



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

September 29, 2009

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

In Reply Refer To:
HEPE-30

Ms. Lynn Jacobs
California Department of Housing
and Community Development
1800 Third Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Jacobs:

Congratulations! At the International Conference on Ecology and Transportation, Deputy Administrator Gregory G. Nadeau had the distinct pleasure of presenting the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) with one of the Federal Highway Administration's 2009 Environmental Excellence Awards. This award recognizes the exemplary achievement of the California Regional Blueprint Program in Air Quality Improvement and Global Climate Change.

We recognize your agency's achievement in collaborating with multiple organizations to develop the Regional Blueprint Program, which provides funds for voluntary regional sustainable growth planning efforts that emphasize transportation planning and scenario planning activities. Participating metropolitan planning organizations and regional transportation planning agencies utilize the program's funds to engage in visualization and public outreach efforts. The result of these efforts is the development of growth scenarios that integrate the community's preferred vision for key issues, such as transportation, the environment, and housing. The overall goals of the program are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from mobile sources, integrate transportation and land use planning, build interagency partnerships, and create proactive public involvement.

The HCD's collaboration with other State agencies to implement the program exemplifies how organizations can work together to address transportation goals to support a healthy environment that benefits everyone. We value the initiative and commitment to excellence that has produced the Regional Blueprint Program. This project has demonstrated that innovative policy solutions to encouraging sustainable growth and combating global climate change can be an integral part of our work to meet the Nation's growing transportation demands.

A copy of the awards brochure will be sent to your office.

Sincerely,

Victor M. Mendez
Administrator

