

**DRAFT**

May XX, 2021

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

**RE: Humboldt County Mattole Road Repair and Paving 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 Mattole Road Repair and Paving Project.

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 repairing and rehabilitating a 10-mile stretch of road that provides access to Mattole Valley and the Bureau of Land Management's King Range National Conservation Area (NCA). The road connects via Centerville Road, State Highway 211 to State Highway 101 and is a Primary Evacuation Route. The road also connects to Humboldt Redwoods State Park and the California Coast.

Mattole Road serves a large expanse of the County and is a key fire response route in the area. Unfortunately, critical incident response times are slowed due to the deteriorated condition of the roadway.

It should be noted that this 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**

Mattole Road Repair 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:**

\$10,000,000.00

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

Mattole Road (F3C010) areas between Post Mile 0.00 and Post Mile 44.05.

**Description of the Project.**

Repair 10 miles of road within listed post miles. This road is access to Mattole Valley and Bureau of Land Management's Kings Range Conservation Area, this road connects via Centerville Road, State Highway 211 to State Highway 101. This road is a Primary Evacuation Route. This road also connects to Humboldt Redwoods State Park and the California Coast.

**Project Justification**

The County has an estimated deferred maintenance backlog of approximately \$250,000,000 and expends those funds as judiciously as possible. This road serves as a critical route connecting Highway 101 to the Kings Range Conservation area, and for access to the California coast. This route serves 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. This road also connects State Highway 101 to State Highway 211.

**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 Humboldt County Association of Governments Regional Transportation 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. Public access to the Kings Range Conservation Area and the California coastline will be improved.

**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**

Not yet started

**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."**

Mattole Road Rehabilitation and Paving to improve public access to the Kings Range Conservation Area and the California coast.

**Agency:** Humboldt County Department of Public Works

**Project:** Mattole Road (F3C010) PM 0.00 to PM 44.05

**Budget Breakdown:**

<b>Revenue Source</b>		<b>Project Budget</b>	<b>Comments</b>
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%)	