

# Farm to Market Road Improvement Act

*Congressman David G. Valadao (CA-R) and Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick (FL-D)*

**Background:** According to the USDA, trucks are responsible for 83 percent of agricultural freight movements by tonnage. Many trucks in dense agricultural areas can weigh up to 80,000 pounds each. This heavy load has a disproportionate impact on local road and bridge infrastructure in these areas, which leads to costly repairs for local governments. When roads in these heavily agricultural areas deteriorate, America's food supply chain is threatened.

**Summary:** The Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program provides funds for projects to improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas. The *Farm to Market Road Improvement Act* would create a 10 percent set aside in the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program specifically for farm to market road improvement projects.

## **The Farm to Market Road Improvement Act:**

- Creates a 10 percent set aside in the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program for farm to market roads.
- Defines farm to market roads as roads within a county that has an annual gross agriculture production value of at least \$1 billion and agriculture production of at least \$500,000 per square mile.
- Requires the U.S. Department of Transportation and U.S. Department of Agriculture to create, and annually update, a list of covered counties.

**Supporting Organizations:** Tulare County Association of Governments, Kings County, California Farm Bureau, American Farm Bureau, Palm Beach County.

To co-sponsor the bill, please reach out to Parker Edwards [Parker.Edwards@mail.house.gov](mailto:Parker.Edwards@mail.house.gov), in Rep. David Valadao's office.