



November 23, 2022

Toks Omishakin, Secretary
California State Transportation Agency
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2340
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Caltrain Funding: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Cycle 6

Dear Secretary Omishakin:

As members of Caltrain's state legislative delegation, we are writing to express our strong support for Caltrain's application to the Cycle 6 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Existing Projects Reserve to complete the agency's Electrification Project. With the additional funding requested by Caltrain, the electrified system will be able to stay on schedule and begin operations in 2024, resulting in a transformational effort benefitting the entire Bay Area region, enabling multiple major transportation projects, and helping achieve the state's climate goals. In the lead up to the final budget agreement, our delegation was instrumental in ensuring that as much money as possible was appropriated for transit capital projects and that the General Fund TIRCP funds included flexibility to support projects such as Caltrain Electrification.

As you are aware, Caltrain Electrification is modernizing a nearly 160-year-old commuter rail line to evolve with the Bay Area, increasing capacity, performance, and safety while providing cleaner and more sustainable service. This project will replace 75 percent of Caltrain's aging diesel fleet with high-performance electric trains, in keeping with the state's vision for a zero-emissions vehicle future. When this work is complete, Caltrain will be the state's first electrified commuter rail system, spanning 51-miles between San Francisco and San Jose, with plans to replace its remaining diesel fleet with zero-emission electric trains in the near future.

The project, which is a critical foundation for high-speed rail, the San Francisco Downtown Extension Project, and the San Jose Diridon project, will provide faster, safer, and more reliable service. Caltrain will serve as a model both at the state and national levels. Caltrain's historic electrification project is the first undertaking in North America in a generation in which diesel trains and their infrastructure components are transitioned to an electrified system.

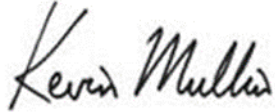
Today, the majority of the Electrification civil infrastructure work is complete, and the first high-performance electric trains have arrived on the corridor. Finishing this project would support public transit, housing, community groups and educational institutions along the corridor. The project decreases emissions and noise pollution in multiple priority equity communities, provides additional access and will improve midday and off-peak service for those that depend on the service. Caltrain Electrification also bolsters the business community and employers,

contributing to the continued economic success and sustainability of the region. As the pandemic eases and transit ridership returns, Caltrain's service as an electrified system becomes more critical for multiple levels in our fight against climate change.

We are supportive of the Caltrain Electrification project and encourage your agency to provide the resources to make this project a reality for communities in the Bay Area in 2024. The opportunity to complete a transportation infrastructure project of this magnitude and scale that would bring such substantial benefits to so many across an entire region of California must not be missed.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Assembly Member Kevin Mullin
Assembly District 22



Assembly Member Phil Ting
Assembly District 19



Assembly Member Robert Rivas
Assembly District 30



Assembly Member Marc Berman
Assembly District 24



Assembly Member Ash Kalra
Assembly District 27



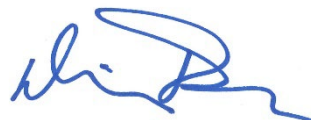
Assembly Member Alex Lee
Assembly District 25



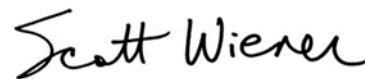
Assembly Member Evan Low
Assembly District 28



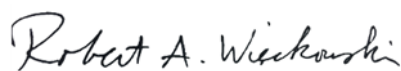
Assembly Member Matt Haney
Assembly District 17



Assembly Member-Elect Diane Papan
Assembly District 21



Senator Scott Wiener
Senate District 11



Senator Bob Wieckowski
Senate District 10



Senator Josh Becker
Senate District 13