

DRAFT

May XX, 2021

The Honorable Alex Padilla
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Humboldt County Alderpoint Road Evacuation Safety Route Improvement Project

Dear Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I'm writing to urge you to support our County's request for \$8,000,000 in Congressionally Directed Funding for the Alderpoint Road Evacuation Safety Route Improvement Project.

Alderpoint Road connects through Redwood Drive and Highway 101 to Highway 36 and serves a high-risk fire area while also connecting rural areas of Humboldt and Trinity Counties. Humboldt County is seeking to repair 10 miles of this critical roadway, which will greatly improve emergency access. It should be noted that Alderpoint Road is a High Priority Secondary Access Road should Highway 101 be closed/if needed for evacuation purposes.

Humboldt County currently has a deferred maintenance backlog totaling approximately \$250 million and expends road funding as judiciously as possible. A priority for our County's Department of Public Works is addressing the needs Alderpoint Road. In addition to safety improvements, this project also would provide a number of environmental benefits, including reduced sedimentation to improve water quality.

This important project is included in the Regional Transportation Plan of the Humboldt County Association of Governments. Furthermore, Humboldt County has committed to financing the 20 percent local match that would be required for this type of Federal-aid highway project.

Again, Humboldt County strongly supports this project and we urge you to seek fiscal year 2022 appropriations to help fund this important work.

Sincerely,

Virginia Bass, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Project Name

Alderpoint Road Evacuation Safety Route Improvement Through Rehabilitation and Paving.

Is the Project on the National Highway System?

No

Total estimated cost of project and breakdown of funding sources (Detail all local, state and/or private funds. Are these funds secured, expected, or you are still seeking?)

\$10,000,000 in federal funds for the project.

Federal Funding Amount Requested:

\$10,000,000

Identify the specific segment for which project funding is being sought, including terminus points

Alderpoint Road (F6B165) locations within Post Mile 2.00 to Post Mile 47.14.

Description of the Project

Alderpoint Road – Repair 10 miles of road within the listed post miles. This road connects through Redwood Drive, Highway 101 to Highway 36 and serves a high fire risk area while also serving to connect rural areas of Humboldt and Trinity Counties. Rehabilitating and paving road will improve emergency access. This is a High Priority Secondary Access road should Highway 101 be closed, or if needed for evacuation purposes.

Project Justification

The County has an estimated deferred maintenance backlog of approximately \$250,000,000 and expends those funds as judiciously as possible. The Alderpoint Road is a critical route serving a large expanse of the County but also serves fire response in the area. Responses are slowed due to the bad condition of the road. The Road serves as a detour when needed to connect State Highways 101 and 36.

Is the project part of the State's long-range plan?

No.

Is the project included in the metropolitan and/or State Transportation Improvement Program?

Included in the Humboldt County Association of Governments Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

A description of the process that has been or will be followed to provide an opportunity for public comment on the project.

A public meeting will be held in the community to discuss the projects and hear community concerns that may be incorporated.

Describe the economic, environmental, congestion mitigation and safety benefits associated with the completion of the project. Describe the public benefit.

Reduced sedimentation to improve water quality, safety improvements to include enhanced striping and signing.

What is the proposed schedule and status of work on the project? What is the current stage of development of the project? (planning, final design, construction). Will the requested funding for the project be obligated within the next six years?

If funded, the proposed project would be in construction within three years.

Has the project already received funding through the State's federal-aid highway or transit formula apportionments or from other Federal, state, local or private funds? If yes, how much and from what source?

No. The road has received significant federal and state funding for storm damage repairs.

Has the project received funding in previous federal legislation? If so, please cite the act(s), and amount(s) authorized.

No.

NEPA category of action (e.g. Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Statement)

Categorical exclusion

Status of environmental review

None needed.

If the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure chose to fund this project, please provide a very short legal description of the project as you would like it to appear in the bill. For example, "Highway 101 road improvements from Main Street to First Street, Everytown, CA."

Alderpoint Road Evacuation Safety Route Improvement through Rehabilitation and Paving, within Post Mile 2.00 to Post Mile 47.14.

Agency: Humboldt County Department of Public Works
Project: Alderpoint Road (F6B165) PM 2.00 to PM 47.14

Budget Breakdown:

Revenue Source		Project Budget	Comments
Fed/Local	\$1,000,000	Preliminary Engineering	Plans and specifications
Fed/Local	\$7,500,000	Construction	Cost of Construction
Fed/Local	\$1,500,000	Construction Engineering	Construction management and oversight
	\$10,000,000	Total funding needed	
	\$2,000,000	County match (20%)	
	\$8,000,000	Federal aid (80%)	