



HCAOG

*Regional Transportation
Planning Agency*

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October 21, 2021

City of Eureka
c/o Scott Ellsmore, Traffic Project Manager
531 K Street
Eureka, CA 95501

RE: Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program
Application: **City of Eureka Bike Plan**

Dear Mr. Ellsmore:

The Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG) wishes to express support for the development of the **City of Eureka Bike Plan** and application to the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program.

HCAOG understands that the **City of Eureka Bike Plan** will be developed to provide a framework for City-wide bike facility planning and include robust community engagement. Receiving the grant would allow the City of Eureka, in consultation with the community, to consider logical corridors and circulation patterns to connect destinations. It would include the typical design alternatives for bicycle boulevards, bike lanes and other bike/non-motorized facilities. Ultimately the plan would facilitate the development of the desired types and locations of bike facilities throughout the City.

The development of the **City of Eureka Bike Plan** is consistent with HCAOG's Regional Transportation Plan overall objectives of balanced mode share/complete streets, safety, equitable and sustainable use of resources, and an efficient and viable transportation system. The **City of Eureka Bike Plan** also aligns with the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program grant objectives of sustainability, accessibility, safety, health, and social equity.

The City of Eureka is the county seat and Humboldt County's largest population center with approximately 26,500 residents. Unfortunately, the City of Eureka ranks #1 throughout the state for total and fatal injury crashes (compared to 93 other similarly sized

Scott Elsmore, Traffic Project Manager

October 21, 2021

Page 2

cities). In addition, the City ranks #2 for pedestrian and #3 for bicyclists fatal and injury crashes. In 2018 the median household income for Eureka was \$41,147 and the median household income in Humboldt County was \$45,528. This is compared to the median household income for California which is \$71,228. With Eureka households earning less than 60% of the California median, Eureka is considered economically disadvantaged.

HCAOG is committed to promoting mode shift recognizing the multitude of health, equity and environmental benefits that come from active transportation. However, this cannot be accomplished without safer facilities.

The **Eureka Bike Plan** is the type of comprehensive strategic planning that is needed to facilitate the development and implementation of safer bike facilities as a means to promote safety, sustainability, equity, and health. HCAOG fully supports the City's efforts to fund the development of the **Eureka Bike Plan**.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson
HCAOG Chair

