authority,
I encourage you to fund the \$1.2 million completion of studies of a wildlife undercrossing in Chileno Valley so that state and federal funding of construction can occur.

Thank you,
Greg Reis
San Geronimo, CA

--

Sent with GMX Mail app

From: [Susie Schlesinger](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please fund crossing for the newts!
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026 3:43:15 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from chisosdog@earthlink.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

From: [Yvonne Young](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please fund the Chilean Valley Wildlife crossing
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 2:16:08 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from yvonne.young@compass.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

I am urging you to fund a properly designed under crossing in the Chilean Valley. It is such a small thing, but it will ensure the survival of the survival of the Newt population in that area.

I would love to see the Transportation Authority of Marin be the good guys and vote to allocate Measure AA funds in the form of even a small planning grant to move this project along and making future construction funding possible.

Thank you so much!

Yvonne Young
Novato, California

From: [Linda Seabright](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please fund the crossing!
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026 6:19:48 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lindaseabright@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Newts are so necessary and so is the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant. Please consider funding the undercrossing as so many other locales in California have done.
Thank you.

--

[Linda Seabright](#)

From: [Patti Breitman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please save newts
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 9:13:40 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from eatplants@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear people,

There are few opportunities in our lives to save the lives of other beings. Please do what you can to help save newts by allocating money for tunnels for their safe crossing.

The solution is to create tunnels under the road that the animals can safely use. This is a very appropriate use of funds managed by the Transportation Authority of Marin. The Authority spends more than \$50 million a year. An allocation of only \$1.2 million would complete the studies necessary to receive state and federal funding for construction.

With gratitude,
Patti Breitman
Fairfax CA

From: [Paige Brown](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Funding
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 12:29:19 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from pbrown30@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To TAM,

I recently saw a moving documentary how dangerous Chileno Valley Road crossing is for our newts” trying to reach Laguna Lake.

Volunteers have spent years helping newts and frogs cross safely, but hand-carrying animals across a busy road is not a permanent solution. What’s needed is infrastructure that allows wildlife to cross safely on their own.

The Transportation Authority of Marin is currently deciding Measure AA funding priorities. This is a rare opportunity to support a planning grant for a permanent wildlife undercrossing that protects animals, improves safety, and reflects community environmental values.

I urge TAM to make this project a priority.
Paige Brown

From: Paige Brown
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Funding
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 12:29:19 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from pbrown30@gmail.com. Learn why this is important <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>

To TAM,

I recently saw a moving documentary how dangerous Chileno Valley Road crossing is for our newts" trying to reach Laguna Lake.

Volunteers have spent years helping newts and frogs cross safely, but hand-carrying animals across a busy road is not a permanent solution. What's needed is infrastructure that allows wildlife to cross safely on their own.

The Transportation Authority of Marin is currently deciding Measure AA funding priorities. This is a rare opportunity to support a planning grant for a permanent wildlife undercrossing that protects animals, improves safety, and reflects community environmental values.

I urge TAM to make this project a priority.
Paige Brown

From: [Ann Carey](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please support funding for "Reimagined Roadways" and wildlife crossing
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 1:05:31 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from sfcarey@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear TAM Board,

I am writing to urge you to support allocating a portion of Measure AA funds to the "Reimagined Roadways" category, and to fund the design of a permanent wildlife crossing along Chileno Valley road.

On cold rainy winter nights, I join other dedicated volunteers to walk a one-mile stretch of this road, helping newts and endangered red legged frogs cross safely. While I enjoy those quiet evening walks in the rain, it is not a sustainable solution for ensuring the preservation of these animals.

By funding the design of a permanent wildlife crossing now, TAM can ensure that this project becomes an integral part of needed repairs to the roadway when they are undertaken. This project would protect not only the Laguna Lake newt population, but can also serve as a model for other wildlife crossings for amphibians and other small creatures.

Please continue Marin County's reputation as a leader in environmental protection and "reimagined" design by funding the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing.

Thank you.

Ann Carey

From: [Daniela Powers](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Funding for a planning grant Chileno Valley Road
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 7:25:08 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from danielapowers@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. I am an active volunteer with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade and have been for 4 years. Despite our dedication, newts still get run over by the thousands each year, as it is not feasible to patrol the road 24/7. What is needed is a long-term, practical, scalable solution for safe wildlife crossing.

Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

I urge TAM to support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Daniela Powers

From: [Lisa Krieger](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 9:11:12 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lisa.krieger55@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

Amphibians aren't crossing Chileno Valley Road....Chileno Valley Road is crossing their forest home.

In just one brief three-hour span last week - Feb. 6 - cars flattened 3 California newts, 1 rough-skinned newt, 1 red-legged frog, 1 California red-sided garter snake and at least 4 chorus frogs.

Dozens of others would have perished if volunteers weren't on the road, at their own risk, helping the animals cross.

PLEASE support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and **this project clearly does both.**

Thank you,

Lisa Krieger, Inverness Park

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."
-- John Steinbeck, *Travels with Charley: In Search of America*

From: [Wendy Funk](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support the Wildlife Crossing Funding for Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 1:53:40 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from wfunk@petk12.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I am writing to urge you as TAM board members to support funding for a planning grant for the urgently needed wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

This road bisects the natural habitat of newts and several other species, forcing them to risk death to reach their breeding grounds, Laguna Lake. Juvenile newts (often less than 2 inches long) then face the same perilous trek to reach their oak forest habitat. This native species is steadily declining toward local extinction.

This hits home in our classrooms. As a fourth-grade teacher, my students are studying the Chileno Valley Newt and examining ways to provide them safe passage. Through this project, my students are learning about local ecosystems, the impact of human infrastructure, and the responsibility we have to protect native species. They are seeing firsthand that volunteers hand-carrying animals across the road to safety is not a long-term solution.

What we need is a permanent infrastructure that allows wildlife to cross safely on their own. You are currently deciding Measure AA funding priorities. This is a rare opportunity to support a planning grant for a permanent wildlife undercrossing. Such a project would not only protect animals and improve road safety but would also show our students that their community acts on its environmental values.

I urge TAM to make this project a priority. Let's show the next generation that we are committed to protecting the wildlife they are working so hard to preserve.

Sincerely,

Wendy Funk

Fourth Grade Teacher, Grant Elementary

From: [sarah estrella](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding for Chileno Valley Road Newts and Frogs
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 8:19:46 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from skestrella@sbcglobal.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road for newts and red-legged frogs.

This road entirely cuts off thousands of amphibians from completing their life cycle in Laguna Lake, a trip they must make twice each year. Thousands of animals are killed by vehicles in the process. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Sarah Estrella

From: [Nina Zhao](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 6:45:41 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ninaszhao@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. Regardless of whether the road actually makes a dent in local wildlife populations, there is robust research showing that wildlife road collisions cost the local community money, time and physical & emotional wellbeing.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money NOW (in the form of human and animal lives) and LATER (money and time that originally would've gone to repairing car and hospital bills now can go to other things like volunteering at local library, taking care of children, etc.). Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

I'm sure the Los Angeles team behind the Annenberg wildlife crossing would also be happy to explain why they are spending/have already spent millions of dollars on their wildlife bridge! If LA can build one, Marin county should be able to too.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you!

Nina S. Zhao

BA in Ecology | Anthropology minor

[linkedin.com/in/nina-s-zhao/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nina-s-zhao/)

Pronouns I use: they/them; she/hers

Here's to the present moment: "Dum spiro spero"

From: [Shannon Casteel](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 3:27:29 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from casteels@sonoma.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Shannon Casteel

From: tdm 1963
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:29:00 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from tdm1963@gmail.com. Learn why this is important <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>

Dear Tam Board,

We're writing to urge your funding support for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. We are volunteers for the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade and have seen firsthand the devastating results of encounters with vehicles, not only for the newts, but also for endangered California red-legged frogs and other species. Our work in helping the newts cross the road safely is meaningful, but a permanent infrastructure crossing is vital to the future survival of these animals. Newts and other amphibians are bioindicator species and maintaining healthy populations is an important factor in keeping our local environment healthy for future generations.

Funds for planning will allow the wildlife crossing improvements to be a part of road repairs, which would be both a time- and cost-saving measure. Measure AA is meant to protect the environment while maintaining roads, and the Chileno Valley Road project would do both.

We strongly urge TAM to support funding for the Chileno Valley Road wildlife crossing planning.

Thank you,
Gregg & Sohni Yaylian
Sebastopol

From: [Cristina Torres Duarte](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 10:12:54 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cctorresduarte@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. And I know this first hand, since I've volunteered with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade for 5 years. But carrying newts, frogs and other animals across a busy road is not a permanent solution.

Early planning allows wildlife crossings to be included during road repairs, saving time and public funds. Measure AA supports both road maintenance and environmental protection, and this project achieves both goals.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Best regards,

Dr. Cristina Torres Duarte
Associate Project Scientist
Bodega Marine Laboratory - UC Davis

Bodega Bay, CA 94923

From: [Grace Moore](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 8:15:00 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from grace.ellington.moore@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioner/TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Grace Moore

From: indigobannister@gmail.com
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 11:51:07 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from indigobannister@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

As a professional environmental scientist that has studied conservation planning and as a former County of Marin employee, I'm writing to urge you to support funding of the design of a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Since 2022, I have dedicated a night of my week each winter to helping amphibians cross Chileno Valley Road. Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers like me have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term solution. Marin is a leader in sound conservation planning, and allocating funding for wildlife crossings should be a priority for TAM.

Dedicated funding now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Indigo Bannister

Indigo Bannister

indigobannister@gmail.com |

From: [Katie Brammer](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Rd
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 10:23:30 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from katie@kbrammergraphics.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To The TAM Commissioner and Board Members:

I would like to strongly urge The Transportation Authority of Marin to help fund a wildlife undercrossing for Chileno Valley Road when deciding Measure AA priorities. In addition to reducing wildlife mortality and reconnecting critical habitat to help several species along Laguna Lake, it could also reflect well on TAM's modern approach to environmental ethics. As a volunteer with The Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, I can attest to the heartbreaking loss of all kinds of life caused by Chileno Valley Road cutting through the migratory paths of thousands of animals along Laguna Lake.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley Road wildlife undercrossing planning grant.

Sincerely yours,
Katie Brammer

katie@kbrammergraphics.com

[Would you kindly acknowledge receipt if possible?]

From: [BING](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 6:08:04 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from brendanwho72@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioner,

I'm writing this email to urge you to take action and support funding for a grant for a wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. As it stands thousands of newts and other animals are killed as they attempt to cross to Laguna Lake. Volunteers do not have the resources or the means for a long term solution without new infrastructure. This project would clearly maintain the road and also protect the environment as Measure AA was approved for. Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Brendan Ing

From: Chris Mikalson
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 3:56:40 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from chrismikalson@gmail.com. Learn why this is important <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for permanent wildlife crossings on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Kit Mikalson

From: [Serena Myjer](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 4:11:05 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from serenamyjer@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Serena Myjer

From: [Marjorie Wagman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 3:23:59 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mcwagman@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I write to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed by vehicles while trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. I have joined the volunteers that have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality; this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Marjorie Wagman

Sent from my iPad

From: [Lyndsey watkins](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 5:04:56 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from watkinslyndsey@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Lyndsey Marie Watkins

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Michael K](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 3:05:40 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mkraus.x@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioner / TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help save wildlife year after year and night after night during the migration season, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Michael Kraus
mkraus.x@gmail.com

From: [Hannah Cummins](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 4:04:17 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hnnhcmmns@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Hannah Cummins

From: [Rachel MacDonald](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 7:38:58 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from rachmacd1@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake.

Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Rachel MacDonald

From: [Lali Navarro](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 8:40:48 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lalinavarro.05@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Lali Navarro

From: [Kelly K Lombardi](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:49:14 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from kellyklombardi@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

Kelly

From: [Michelle Oga-Yates](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 11:43:50 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-cid_E68878.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_9f85c0.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_92717e.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_b1b598.png](#)
[Outlook-cid_9d6574.png](#)
[Outlook-cnyrpfea.png](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from moga@marinhumane.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

~~Michelle

Michelle Oga-Yates, MA, MBA

Training and Compliance/ Marketing and Communications Coordinator

she/her/hers

Pet Parent to Watson, Sherlock, Ginger, Mycroft, Miso, Nori,
Feta, Ricotta, Gouda, & Basmati
(Marin Humane Alums)

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[Book time to meet with me](#)

From: [Gioia Hansbury](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road!
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 4:46:28 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gioialeonard@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

Gioia Leonard Hansbury
Novato ,CA.

From: [Craig Erridge](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 1:56:58 PM
Attachments: [Letter to the TAM board.docx](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from craigerridge@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please distribute this letter to all members of the TAM Board

Dear TAM Board & Transportation Authority of Marin,

I am writing on behalf of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, in support of the TAM funding that would help build safe passage for newts, red-legged frogs, and other wildlife who must cross Chileno Valley Road during their yearly migration. I am one of 14 captains on the brigade that assist these wonderful creatures to safely cross Chileno Valley Road throughout the winter months.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Many volunteers like me have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

The section of Chileno Valley Road for which we are requesting an allocation is unique in Marin County and deserving special attention. It slices through a habitat that supports thousands of native amphibians and reptiles. The two newt species that live here are unique to this type of very specific habitat. They don't exist in just any pond or lake. Some of the species that live here are listed on the **IUCN Red List**. Measure AA funds will make progress towards safe wildlife crossings for these threatened species. This effort is extinction prevention for multiple species. The activities of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade are monitored across the nation, including articles in the New York Times, the Guardian, the LA Times, and many other print and media outlets. The work done here on this county road will reflect positively on Marin County. Marin County has this opportunity to continue its legacy of environmental conservation by proactively providing safe passage across this roadway.

The Environmental work we do here in Marin County will serve as inspiration and provide a replicable model to other municipalities in California and the nation. This project will continue Marin County's values regarding the environment.

Through Measure AA, I urge the TAM Board to allocate funding for construction of safe wildlife passages across Chileno Valley Road. Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you!

Signed, Craig Erridge

From: [Laura Anderson](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026 8:05:37 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from andersonlaura422@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant. Thank you.

From: carrotlover11@icloud.com
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 2:51:02 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from carrotlover11@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board members,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

I am a member of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade and have been rescuing newts and other critters for three seasons. Although I really enjoy this volunteer work because it's beautiful on the road in the evening - we see stars, hear owls, see muskrats - and it feels good to carry a newt across the road to safety, it would be much better for the newts to have a safe passage. Relying on volunteers to help out a species is not a long term strategy. Giving the critters a way to travel safely is the solution. They need a road undercrossing designed for them.

I know there are many projects that need funding. I hope you will prioritize this one for the sake of an animal that needs our help since humans put a road across its migration path. If the planning is funded now, it will save money later as the planned and designed wildlife crossing improvements can be done when the road is scheduled for repair. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Laurie-Ann Barbour

Cotati, CA 94931
carrotlover11@icloud.com

Stay close to anything that makes you glad you are alive.

HAFIZ

From: [Darlene Blackman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 2:15:10 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from darleneblackmanprmosman@gmail.com.
[Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. Creating a permanent solution to save our wild neighbors is possible!

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant. It is a solution to saving lives!

Thank you.

Darlene Blackman

Marin resident

From: [Andrea Cornelius](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:08:56 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from andreacornelius01@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake.

Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

From: [Audrey G](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 2:59:50 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from audreybluebird@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Audrey Gironda

From: [Meredith Hansbury](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 2:45:33 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mhansbury91@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.
Meredith

From: [Dawn Kovell](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 1:59:24 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from dkovell@marinhumane.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I am writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake.

Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

Dawn Kovell

Larkspur Resident

Marin Humane, Director of Behavior & Training

From: [Bunny Lane](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 12:47:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from blane@marinhumane.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Tam Board,

I'm urge you to fund the planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Every winter, wildlife — especially newts and salamanders — are killed while trying to reach Laguna Lake. It's heartbreaking, and it's completely preventable.

When this crisis became impossible to ignore, **Gale** stepped up. She created the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, and for *seven years*, volunteers have walked a mile of that road on cold, rainy nights — flashlights and safety vests on — gently carrying newts, salamanders, frogs, and other small wildlife safely across.

Their dedication is extraordinary.

But we all know it's **not** a long-term solution. Volunteers can't be our permanent wildlife-protection system.

A wildlife crossing *can* be.

And if we plan it now, it can be built into the upcoming road repair — saving lives and taxpayer dollars.

Measure AA promised safe roads and environmental protection. This project delivers both.

Please approve the planning grant.

Let's stop the needless deaths.

Let's honor the volunteers' years of work.

And let's finally give our wildlife a safe way to cross.

Warmest Regards,

Bunny Lane

Behavior & Training Administrative Coordinator

She/Her

Pet Parent to Doc Holiday and Wyatt Earp

415.506.6280 Direct

415.883.4621 Campus



From: [Lawrence A](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026 8:04:02 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from wonderboy4212@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant. Many thanks!

From: [Elizabeth Lazaroff](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 8:27:38 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from elaz8361@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Members of the TAM Board:

Fwoomp, squish, splat: which of these sounds would you choose to describe the action of a car tire smushing an amphibian? A gruesome thought, isn't it? Fortunately, these sounds are heard far less frequently on Chileno Valley Road due to the efforts of the volunteer Newt Brigade. Each year, the brigade saves thousands of newts, frogs, and salamanders, assisting them in crossing the road as they migrate from living to mating-and-hatching areas. Chileno Valley Road is a fragmented ecosystem, where local species could become threatened or endangered because of the loss of contiguous habitat.

Here in the North Bay, while we are blessed, we also live with the results of 175 years of ecosystem fragmentation, wherein both flora and fauna are struggling to survive. Once there were thousands of majestic redwoods. Now, redwoods exist in isolated pockets, like the national monument you visit by driving your car to a parking lot, taking a van, and then riding 20 minutes to see them. Almost like a zoo of caged animals, these towering, old-growth specimens live not as giants in fairy rings—but as single individuals—trapped among asphalt.

On the other hand, in the North Bay, we have also saved edenic gems. Take The Hole in the Head in Bodega Bay. Quiet and peaceful, The Head is an oasis where dozens of animal and bird species come to rest, nest, and live on a pond surrounded by lush shrubs and trees. Decades ago, The Head was not slated to turn out this way. But a group of citizens banded together and prevented a nuclear power plant from being built on the site. 65 years later, we continue to reap the benefits of their vision and commitment to beauty, safety, and the environment.

Many of those citizens have come and gone. I did not know them. I do not know their names nor the details of their crusade. But I know what they did. Each time I go to the oasis, I say a little prayer of gratitude, thanking them for their efforts: not only for themselves; but their children; their children's children; and--if we are equal stewards--their children who will come after.

Our local amphibians are in similar peril. We must repair the fragmentation in our ecosystems. Chileno Valley is a great place to start. By allocating Measure AA funds to a planning grant for a permanent amphibian crossing, you can leave a legacy of a thriving ecosystem wherein the smallest are also accorded the same value as the largest, where nature is as important as the convenience of a road.

We can bequeath our children isolated redwoods and thousands of Eucalyptus trees that feed raging wildfires amid increasingly warming temperatures. Or we can bequeath our children an oasis where flora and fauna thrive and humans benefit from its restorative powers. We need to think bigger and farther. Rebuilding a fragmented ecosystem on Chileno Valley Road is a positive step in our collective future. Our children and children's children may not know your names, but they will know the actions you took and thank you many years into the future.

Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

Elizabeth Lazaroff
Petaluma

From: [Brynn Monaghan](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 11:52:42 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bmonaghan@marinhumane.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake.

Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

Brynnlie Monaghan

Customer Service Representative

Pet Parent to Toki

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415.883.4621 Campus

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From: [Cherylann Pasha](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 12:24:51 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cpasha9@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

Cherylann Pasha

From: powers.liv@gmail.com
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 12:07:03 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from powers.liv@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you.

Olivia Powers

From: [Ariel Waldman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 10:38:02 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from arielcw02@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Ariel Waldman

From: [Celia Chatham](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please support wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 12:01:09 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from celiachatham@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for permanent wildlife crossings on Chileno Valley Road. Each year thousands of animals are killed crossing the road during annual breeding migrations and regional movements to and from Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help move newts and other amphibians quickly across the road during peak animal activity time periods that overlap with high traffic commute hours, but this is not a long term or scalable solution.

I am a local biologist, have volunteered helping amphibians cross the road, and have reviewed the initial feasibility and crossing assessments. Building well-designed wildlife crossings at this location has a high likelihood of resulting in positive effects on the health and persistence of newt and other native wildlife populations in the region. It would be a wonderful and effective land stewardship action driven by many years of data collected by dedicated volunteers combined with analysis and designs by experienced professionals. And aside from promoting environmental quality and protecting natural resources, I imagine many people driving on Chileno Valley road would prefer to avoid crushing newts on their daily commute.

Funding planning now would allow wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Celia Chatham

From: [Liza Prunuske](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please support wildlife crossings on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:57:26 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ljprun@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the Commissioners of the Transportation Authority of Marin:

I am writing in support of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade's request for funding for the next stage of construction design and environmental compliance for improvements along a reach of Chileno Valley Road.

I worked on habitat restoration projects in West Marin for over 40 years and am now a member of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade. For seven years, our volunteers have been gently ferrying newts to safety on rainy evenings. But despite rescuing over 40,000 animals, 1000s are killed. Last year alone, 187 California red-legged frogs, a federally protected species, were found dead. I myself have scraped pond turtle pieces off the road. Hand-carrying animals across a busy road is not a permanent solution. What's needed is infrastructure that allows wildlife to cross safely on their own.

This is a rare opportunity for TAM to support permanent undercrossings that protect wildlife, improve safety, provide needed road improvements along Laguna Lake, and address the environmental goals included in Measure AA.

I urge you to make this project a priority.

Liza Prunuske

Occidental, CA 95465

From: [Info](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Please! Support the Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 5:17:16 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from info@tinamills.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Commissioners,

I am writing to you today to beg you to use a small portion of the approved AA Measure funds for a much-needed planning grant so that we can finally ensure that we get a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road which would save thousands of lives and myriad species. It has been shown that a wide variety of animals use these life-saving crossings structures when made available. Many have been approved and built, or are in progress now, across the country and Marin County should be another similar beacon of light. This is an ethical animal right to *long-life* cause!

I was born and raised in Marin County and am a proud member of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade. Everyone I have spoken to about the Brigade in the last five years has been excited to hear about our tireless efforts to carry newts and other innocent creatures one by one, who are in grave danger, across the road to safety.

Pacific Newts only have to cross the road twice a year. If they don't get squished by vehicles, they can live up to thirty years! Sadly, along with the ones we save, we find thousands of adults and tiny juveniles, most are dead, but some are injured and suffering. It's sad when you realize that their need to cross this road has been passed down from generation to generation, long before the road existed.

Newts need to have their "babies" in the water at Laguna Lake, and then they all need to cross again to the hills where they live out the rest of the year. It's a wonderful feeling to pick up an animal knowing you are likely saving its life (they move slowly and the cars go fast). We also save endangered Red-legged frogs and other animals on the road that would use a crossing instead.

If we fund planning now, it will save time and more public money later. Measure AA promised to maintain roads and protect environmental quality, and this project does both beautifully.

Please do the right thing for these helpless creatures, that have every right to live. We owe it to them to support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant. It's a great way to help them reach that thirty-year life span!

— *Tina Mills, Petaluma, CA*

Tina Mills
Petaluma, CA 94952

From: [Emily Wiemer](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT - Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 11:37:56 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from emilywiem@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Emily Wiemer
Fairfax, CA

From: [Josh Barlas](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment regarding the Measure AA Expenditure Plan
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:05:19 AM
Attachments: [Letter to the Board - Josh Barlas-signed.pdf](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from joshbarlas@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Transportation Authority of Marin
900 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100
San Rafael, CA 94901

This letter is intended as a Public Comment regarding the Measure AA Expenditure Plan Review

Dear TAM Board,

This letter is intended as a Public Comment regarding the Measure AA Expenditure Plan Review currently underway. I would like to urge you to allocate \$1.2 million over the next two years to the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade for the purpose of modifying Chileno Valley Road in the vicinity of Laguna Lake to provide undercrossings for the multiple species of amphibians and reptiles that utilize this area. This allocation would be sufficient to fund approximately 65% of the road repair engineering design and to complete a CEQA analysis.

Of particular interest on Chileno Valley Road are California Newts, Rough-skinned Newts, and California Red-Legged Frogs. These animals are literally killed by the thousands each year by vehicle traffic as they migrate across Chileno Valley Road. The California Red-Legged Frog (*Rana draytonii*) is a federally listed threatened species. The California newt (*Taricha torosa*) is designated as a California Species of Special Concern by the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#) due to significant population declines, particularly in Southern California. While they lack federal endangered status, they are threatened by habitat loss, high road mortality during breeding migrations, and invasive predators.

More than 80 volunteers with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade participate in the nightly ritual of moving Red-Legged Frogs and migrating newts off the roadway in order to minimize their vehicle-caused mortality. However, this labor-intensive process cannot be expected to sustain these populations in the long run. Significant data about each animal, including its GPS location, are documented and recorded. Those data are being used to design the optimal road modification. Only by provision of alternative migratory routes (under the roadway) can the carnage on the road be prevented and the long-term health of these populations and their broader ecosystems be assured.

Thank you for your time and service,

Joshua Barlas

San Rafael, CA 94901

joshbarlas@gmail.com
m

--

Best,

Joshua Barlas
1600 Ton Master, 2nd Mate Unlimited
BS, Marine Transportation, Cal Maritime
MA, Literature, UC Santa Cruz
[LinkedIn](#)
joshbarlas@gmail.com

From: tdm 1963
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:34:03 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from tdm1963@gmail.com. Learn why this is important <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>

We strongly support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

We are volunteers for the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade and have seen firsthand the devastating results of encounters with vehicles, not only for the newts, but also for endangered California red-legged frogs and other species. Our work in helping the newts cross the road safely is meaningful, but a permanent infrastructure crossing is vital to the future survival of these animals that serve as bioindicator species. Maintaining amphibian populations is an important factor in keeping our local environment healthy for future generations.

Funds for planning now will allow the wildlife crossing improvements to be a part of road repairs, which would be both a time- and cost-saving measure. Measure AA is meant to protect the environment while maintaining roads, and the Chileno Valley Road project would meet both goals.

We strongly urge TAM to support funding for the Chileno Valley Road wildlife crossing planning.

Gregg & Sohni Yaylian
Sebastopol

From: [Jennifer](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 11:53:57 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from jmhorne@earthlink.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Members of the TAM Board:

I am writing on behalf of the hundreds of Chileno Valley Newt Brigade volunteers, in support of TAM funding that would help build safe passage for the newts, red-legged frogs, and other wildlife who must cross Chileno Valley road twice on their yearly migration. We Brigadiers represent a wide range of professions, including scientists, doctors, salon owners, and teachers. We, too, migrate, and come to the road from November to March from a number of Bay Area towns, including Fairfax, Inverness, Novato, and Petaluma. We are on the road every night of the week during the migration, despite rain, wind, cold temperatures, and the peril from passing vehicles. And while we try to save as many newts as we can, we still find newts dead on the road due to the lack of a safe passage. According to the USGS, and despite our best efforts, Brigadiers alone cannot save the newts from extinction. Only construction of a safe wildlife passage can do that.

In the name of the newts, red-legged frogs, and other wildlife on Chileno Valley Road, we urge the TAM Board to allocate funding for a wildlife passage on Chileno Valley Road. Although the amount we are requesting is just a small percentage of the total that TAM disburses, the impact is significant: it is the difference between life and death for the newts of Chileno Valley Road and for biodiversity in the area.

Jennifer Horne, o/b/o the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade volunteers

From: [Carol Carr](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: public comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing planning grant
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 3:33:13 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from carrcarol@sbcglobal.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear TAM Board:

I am writing to urge you to grant funds to the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade wildlife crossing project. The important work of this local, grassroots group was detailed in the Marin Independent Journal article, Crossing is Deadly for our Newts, of January 30th, detailing the dedicated and environmentally critical work of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade. These grassroots, dedicated, "boots on the rainy ground" volunteers have carried this project for years and made major strides in not only saving the newts and other amphibians otherwise destined to death and species loss, but have made major contributions to environmental research, wildlife study, and critical revisioning of our relationships within a highly threatened ecological web. Now is the time to truly amplify this important progress and major contribution to the future of our wildlife and our community priorities. The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) is currently deciding the allocation of Measure AA funds. I strongly urge TAM and our community to support the funding of the wildlife crossing infrastructure project of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade that will have significant impact on local wildlife protection, broadspread wildlife corridor research, and national wildlife crossing studies. This is a huge opportunity for TAM and our community to be an important part of making critical shifts in how we value and protect and interact with our critical ecology. The time is past due - I strongly urge TAM to support the funding of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade Wildlife Crossing Project on Chileno Valley Road.

Sincerely,
Carol Carr, RN

From: [Info](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: I Support the Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 5:58:54 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from info@tinamills.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board Members,

I am in full support of using a portion of the funds approved from AA Measure, for a much-needed planning grant so that we can finally ensure that we get a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. This would save thousands of lives and myriad species. It has been shown that a wide variety of animals use these life-saving crossings structures when made available. Many have been approved and built, or are in progress now, across the country and Marin County should be another similar beacon of light. This is an ethical animal right to *long*-life cause!

We need to end the killing and suffering of injured animals by the thousands which is caused by cars running over them on this stretch of road. Every year, thousands of amphibians and reptiles attempt to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake, and they are needlessly slaughtered by vehicles. Volunteers, like me, have stepped in to help carry them across the road, one by one to safety, but this is inefficient and a crossing would save so many more lives.

Newts for instance, only need to cross the road twice a year. Once to have 'babies' and then to go back to live the rest of the year in the hills across the street. If they do not get run over, newts can live up to thirty years! It is tragic to lose or injure thousands of young animals needlessly.

Planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and money while protecting wildlife.

Measure AA was passed to maintain local roads and protect environmental quality. Funding this planning grant fulfills both goals beautifully. I urge TAM to prioritize this project.

Please do the right thing for these helpless creatures that have every right to live. We owe it to them to support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant that will help them to reach that thirty-year life span!

Tina Mills
Petaluma CA

From: [Courtney McFall](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 8:48:18 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from courtney.mcfall@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

As you know, this roadway has become a major barrier for wildlife trying to reach Laguna Lake, particularly during seasonal migrations. Each year, thousands of animals are killed attempting to cross. While volunteers have worked tirelessly to help newts and frogs cross safely, hand-carrying wildlife across an active roadway is neither safe, scalable, nor a long-term solution.

A permanent wildlife undercrossing would protect animals, reduce vehicle collisions, and improve safety for drivers and volunteers alike. Importantly, funding the planning phase now would allow wildlife crossing improvements to be incorporated into future road repair projects—saving time, reducing costs, and making efficient use of public funds.

Measure AA was approved to maintain and improve Marin's transportation infrastructure while also protecting environmental quality. Supporting a planning grant for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing clearly aligns with both goals and reflects our community's strong environmental values.

I respectfully ask you to support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant as TAM sets its priorities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

Courtney McFall and Tyson Mitchell, Fairfax CA

From: [Craig Erridge](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 2:07:02 PM
Attachments: [Public Comment - Letter to the TAM board.docx](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from craigerridge@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

I would like to submit the follow Public Comment:

Dear TAM Board & Transportation Authority of Marin,

I am writing on behalf of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, in support of the TAM funding that would help build safe passage for newts, red-legged frogs, and other wildlife who must cross Chileno Valley Road during their yearly migration. I am one of 14 captains on the brigade that assist these wonderful creatures to safely cross Chileno Valley Road throughout the winter months.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Many volunteers like me have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

The section of Chileno Valley Road for which we are requesting an allocation is unique in Marin County and deserving special attention. It slices through a habitat that supports thousands of native amphibians and reptiles. The two newt species that live here are unique to this type of very specific habitat. They don't exist in just any pond or lake. Some of the species that live here are listed on the **IUCN Red List**. Measure AA funds will make progress towards safe wildlife crossings for these threatened species. This effort is extinction prevention for multiple species. The activities of the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade are monitored across the nation, including articles in the New York Times, the Guardian, the LA Times, and many other print and media outlets. The work done here on this county road will reflect positively on Marin County. Marin County has this opportunity to continue its legacy of environmental conservation by proactively providing safe passage across this roadway.

The Environmental work we do here in Marin County will serve as inspiration and provide a replicable model to other municipalities in California and the nation. This project will continue Marin County's values regarding the environment.

Through Measure AA, I urge the TAM Board to allocate funding for construction of safe wildlife passages across Chileno Valley Road. Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you!

Signed, Craig Erridge

From: [Michael K](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 8:00:54 AM

I support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Every year, thousands of amphibians and reptiles are killed while trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. For the past 7 years, volunteers have stepped in to help save wildlife nightly during the 5 months of migration, but this approach is not sustainable.

Planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and money while protecting wildlife.

Measure AA was passed to maintain local roads and protect environmental quality. Funding this planning grant fulfills both goals. I urge TAM to prioritize this project.

Thank you,
Michael Kraus
mkraus.x@gmail.com

From: [Kelli Yon](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 12:45:12 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kelli@kellyon.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road

Dear Commissioner / TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Kelli Yon

Kelli Yon

Sebastopol CA. 95472

From: [Callie Kindrish](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 12:23:44 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from calliepowerx@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom it May Concern,

I urge the Transportation Authority of Marin to fund a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. I volunteer helping California newts cross this road during the rainy season, and while volunteers save some animals, this is not a safe or sustainable solution. Funding planning now would allow a crossing to be included in future road repairs, saving public money and protecting environmental quality as Measure AA intended.

- Callie Kindrish

From: [Cynthia](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:02:54 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cameiswinkel2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Cynthia Meiswinkel

From: [Christian Naventi](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:56:03 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from xian400@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Every year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Over the past few years, many volunteers have been active on wet nights, helping these critters and recording valuable scientific data. This is not a feasible long-term solution, however.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both. The wildlife crossing would provide a long-term answer to this problem and help a unique community tremendously.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Christian Naventi
West Petaluma

From: rick@oceanicyachts.com
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026 12:35:47 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from rick@oceanicyachts.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

As a volunteer and as an individual, throughout my life, I have been helping wildlife cross our roads safely, whether it is turtles, frogs, snakes or newts.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross the Chileno Valley road to reach Laguna Lake. We volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Rick Peterson

Senior Broker

Oceanic Yachts

San Francisco/Sausalito/Sag Harbor

www.oceanicyachts.com

From: [Ellen Ferguson](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 1:32:25 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ellen.lm.ferg@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Every year, thousands of amphibians and reptiles are killed while trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers, like myself, have stepped in to help, but this approach is not sustainable.

Planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and money while protecting wildlife.

Measure AA was passed to maintain local roads and protect environmental quality. Funding this planning grant fulfills both goals. I urge TAM to prioritize this project.
Ellen Ferguson
San Geronimo Valley

From: [Kirsten Franklin](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 6:37:26 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from yugenado@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

February 11, 2026

Dear TAM Board Members,

I am writing to strongly support the call to address the deadly wildlife crossings on Chileno Valley Road described in Jerry Meral's recent Marin Voice commentary. The scale of amphibian mortality there is unacceptable and preventable.

For the past five years, I have volunteered as a Chileno Valley Newt Brigadier and have witnessed firsthand both the extraordinary community effort and the ongoing losses. While volunteers have saved tens of thousands of animals, we cannot be the long-term solution. The crossings are predictable, seasonal, and scientifically documented — and they require permanent infrastructure.

Using Measure AA transportation funds to design and build wildlife tunnels and related protections is consistent with the measure's sustainability and environmental commitments. Proven solutions already exist and are endorsed by biologists and engineers.

I urge the Transportation Authority of Marin and county leaders to prioritize funding and environmental review for this project now. Protecting these native species is a shared public responsibility and an achievable one.

Sincerely,
Kirsten Franklin

From: [Sarah Weed](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 9:57:53 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sarah.weed704@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am writing to support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

For years, this stretch of road has posed a serious danger to wildlife trying to reach Laguna Lake, resulting in thousands of animals being injured or killed by traffic. Volunteers have stepped in to help reduce these impacts, but relying on people to manually move wildlife across a roadway is not a sustainable or long-term solution.

Investing in planning now would allow wildlife crossing improvements to be incorporated when the road is repaired, saving time and public funds while protecting wildlife and improving safety. This is a practical, forward-looking approach that aligns with the goals of Measure AA to maintain roads and protect environmental quality.

I urge the Transportation Authority of Marin to prioritize funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant during this Measure AA update.

Thank you for your time,
Sarah Weed

From: [Brian Schmahl](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 9:42:39 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from be.schmahl17@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I, a resident of San Rafael, support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

The portion of Chileno Valley Road adjacent to Laguna Lake has become a significant source of mortality for migrating amphibians such as California newts and the threatened California red-legged frog as they migrate to breeding habitat in the lake. Before volunteers such as myself began assisting these amphibians across the road, thousands of animals were killed each year.

While our current system of shuttling newts across the road by hand works for now, it is not a permanent solution to this problem. In order for these amphibians to sustainably cross the road safely, we need to build wildlife crossings for them. For that, we need funding.

The Transportation Authority of Marin can supply that funding. As you and your fellow TAM Commissioners prioritize Measure AA funding this year, we have a unique opportunity to support a planning grant for a permanent wildlife undercrossing. We have a rare opportunity right now to kick start a project that would protect these vulnerable wildlife species in perpetuity.

The Chileno Valley newts have already received nation-wide coverage and strong local support. Wildlife crossings across the country receive bipartisan support because they have been shown to work, both for the wildlife and for us humans. Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

I urge TAM to prioritize this project.

Brian Schmahl

From: [Robin Clarke](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 7:07:18 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from robinlynnclarke@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

I am new to the Newt Brigade, and what I have found is a tremendous amount of volunteers that come from all over the greater Bay Area to hand carry newts across the road to safety at the cost of their own safety. And even with all these volunteers walking a mile long stretch of road we still miss some. Finding dead newts you were steps away from helping is a disheartening feeling.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Robin Clarke

From: [Allison Broennimann](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 7:16:39 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from albroennimann@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. And, I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. I joined the newt brigade as a Saturday night volunteer for 2021-2025 to help in these efforts. It would be most safe for drivers, wildlife and volunteers to not have volunteers on the road

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Allison Broennimann

From: [Brent Bessire \(via Google Docs\)](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 9:44:23 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bbessire@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Brent Bessire attached a document



Brent Bessire (bbessire@gmail.com) has attached the following document:

Please see the attached email supporting a wildlife crossing for the newts and frogs in Chileno Valley



Untitled document

Snapshot of the item below:

I am writing on behalf of the hundreds of Chileno Valley Newt Brigade volunteers, in support of TAM funding that would help build safe passage for the newts, red-legged frogs, and other wildlife who must cross Chileno Valley road twice during their yearly migration. We Brigadiers represent a wide range of professions, including scientists, students, veterinarians, doctors, salon owners, and teachers. We, too, migrate, and come to the road from a variety of Bay Area towns, including Fairfax, Inverness, Novato, Santa Rosa and Petaluma. We are on the road every night of the week during the migration, despite rain, wind, cold, and the peril from passing vehicles. And while we try to save as many newts, red-legged frogs, and other wildlife as we can, we still find newts dead on the road due to the lack of a safe passage. According to the USGS, Brigadiers alone cannot save the newts from extinction.

In the name of the newts, red-legged frogs, and other wildlife on Chileno Valley Road, we urge the TAM Board to allocate funding for construction of a wildlife safe passage. Although the amount we are requesting is a small percentage of the total the TAM Board disburses, the impact is significant: it is the difference between life and death for the newts of Chileno Valley Road and for biodiversity in the area. Surely there is no other transportation project in Marin County that has a return on investment greater than that.

Sincerely,

Sara Schachter, DVM, DACVIM

Does this item look suspicious? [Report](#)

Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

You have received this email because bbessire@gmail.com shared a document with you from Google Docs.



From: [Katie Brammer](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 10:27:05 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from katie@kbrammergraphics.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To The TAM Commissioner and Board Members:

I would like to strongly urge The Transportation Authority of Marin to help fund a wildlife undercrossing for Chileno Valley Road when deciding Measure AA priorities. In addition to reducing wildlife mortality and reconnecting critical habitat to help several species along Laguna Lake, it could also reflect well on TAM's modern approach to environmental ethics. As a volunteer with The Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, I can attest to the heartbreaking loss of all kinds of life caused by Chileno Valley Road cutting through the migratory paths of thousands of animals along Laguna Lake.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley Road wildlife undercrossing planning grant.

Sincerely yours,
Katie Brammer

katie@kbrammergraphics.com

From: [Shannon Casteel](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 3:29:09 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from casteels@sonoma.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

I support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Every year, thousands of amphibians and reptiles are killed while trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this approach is not sustainable.

Planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and money while protecting wildlife.

Measure AA was passed to maintain local roads and protect environmental quality. Funding this planning grant fulfills both goals. I urge TAM to prioritize this project.

Shannon Casteel

From: [Sonia DeDominic](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 9:39:54 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ssd0202@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I support funding for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Every year, thousands of amphibians and reptiles are killed while trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this approach is not sustainable.

Planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and money while protecting wildlife.

Measure AA was passed to maintain local roads and protect environmental quality. Funding this planning grant fulfills both goals. I urge TAM to prioritize this project.

Thank you.

~Sonia DeDominic

From: [BING](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 6:10:10 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from brendanwho72@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioner,

I'm writing this email to urge you to take action and support funding for a grant for a wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. As it stands thousands of newts and other animals are killed as they attempt to cross to Laguna Lake. Volunteers do not have the resources or the means for a long term solution without new infrastructure. This project would clearly maintain the road and also protect the environment as Measure AA was approved for.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Brendan Ing

From: [Rick Stubblefield](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 2:54:56 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from rick@fuzzbuddies.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I very much liked the Marin Voice column, that appeared January 30th in the Marin IJ, "Chileno Valley Road crossing is deadly for our newts". As the article explains, this road has become a dangerous barrier for wildlife trying to reach Laguna Lake. And although I do not live in Marin County, half of Laguna Lake is in Sonoma County and I have cause to drive along where Chileno Valley Road borders the lake for about a mile.

Volunteers have spent years helping newts and frogs cross safely, but hand-carrying animals across a busy road is not a permanent solution. What's needed is infrastructure that allows wildlife to cross safely on their own. I am one of those volunteers and have seen California newts, rough-skinned newt, California Red-legged Frogs (a threatened species), ensatinas, arboreal salamanders and California red-sided garter snakes, not to mention a multitude of Pacific chorus frogs, all trying to cross a road that, at times, sees cars moving very fast.

The Transportation Authority of Marin is currently deciding Measure AA funding priorities. This is a rare opportunity to support a planning grant for a permanent wildlife undercrossing that protects animals, improves safety, and reflects community environmental values.

I urge TAM to make this project a priority.

Sincerely,

Richard Stubblefield

Petaluma, Ca 94952

From: [Marjorie Wagman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 3:28:22 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mcwagman@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I write to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed by vehicles while trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. I have joined the many volunteers that have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality; this project clearly does both.

I strongly urge TAM to prioritize this important project.

Thank you,

Marjorie Wagman

Sent from my iPad

From: [Sarah Millus](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 11:25:03 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from smillus@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I strongly support funding for a planning grant to improve Chileno Valley Road, including a wildlife undercrossing to prevent amphibian and reptile road mortality.

Every year, thousands of amphibians and reptiles are killed while trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake, including species protected under federal and state law. Dedicated community volunteers devote thousands of hours annually to help these animals cross safely, but this extraordinary level of effort cannot continue indefinitely.

A planning grant now will ensure that wildlife crossing improvements are incorporated when the road is repaired—saving time, reducing future costs, and protecting local biodiversity.

Measure AA was passed to maintain local roads while safeguarding environmental quality. Funding this planning grant fulfills both goals. I urge TAM to prioritize this project.

Sarah Millus

From: [Marina Olson](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: RE: Chileno Valley Road Wildlife Crossing
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 9:30:41 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-0uyfa4uh.png](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from molson@westervelt.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Transportation Authority of Marin,

I am writing to urge you to support Chileno Valley Road Wildlife Crossing with the Measure AA funds. I am a field biologist from the bay area (now in Sacramento) who has seen the unfortunate and preventative loss that occurs on roads adjacent to breeding habitats, especially directly adjacent to breeding habitat. These species (newts, red legged frogs, tree frogs) etc. are all concentrated in small areas to cross manmade structures for which they have no other access. I have volunteered with the Newt Brigade and have seen and heard about the positive impact they are making (and even inspiring) in similar projects around the state. Please allocate funds to support this special project and special group of volunteers that continue to show up on rainy, cold nights, along a dark road (where we've experienced some locals even speeding up or honking at volunteers) whom are safely trying to make a difference in your part of the world.

Thank you for caring about wildlife in the present and for our children who deserve to enjoy nature the same we have.

Kindly,

Marina L. Olson
Biologist

Sacramento, California 95864

wesmitigation.com



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From: [thinkindance](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: RE: Laguna Lake Amphibians
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 3:29:54 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from thinkindance@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Transportation Authority of Marin,

Please allocate an estimated 1.2 million dollars to build tunnels for our amphibian-friends, including California Newts and the threatened Red Legged Frogs, near and around Laguna Lake. These tunnels, if built, will help the local amphibians in their spawning travels to cross roads safely.

Thank you for your consideration,

Angela Dickens

From: [Monica Schwalbenberg-Peña](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Re: Wildlife Crossing at Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 4:40:25 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from fieldsketcher@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To: Transportation Authority of Marin

To Whom it May Concern:

At night, in rain or dry weather, volunteers patrol hazardous Chileno Valley Road to carry wildlife across the road: the California Newt, threatened California Red-Legged Frog, and the Red-sided Garter Snake and others so that these creatures do not get killed by car traffic.

If there was a wildlife crossing, these and other creatures could safely cross and the volunteers risking their lives could stay home. In Santa Clara County, Midpeninsula Open Space is partnering with the county and other agencies to study feasibility and designs to improve amphibian connectivity near Lexington Reservoir.

In Marin, an Allocation of \$1.2 million from Measure AA transportation funds would complete the necessary studies. Please support a planning grant to design permanent wildlife crossing at Chileno Valley Road.

Sincerely,

Monica Schwalbenberg-Peña

=====

Monica Schwalbenberg-Peña
fieldsketcher@gmail.com

Item 7 - Public Comment

From: [Karen Dolcini](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Reject funding for Newt underground crossing on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 3:32:48 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kvdolcini@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I live on Chileno Valley Road. My property is across the road from the Laguna Lake that this project would effect and I can see first-hand how unnecessary this project is. I urge you NOT to spend money on a foolhardy grant for an underground crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

The money should definitely be put to better use. Please use the funding to benefit transportation improvements (road repairs, transit services, etc.). I did not vote for funding to support a radical project to save some newts that are not even endangered.

Thank you for your consideration.

Karen Dolcini

Petaluma, CA 94952

From: [Gollin Suzanne](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Safe Newt crossing on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 4:47:38 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from myboytex@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I am someone who supports you funding a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please continue to show the state and country that Marin County cares about all types of animals. And that we will be as progressive as possible to save as many as we can.

Thank you.

Suzanne Gollin
San Rafael CA

From: parmeleebt@gmail.com
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Salamander Tunnels
Date: Friday, February 13, 2026 5:59:42 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from parmeleebt@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please consider allocating funds for studying Chileno Valley Road salamander tunnels. Salamanders and frogs cross the road to reach their breeding grounds at the lake. So many are killed by vehicles while doing so. Under road tunnels would help prevent much of the slaughter by providing safe passage to these animals.

Thank you in advance for advocating -and allocating - for their survival!

Parmelee Thatcher

Marin Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Todd Steiner](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Save the newts!
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 6:48:21 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from tsteiner@tirn.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Provide funding for the Chileno Valley Road Life-Saving Tunnel!

Todd Steiner
Founder • Special Projects Director
Turtle Island Restoration Network
Cell: (415) 488-7652



Fighting for a Blue-Green Planet!

Visit our Website! <https://seaturtles.org>

From: [lilo_mar](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Secure Funding for a Permanent Wildlife Crossing on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 3:10:01 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lilomar37@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM:

I urge you to support a wildlife crossing planning grant. Each year during the rainy months, newts leave their forest burrows to reach ponds to mate and lay their eggs. That means they have to cross Chileno Valley Road.

Please fund a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing under Chileno Valley Road.

Gioconda Molinari and Peter Saltzman, Marin County Residents.

From: [Charlette Epifanio](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 1:35:37 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from roseymooncat@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Subject: Please Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road

Dear [Commissioner / TAM Board],

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,
Charlette Epifanio
Sebastopol CA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Merri Pittman](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 4:21:54 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from pittco@sbcglobal.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board members:

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road near Laguna Lake. This section of Chileno Valley Road has long presented safety concerns for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians due to its narrow shoulders, limited visibility, and sharp curves. In addition to these human safety challenges, the area is a critical wildlife corridor, particularly for migrating newts, California red-legged frogs, and western pond turtles, which attempt road crossings during seasonal movements between aquatic and upland habitats. Each year, thousands of amphibians and reptiles are killed by passing vehicles, posing a serious threat to local biodiversity.

The proposed wildlife crossing project would support improving roadway safety while integrating an amphibian and reptile undercrossing beneath the road near Laguna Lake. This crossing would provide safe passage for wildlife and significantly reduce roadkill mortality, balancing human transportation needs with Marin County's environmental stewardship goals.

The requested funds would support planning for the undercrossing structure, as well as necessary ecological monitoring and community engagement efforts. The project aligns closely with Measure AA's priorities for enhancing safety and sustainability within Marin's transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Your support of this proposal would reflect your commitment to preserving the biodiversity which is critical to maintaining the ecological health of the region.

Sincerely,

Merri Pittman
Member, Chileno Valley Newt Brigade
pittco@sbcglobal.net

From: [Lauren Cole](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support Chileno Valley Wildlife Crossing Planning Grant
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 9:45:18 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from lbcole92@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. I'm a volunteer with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade - volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. Every week when I go out, I move many amphibians across the road. However, I always find multiple dead ones as well. The worst are the injured ones we have to move and let go, knowing they are suffering and not knowing whether they'll survive.

Amphibians are a vital part of any ecosystem, not only for their own sake as living creatures, but because their sensitive physiology makes them the "canaries in the coal mine" of the natural world. Their presence indicates a thriving habitat, and as they dwindle, so too will their surrounding ecosystem.

Planning for this funding now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you for your time,
Lauren Cole

From: [Dede sabbag](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support for Chileno Valley Newt Crossing
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 9:54:22 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from dedesabbag@me.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear TAM board members,

I am writing to you to ask for funding support (from the Measure AA funds) to get the designs going to make the Chileno Valley Road safer for newts (and other amphibians and critters) to cross. It has been heartbreaking to learn many thousands of these threatened species have been killed while trying to get to the Laguna Lake for procreation. They've likely been making this journey since long before a road was put there.

I believe that a lot of your constituents will look favorably at using the AA measure funds to not only improve a road but also to build the first safe wildlife crossing in Marin. It will generate a lot of good news in a County where appreciation of, and desire to protect our natural beauty and wildlife is widespread among the citizens.

I lived in Mill Valley for forty years, and now for ten years in Sonoma. Currently I volunteer in a few roles with the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade, and when I lived in Marin I was quite involved with environmental issues. For one, I was the founder of the Elizabeth Terwilliger Marsh native plant garden.

Please do all you can to lend support and funds to this wildlife crossing endeavor.

Respectfully ~Dede Sabbag
Sonoma CA

From: [Jonathan Kaplan](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support for study to protect Chileno Valley Newts
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 7:26:15 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from deskofjk@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing support funding for a means of protecting the Chileno Valley Newts. I understand that on Chileno Valley Road in northern Marin County, California Newts and a variety of other salamanders and frogs cross the road between the forest on one side and Laguna Lake on the other side to complete their breeding cycle migration.

Volunteers from the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade move as many animals as possible but cannot save them all. Every year, thousands of these innocent creatures are run over by cars and trucks.

The solution is to create tunnels under the road that the animals can safely use. This is a very appropriate use of funds managed by the Transportation Authority of Marin. An allocation of only \$1.2 million would complete the studies necessary to receive state and federal funding for construction.

Thank you for considering this request.

Best, Jonathan Kaplan

Inverness, CA 94937

From: [Julie Carlson](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support for Tunnels for Salamanders - Chilean Valley RD
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 8:10:38 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from carlson.juli@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am writing in support of allocating funding to study Chileno Valley Road salamander tunnels.

If you don't know or care much about salamanders, please take the time to read this article from *Bay Nature* titled *Being a Salamander* by Brandon Keim. Valuing and caring for salamanders "is an act of kinship."

<https://baynature.org/magazine/winter2026/being-a-salamander/>

Sincerely,
Julie Carlson
Mill Valley

From: [Uta Jehnich](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support for under-road Newt+ passage
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 9:35:27 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from utajehnich@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

Please allocate money for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

It's Marin's true heritage to protect and support our gorgeous county wild lands and all its non-human residents.

Thank you.

Uta Jehnich

Terra Linda

From: [Carly Everidge](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support for Wild Life Crossing, Chileno Valley
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:08:31 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from carly.everidge@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hi TAM,

I wanted to write to you in support of a planning grant for a wildlife crossing at Chileno Valley rd.

Please help protect wildlife in these beautiful spaces where human cars have severely impacted wildlife crossings.

Thank you,
Carly Everidge

Sonoma County

From: [Mary Goe](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support planning grant for permanent wildlife crossing under Chileno Valley Rd
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 9:25:46 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from marygoe@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hello,

I kindly ask for your support of a planning grant for the permanent wildlife crossing under Chileno Valley Road so that the animals can safely reach food water and shelter. Protecting our remaining wildlife is vitally important for the ecology and safety of all life.

Thank you

Mary Goe Balcerak

Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Sent from my iPad

From: [Ella Fodor](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Support Wildlife Crossing Funding on Chileno Valley Road
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 10:16:27 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from edfodor@ucdavis.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution. As a Wildlife Conservation Biology student and volunteer, I have personally witnessed the results of numerous road strikes along Chileno Valley Road, affecting several ecologically important species. The mortality on this road is both tragic, and hopefully preventable.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Ella Fodor



February 19, 2026

Anne Richman, Executive Director
Chair Kate Colin and Members of the Board of Commissioners
Transportation Authority of Marin
900 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100
San Rafael, CA 94901

Re: Urge Support of the Chileno Valley Road Wildlife Crossing Funding Request

The Tomales Bay Foundation (TBF) is involved in projects of habitat restoration, education, scholarships, community development, research and improvements within the Tomales Bay Watershed. We are concerned about the high mortality of **California newts, slender salamanders, red-legged frogs, California red-sided garter snakes and chorus frogs** which are run over each year as they attempt to cross Chileno Valley Road in their migration to Laguna Lake to breed.

For seven years volunteers from the Chileno Valley Newt Brigade (CVNB) have been on the road, rain or shine, to help reduce this mortality. Because of our concern for wildlife in the watershed, in 2024 TBF awarded a \$5,000 grant for the purpose of characterizing the newt population migrating to Laguna Lake and which involved Professor Gary Bucciarelli and his UC Davis students.

Volunteers are not a permanent solution to this mortality problem. In California crossings for wildlife have become a priority for road design and a number of crossings have been funded and constructed. In 2024 the CVNB contracted with Dokken Engineering to prepare a feasibility study of alternative crossing designs. The feasibility study has been completed and narrowed the crossing designs down to three that will need further elaboration.

PO Box 447, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

www.tomalesbayfoundation.org

email: steward@tomalesbayfoundation.org

We therefore urge your board to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. A permanent wildlife crossing project is desperately needed and will reduce the mortality of California newts and other wildlife trying to cross the road and eliminate the need for a volunteer brigade to help them along.

We look forward to your favorable action on this funding allocation request.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Gaman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "T".

Tom Gaman, President, Tomales Bay Foundation

--



Postal Address:
76 Albert Park Lane
San Rafael, CA 94901
discoverwildcare.org

February 19, 2026

Anne Richman, Executive Director
Chair Kate Colin and Members of the Board of Commissioners
Transportation Authority of Marin
900 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100
San Rafael, CA 94901

Dear Executive Director Richman, Chair Colin, and Members of the TAM Board:

At WildCare, we work to make sure all species can coexist – not just by treating sick or injured animals, but also by teaching people how to live well with wildlife and by advocating for better protection of wildlife and our remaining open spaces.

I write to you to add our voice to those requesting that the Transportation Authority of Marin allocate \$1.2 million from the Measure AA Reimagined Roadways fund to advance the design and environmental review of permanent wildlife undercrossings on Chileno Valley Road near Laguna Lake.

As you know, Chileno Valley Road bisects one of the largest amphibian migration corridors in Marin County. Each winter, thousands of California Newts, salamanders, and frogs are killed attempting to reach breeding habitat at Laguna Lake. The road also threatens the federally listed California Red-Legged Frog and the Western Pond Turtle, a California Species of Special Concern. The U.S. Geological Survey has concluded that without a permanent infrastructure solution, local amphibian populations face extinction.

WildCare has long advocated for investment in connectivity projects to protect wildlife. This project is listed on California's statewide priority connectivity map, but state and federal funding sources are severely constrained. Multi-benefit projects like this one can compete for larger construction grants, but only with local matching dollars and the support of regional transportation agencies. TAM's investment in planning and design is the essential catalyst that will unlock those larger funding sources and multiply the impact of every local dollar.

In addition to caring for our region's wildlife at our veterinary hospital, WildCare runs environmental education programs inspired by the legacy of Elizabeth Terwilliger. Our programs aim to strengthen environmental stewardship and responsibility by teaching an appreciation of nature and a respect for wildlife.

The strongest reinforcement we can give to those education programs is to model that behavior in our deeds. Together, we can create a brighter future for wildlife and inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. We urge you to make this critical investment in infrastructure to protect these threatened and critical species that are a part of this wonderful ecosystem we call home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellyn Weisel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ellyn Weisel
Executive Director

From: [Lori Eanes laptop](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Tunnel for Chileno Valley Newts
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 12:04:16 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lori@lorieanes.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I strongly support funding for building a permanent structure to help the Chileno Valley Newts. The newts must migrate across Chileno Valley road every year to get to Laguna Lake. They have been going to this rare natural lake for thousands of years and thousands are killed trying to do what they must do. We must help them. These charismatic little creatures aren't the only animals that would benefit from the tunnels. Western Pond turtles and Red-legged frogs, both endangered, as well as many other small animals would also be helped.

The tunnel is a small price tag for the good it would do. I'm a filmmaker and photographer in San Francisco and I was so inspired by the work of Sally Gale and her newt brigade that I made a film to try to help them and I hope your board will also support this project. If you need more information please check out my short film

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/1000633911>

The password is Newt.

Thanks so much for your support.

Lori Eanes

www.lorieanes.com

From: [Shree Ram](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Vote for Animal Tunnels
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 11:09:21 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from shreejennifer@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the members of the Transportation Authority of Marin,

I am writing to encourage your support of the studies required to receive State and Federal funds for the construction of animal road crossing tunnels.

Please vote to allocate \$1.2 million of TAM's annual budget of \$50 million.

Animal safety corridors have proven effective in reversing animal mortality rates. With your vote, Marin County can be a leader within the state and country setting precedent for these critical pathways to species preservation.

Thank you for your vote to protect our local wildlife.

Shree Jennifer Ram
Point Reyes Station

From: [Becky Olsen](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Wildlife Crossing at Chileno Valley Road
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 4:53:02 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from beckyolsen28@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom it May Concern:

At night, in rain or dry weather, volunteers patrol hazardous Chileno Valley Road to carry wildlife across the road: the California Newt, threatened California Red-Legged Frog, and the Red-sided Garter Snake and others so that these creatures do not get killed by car traffic.

If there was a wildlife crossing, these and other creatures could safely cross and the volunteers risking their lives could stay home. In Santa Clara County, Midpeninsula Open Space is partnering with the county and other agencies to study feasibility and designs to improve amphibian connectivity near Lexington Reservoir.

In Marin, an Allocation of \$1.2 million from Measure AA transportation funds would complete the necessary studies. Please support a planning grant to design permanent wildlife crossing at Chileno Valley Road.

Sincerely,

Becky Olsen

From: [Alexandra Austin](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: wildlife crossing for CA amphibians
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 1:00:25 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from acaustin1991@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM Board,

I'm emailing to illustrate the critical importance to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

This is in the interest of the conservation of our California amphibians and wildlife that are increasingly being destroyed by the thousands with each passing year- especially those that migrate across Chileno Valley road to and from Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Alexandra Austin

From: gclyde11@gmail.com
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Wildlife crossing for newts in Chileno Valley
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 7:03:28 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gclyde11@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Transportation Authority of West Marin –

I write in support of a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road. I recall first seeing newts in a creek near my home about 75 years ago and being amazed at all phases of their lives – from the translucent sacs of eggs to their “hatching” and maturing into elegant adults. I even kept two in an aquarium for over a year feeding them slugs from the garden.

I was shocked to learn of the carnage on Chileno Valley Road that happens every night during this season. I commend Sally Gale and all the volunteers who have worked so hard, and I urge your authority to support and fund a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Respectfully,

George Clyde, Marshall CA

From: [Joelle CantoAdams](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Wildlife crossing funding proposal
Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026 5:35:11 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jcantoadams@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

At the next TAM board meeting, there will be a group of community members rallying around a wildlife crossing funding proposal to receive TAM funds. This wildlife crossing is to protect some of the smallest and most vulnerable creatures: reptiles and amphibians. For nearly a decade, volunteers of local community members have patrolled a stretch of rural road outside of Petaluma to help frogs, snakes, newts, and salamanders cross this relatively busy road. These include protected species like the California-red legged frog. The newts in particular cross this road with high frequency, as it was built right between their terrestrial upland habitat and Laguna Lake where they go to breed. Without the tireless work of volunteers 7 days a week each breeding season, thousands of newts would be run over and killed, devastating the local population. They are cold blooded and sensitive to evening temperatures, and simply cannot move their tiny bodies out of the way of passing cars in time. While we volunteers are proud of what we do, our work is not sustainable in the long term; we cannot be everywhere at once and still face regular newt losses. This wildlife crossing would provide newts and other small animals passage underneath the road and greatly reduce the number of deaths from cars for decades to come. We hope you grant TAM funding to make this wildlife crossing, novel in its design and implementation, a reality for our community.

Thanks,
Joelle

From: [Martha Nissen](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Wildlife Crossing Measure AA funds
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 9:13:35 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nissenmartha@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am in favor of using Measure AA funds to support a planning grant for construction of the Chileno Valley Road Wildlife Crossing.

Each year, newts and red-legged frogs have to cross this road to breed in Lake Laguna.

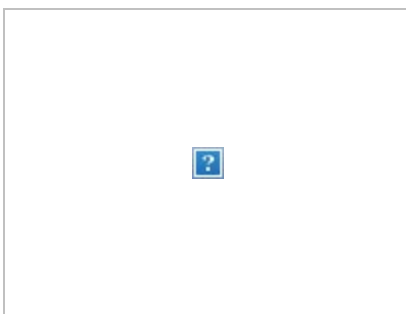
Thank you,
Martha Nissen

From: [Alison Quoyeser](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Wildlife Crossing Needed!
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026 2:46:33 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from aaquoyeser@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear TAM,

California Newts, Red-legged Frogs, and Western Pond Turtles need our help! I am writing to request that TAM include funding for a planning grant to create a wildlife corridor on Chileno Valley Road when budgeting your measure AA funds, which we taxpayers supply. Brave souls are out on Chileno Valley Rd in the night saving these animals, but still thousands are crushed by cars. An amphibian- and turtle-friendly wildlife crossing is needed!



Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Sincerely,
Alison Quoyeser



Alison Quoyeser, Co-Director
| amigosalados.org | amigosalados4@gmail.com
[Mill Valley, California, USA 94941](#)

From: [Ellen Shehadeh](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Wildlife crossing
Date: Saturday, February 14, 2026 8:09:17 PM

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I am more than happy to support a wildlife crossing. We have a duty to protect our animal neighbors.
Ellen Shehadeh, Inverness Ca.
Sent from my phone

From: [Carol Sklar](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: wildlife crossing
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 9:29:12 AM

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what a great idea-
and how many other roads need this?
thank you
Carol Sklar, Occidental

Chileno Valley Road needs a safe crossing for wildlife

Editor: While Chileno Valley Road paves the way for easy transit for people, it makes life more dangerous for animals — including the California newt, the threatened California red-legged frog and the lovely red-sided garter snake — by dividing their homes. To carry the wildlife across the road, local volunteers are patrolling the hazardous road in the dark and the rain.

There's a solution: a wildlife under-crossing, so animals can connect to food, water and mates. And volunteers can stay home. Such an effort is already underway in nearby Santa Clara County, where Midpeninsula Open Space is partnering with the county and other agencies to investigate feasibility and designs to improve amphibian connectivity near Lexington Reservoir.

Now it is time for our region to act.

The Transportation Authority of Marin is meeting on Feb. 26 to discuss how to spend Measure AA transportation funds. An allocation of only \$1.2 million would complete the necessary studies. This only happens once every six years, and decisions will be finalized in early March. Contact the transportation authority at info@tam.ca.gov to urge support for a planning grant to design a permanent wildlife crossing under Chileno Valley Road — the step that will make future construction possible.

Lisa Krigger, Inverness

From: [Mayra Swaintek](#)
To: [TAM Info](#)
Subject: Wildlife Crossing
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026 8:48:00 PM

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Dear TAM Board,

I'm writing to urge you to support funding for a planning grant for a permanent wildlife crossing on Chileno Valley Road.

Each year, thousands of animals are killed trying to cross this road to reach Laguna Lake. Volunteers have stepped in to help, but this is not a long-term or scalable solution.

Funding planning now allows wildlife crossing improvements to be included when the road is repaired, saving time and public money later. Measure AA was approved to maintain roads while also protecting environmental quality, and this project clearly does both.

Please support funding for the Chileno Valley wildlife crossing planning grant.

Thank you,

Mayra and Jay Swaintek

Woodacre, CA 94973