California Department of Transportation

DIVISION OF BUDGETS
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-24 | SACRAMENTO, CA 94273–0001
PHONE (916) 654-7287 TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

September 21, 2026

Mr. Doug Hecox
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration, California Division
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Hecox:

Under the provisions of Section 125, Title 23 of the United States Code, this is a Letter of Intent by the California Department of Transportation to request Emergency Relief (ER) funds to assist in the cost of repairing damages on Federal-aid highways in California caused by a powerful winter storm event.

Beginning on February 15, 2026, a series of powerful storms began impacting California, including Glenn, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties. The storm brought heavy rain and snowfall, wind gusts exceeding 65 miles per hour, and rising rivers in Northern and Central California, and it damaged trees, roadways, and infrastructure.

Preliminary damage estimates are currently being gathered by the State and Local agencies affected. Additional information will be provided with the subsequent ER Application under Disaster CA2026-3 February 2026 Storms.

Under separate cover, the Office of Federal Resources will be submitting the ER Application, along with the Governor's Proclamation(s) and Damage Survey Summary Report, to provide the Division Administrator with a basis to make a finding that the disaster is eligible for ER funding.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Mike McCracken, Division of Maintenance at (916) 997-0646, or myself at (279) 234-2581 or by e-mail at <raul.lerma@dot.ca.gov >.

Sincerely,

RAUL LERMA, Chief
Program and Project Management Branch
Office of Federal Resources

c: Peter Pangilinan, Senior Transportation Engineer, Project Delivery Districts 1 and 2 Federal Highway Administration
Andrew Bianchi, Transportation Engineer, Project Delivery, Federal Highway Administration

bc: Aimee Kratovil, Acting Director, Project Delivery, Federal Highway Administration
Shawn Hart, Acting Chief, Office of Emergency Management and Infrastructure Protection, Headquarters, Division of Maintenance, Caltrans
Mike McCracken, Senior Transportation Engineer, Headquarters, Division of Maintenance, Caltrans
Rachel Jenkinson, Transportation Engineer, Headquarters, Division of Maintenance, Caltrans
Keith Duncan, Division Chief, Headquarters, Division of Budgets, Caltrans
Raul Lerma, Supervising Transportation Engineer, Office of Federal Resources, Division of Budgets, Caltrans
Saba Mohan, Senior Transportation Engineer, Office of Federal Resources, Division of Budgets, Caltrans
Adam Ambrosini, Senior Transportation Engineer, Office of Federal Resources, Division of Budgets, Caltrans
Bob Baca, Acting Supervising Transportation Engineer, Division of Local Assistance, Caltrans
Daniel Karavan, Transportation Engineer, Division of Local Assistance, Caltrans
Dalton LaBoskey, Transportation Engineer, Division of Local Assistance, Caltrans

SM/rl