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February 9, 2017

Advocate for the Heavy Construction Industry

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for Caltrain Funding for Electrification

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the California Alliance for Jobs, I am writing to relay our strong support for Caltrain's Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project and the Federal Funding Grant Agreement pending approval from the Federal Transit Administration.

The current project is facing a critical decision as it relates to funding. If a notice to proceed for the Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project is not granted, the future viability of the project would be at risk as the costs will increase while the funding will remain stationary. Not moving forward with the electrification project would cost California dozens of local projects, thousands of good paying jobs and millions of hours of wasted productivity. California's congressional representatives should be seeking to support infrastructure investment in our state, not limit it for political or ideological reasons.

Caltrain is currently serving around 65,000 riders daily and is consistently running trains at or near maximum capacity. The Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project will allow the system to increase capacity and ridership while providing the region with cleaner, quieter, faster, and more frequent service. An electrified system also increases capacity for economic growth and job creation in one of America's greatest economic sectors, Silicon Valley. The federal investment for Caltrain's electrification project would be matched with over \$1 billion in already secured local, regional, and state funding. Given the matching funds from state and local sources, this is exactly the type of project the Federal Department of Transportation should support in order to maximize their return on tax-payer investment.

The California Alliance for Jobs fully supports the Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project and the boost that it will provide to our state and national economy. We sincerely hope the Trump administration will support this project as part of your effort to rebuild our national infrastructure and make America great again.

Respectfully yours,

Michael P. Quigley  
Executive Director  
California Alliance for Jobs

Operating Engineers  
Local Union #3

Associated General  
Contractors of  
California

No. California  
District Council of  
Laborers

United Contractors

No. California Carpenters  
Regional Council