



August 22, 2017

Board of Directors
Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC)
55-B Plaza Circle
Salinas, CA 93901

Subject: SR68 Scenic Highway Plan

Dear Board Members:

Founded in 1997, LandWatch Monterey County is a nonprofit, land conservation and planning organization representing more than 1000 residents of Monterey County.

LandWatch urges you to adopt Concept 1 of the SR68 Scenic Highway Plan, which includes construction of 11 roundabouts and other improvements as proposed. Our support is based on the following benefits to Highway 68:

1. Improvements to traffic flow;
2. Significant reduction in traffic accidents and improved traffic safety;
3. Reduction in local and regional ground-level air pollution;
4. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions;
5. Reduction in energy demand; and
6. Improvements to wildlife connectivity and reductions in wildlife fatality and vehicle related accidents.

Based on these benefits, this alternative is the most cost-effective of the alternatives and consistent with Measure X fund allocations for improvements to Highway 68. We also draw attention to the strong support Concept 1 received in your public survey.

LandWatch supports use of regional development impact fees and other funding sources to improve SR 68, but we also recognize that attaining planned level of service standards on SR 68 is not financially feasible or environmentally beneficial.

LandWatch appreciated the opportunity to co-sponsor a public forum with TAMC on the SR68 Corridor Plan. Following the forum, many of our members also weighed in to support Concept 1

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael DeLapa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "DeLapa".

Michael DeLapa
Executive Director