June 23, 2017

David Rabbitt, Chair
State Route 37 Policy Committee
525 Administration Drive, Room 100
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Via E-Mail

Re: State Route-37 – Lead Agency Designation

Dear Mr. Rabbitt—

The Sierra Club is concerned that the Policy Committee will be requested to agree upon a “lead agency” for segments B and C of the SR-37 project prior to approval of the Wetlands Access Criteria, the Corridor Transit Objectives/Criteria and the Project Funding/Financing Plan. It seems to us that this request is premature. It would make it likely that differing funding and policy decisions would affect various parts of the corridor, to the detriment of the environment and users as well.

We specifically object to separation of segment A from the other parts of the project for the following reasons:

1) The funding plan should consider that the greatest risk of roadway inundation due to sea level rise is likely to be on Segment A, in the vicinity of Black Point
2) The funding plan must address transit needs and options affecting both segments A and B
3) Bay Trail and wetlands issues need similar attention in segments A and B
4) Traffic conditions on both US-101 and SR-29 are affected by all segments of the project.
The minutes of the Solano Transportation Authority reflect an understanding that more work needs to be done on guiding principles, and we urge the Policy Committee to consider how such principles would affect all three of the segments of Route 37 that are now under study.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns. If you have inquiries concerning our recommendations, please contact Steve Birdlebough (707)576-6632 scbaffirm@gmail.com, or Joe Feller (415)902-3395 joe56feller@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Victoria Brandon, Chair
Sierra Club Redwood Chapter

Igor Tregub, Chair
Sierra Club Bay Chapter

cc: Policy Committee members and staff