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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA****BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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June 29, 2020

The Honorable Salud Carbajal  
 U.S. House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Carbajal:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara in support of H.R. 2, the *Moving Forward Act*.

The County appreciates the bold funding initiatives in H.R. 2, which are needed now more than ever to invest in infrastructure, transform the economy, and speed the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. H.R. 2 includes numerous provisions to support the County's ability to provide critical services and meet the needs of our community. These include funding for affordable housing, health care expansion, clean water/drinking water programs, and Build America Bonds to support local government project financing.

Thank you for your work as Vice Chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to include reauthorization and expansion of surface transportation programs in H.R. 2. Maintaining local roads to ensure safe and efficient movement of people, goods, and services is critical for public safety and economic development. This legislation supports maintaining the existing transportation network that provides the first and last part of every trip. These program funding increases and grant opportunities are sorely needed to meet the transportation challenges we face.

We also appreciate your ongoing efforts to fund projects in the County such as the Lower Mission Creek flood control project. The \$10 billion in supplemental funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers construction account in H.R. 2 will greatly assist the Corps to reducing its backlog of projects and be in a position to partner with the County.

This legislation will also assist the County in responding to the challenges imposed by climate change. The tax provisions to support green energy use will provide important assistance for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Similarly, the extensive provisions supporting renewable energy use such as EV Infrastructure and zero-emissions vehicles will help preserve and enhance the environment through energy conservation.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this effort to create jobs and transform the economy. We look forward to continuing to work with you on these infrastructure issues.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Gilchrest". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Don Gilchrest  
Washington Representative

DWG: awg