

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
95814

Jan. 24, 2025

Robert Larsen
Public Assistance Officer
Governor's Office of Emergency Services
3650 Schriever Avenue Mather, CA

Re: Critical Emergency Services Infrastructure- FEMA Project #743764, DR-4699-CA

Dear Mr. Larsen,

As the California state legislators representing the City of Portola and Plumas County, we write to emphasize the importance to the community's safety and well-being of prompt funding for repairs of the scour damage on the Gulling Street Bridge, which connects the city to Highway 70.

While the bridge remains open, weight limits have been imposed and may yet become stricter, curbing the passage of school, emergency and public-works vehicles. The bridge is the sole way across the Feather River at Portola, and alternate routes require long detours that are often unavailable during the winter. The area is wildfire-prone and has been under evacuation orders as recently as last summer.

The inspection history of the bridge, the Feather River's flow history, and the appearance of scour damage after the California winter storms of 2023, a federally declared emergency (DR-4699-CA), add up to clear evidence that the storm weakened the bridge and FEMA funding is appropriate.

The city has installed real-time monitoring of the bridge to ensure safe use, but the potential for further erosion demands an urgent response to this request. Thank you for your work with the city and FEMA to speed these repairs, which have our full support.

Sincerely,



MEGAN DAHLE
Senator, 1st District



HEATHER HADWICK
Assemblymember, 1st District