



July 27, 2007

Dear Transportation Stakeholder:

On behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG), and the University of California, Davis, we are pleased to introduce the California Regional Progress Report. The California Center for Regional Leadership (CCRL) prepared the report as a collaborative effort with regional, State, education and philanthropic partners. The purpose of this report is to develop a shared framework and set of indicators to measure regional progress statewide across a range of quality of life measures. It is intended to be a resource for important decisions being made about the policies and investments that will shape the economic, social, and environmental well-being of California's regions and the State overall.

This is the first attempt to develop a comprehensive statewide region-based indicator report that serves as a baseline that can measure a wide range of characteristics on a regional basis. The progress measures have been developed by the regions within the framework of California's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Councils of Governments (COGs), supported by the Caltrans Regional Blueprint Planning Program, a process underway in most of the State's regions.

The report divided the state into 14 regions and specified a total of 27 indicators such as increases in transit ridership or job growth within the region. The data in this report was developed on a county-by-county basis. This county-level data will be available at www.calregions.org/regcivic/indicators.html. As part of the report, CCRL identified whether each region has experienced a gain or not made progress in each of the 27 indicators. It was not the goal of the State of California, the regional partners that assisted in the funding of this report or CCRL to pass judgment on whether regions are succeeding on these indicators. The report is meant to stimulate thought and discussion on how to define and measure progress.

Should you have any questions regarding the California Regional Progress Report, please feel free to contact Joan Sollenberger, Chief of the Caltrans Division of Transportation Planning, at (916) 653-1818.

Sincerely,

WILL KEMPTON
Director
California Department of
Transportation

RUSTY SELIX
Executive Director
California Association of
Councils of Governments

MIKE MCCOY
Academic Administrator
University of California
Davis