Attachment 2

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May 9, 2017

Federal Highway Administration Central Federal Lands Highway Division Attn: Project Decision Committee, California Federal Lands Access Program 12300 West Dakota Ave, Suite 380B Lakewood, CO 80228

RE: Support for Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway Project Grant Proposal

Dear Project Decision Committee:

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, I am writing to express support for the Transportation Agency for Monterey County's Federal Lands Access Program application for the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway project. The funding will assist TAMC in taking the next steps to evaluate and shepherd the proposal through the decision-making process, with the goal of providing a safe, convenient bicycle and pedestrian transportation system facilitating access to the many tourist attractions in Monterey County.

This project proposes to construct approximately 4.35 miles of bicycle and pedestrian trails connecting residents and visitors to the 17 mile Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail, providing access to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and improving access to trails and the diverse habitats in the Fort Ord National Monument. The grant will enable environmental analysis and review of this proposal.

Monterey County has an aging transportation infrastructure that supports over 425,000 residents and serves an additional 5 million tourist visits each year. This project may contribute to a larger network of paved trails that would be developed in the future, providing a regional active transportation route for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities to reach housing, jobs, schools and community centers in and around the former Fort Ord, the Monterey Peninsula and the Salinas area.

Monterey County supports this proposed transportation project and looks forward to working with the project proponents to advance this proposed project through planning and environmental analysis, and if and as approved, through implementation and ensuring long-term maintenance on County-owned lands. We ask that you approve the grant request and thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

Mary Adams, Chair Board of Supervisors

Debra Hale, Executive Director, Transportation Agency for Monterey County

CC:

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