

CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

TO: Board of Directors

AGENDA NO. **6.H**

FROM: Matthew McElhenie, General Manager

Meeting Date: January 9, 2025 Subject: Consideration of a Letter of Support Regarding the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments' (SLOCOG) Application for the FY 2025-2026 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for the North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan - Amended 1/6/2025

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

DISCUSSION:

The North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan, coordinated by SLOCOG, has identified a need for further study and improvements along an approximately 12-mile segment of California Highway 1, from its intersection with Highway 46 to San Simeon. This coastal highway is critical to connecting communities in our county, like Cambria and San Simeon, for the benefit of both residents and tourists. Rising sea levels and other implications of climate change are increasingly impacting it.

The Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) would like to lend its full support to SLOCOG's pursuit of funding for the North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan to identify sea level and climate change adaptation approaches for the corridor to promote the health, resiliency, and longevity of coastal habitats. Additionally, the CCSD supports this plan by analyzing existing and future infrastructure and safety needs to better connect our communities and defend against impending climate change impacts in the region.

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve a Letter of Support regarding the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments' application for the FY 2025-2026 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for the North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Letter of Support - Amended 1/6/2025](#)

DIRECTORS:

DEBRA SCOTT, President
 MICHAEL THOMAS, Vice President
 HARRY FARMER, Director
 TOM GRAY, Director
 KAREN DEAN, Director



OFFICERS:

MATTHEW MCELHENIE, General Manager
 TIMOTHY J. CARMEL, District Counsel

Physical address: 2150 Main Street, #1-A, Cambria, CA 93428
 Mailing address: P.O. Box 65 • Cambria, CA 93428
 Telephone (805) 927-6223

January 9, 2025

Pete Rodgers, Executive Director
 San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
 1114 Marsh Street
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Dear Mr. Rodgers:

On behalf of the Cambria Community Services District (CCSD), I am pleased to submit this letter of support regarding the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments' (SLOCOG) application for the FY 2025-2026 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for the North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan.

The North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan, coordinated by SLOCOG, has identified a need for further study and improvements along an approximately 12-mile segment of California Highway 1, from its intersection with Highway 46 to San Simeon. This coastal highway is critical to connecting communities in our county like Cambria and San Simeon, for the benefit of residents and tourists alike, and is increasingly impacted by sea level rise and other implications of climate change.

The Cambria Community Services District lends its full support to SLOCOG's pursuit of funding for the North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan to identify sea level and climate change adaptation approaches for the corridor in order to promote the health, resiliency, and longevity of coastal habitats. Additionally, we support this plan to provide analysis of existing and future infrastructure and safety needs to both better connect our communities and defend against impending climate change impacts in the region.

Cambria Community Services District serves as a vibrant hub along the scenic Highway 1 corridor, offering visitors and locals a unique blend of natural beauty, cultural heritage, and essential services. The town thrives as a gateway to coastal adventures, connecting travelers with our charming downtown, pristine beaches, and nearby attractions such as Hearst Castle and the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve. Cambria's strategic location along Highway 1 fosters economic vitality through tourism while supporting local businesses and community events that showcase our distinctive character.

We look forward to participating in public engagement and the stakeholder portion of this and anticipate positive changes to come with the plan. The Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for the North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan will significantly benefit Cambria and the Cambria Community Services District. This project will enhance transportation safety along the Highway 1 corridor, directly addressing issues such as emergency access and evacuation routes, which are critical for a community at risk of wildfires and coastal hazards.

Additionally, the plan will prioritize sustainable solutions that align with environmental goals and improve accessibility for residents and visitors. By incorporating resiliency measures, the project ensures that Cambria's infrastructure can better withstand and recover from future challenges, benefiting public safety, community connectivity, and economic vitality.

Thank you for considering SLOCOG's application. We hope Caltrans recognizes this project's value and strongly considers its North Coast Resiliency and Safety Plan for 2025-2026 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant funding.

Sincerely,

Debra Scott
CCSD Board President

Matthew McElhenie
CCSD General Manager