



Sierra Club Marin Group
P.O. Box 3058, San Rafael, CA 94912
<http://sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/marin/>

Sierra Club Marin Group

Supervisor Steve Kinsey &
Transportation Authority of Marin
c/o Marin County Department of Public Works
P.O. Box 4186
San Rafael, CA 94913

September 17, 2004

Dear Supervisor Kinsey and TAM Board members,

The Sierra Club Marin Group is pleased to hear that the US 101 and Sir Francis Drake Blvd interchange has received funds from Regional Measure 2, which the Sierra Club endorsed, and is able to proceed with its project scoping, EIR and construction. This complex project will have an enormous impact of relieving congestion on one of Marin's most congested interchanges. This interchange is one that is used by and effects people throughout Marin. The project lies within a multitude of jurisdictions; the County, Larkspur, and Corte Madera.

We are aware that there have been some meetings, over the past few years, to develop some preliminary designs for this new interchange. The new interchange also will affect Lucky Drive , Industrial, Wornum Drive , Fifer, Nellen, Tamal Vista, Bon Aire Road, Redwood Highway, as well as Sir Francis Drake. The Sierra Club Marin Group is concerned about the inadequate amount of public notice of meetings and the process to date in discussing this project. We believe it's essential, to include the public in the deliberations and decision making process of this project. The Marin public is more accepting of the plans of a project of this magnitude, if they are included in the decision making process early on.

The Sierra Club Marin Group believes it would be in the best interest of our County, Corte Madera and Larkspur, if the Transportation Authority of Marin take the lead and conduct public meetings that would bring the public "up to date" regarding the planning process and decisions that have gone on to date for this project. These meetings should be, as soon as possible, since the Project Study Report for Wornum interchange is due Dec 2004. At these meetings:

- 1) Have the public informed of the previous studies that have been made about this project
- 2) Have the minutes of Larkspur, Corte Madera and County meetings, that have lead to the selection of the selected preferred alternative (Wornum Full Service Interchange), available for the public.
- 3) Share with the public other previous Sir Francis Drake Interchange studies.
- 4) Share and explain traffic count data of existing side roads passing through the neighborhoods and commercial areas resulting from the closure of on and off ramps.
- 5) Have discussions of the impact of the remaining interweaving that will take place on Highway 101 with the completion of the Gap Closure HOV lane.
- 6) Have discussions about the new choke points which will occur on East and West Sir Francis Drake Blvd, which are in close proximity to this project.
- 7) Share with the public the potential impacts on the commercial and residential properties by this project.
- 8) Review the bicycle/pedestrian projects that will be coordinated with this new interchange.

The impacts of this new interchange will affect all of the residents of Marin. A significant portion of the funds for this project will be paid for by the bridge tolls of all the residents of Marin. Thus, we strongly believe the planning for this project should be handled by the Transportation Authority of Marin and not the individual jurisdictions.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Yours truly,

Alex Forman, President
Sierra Club Marin Group

CC: Yader A. Bermudez, District Divison Chief
Caltrans District 4