



LTK Engineering Services

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February 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing to request your support for a \$647 million federal investment currently awaiting approval from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) that would create valuable job opportunities in Ambler, PA. LTK Engineering Services has been engaged by Caltrain, a commuter railroad based in California, to provide engineering services to modernize their rail corridor.

Last year, Caltrain awarded contracts to advance design work on the project, but construction cannot start without approval of a Federal investment that is pending at USDOT. After two years of work with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), they gave the project a "medium high" rating and recommended it move forward. For the Caltrain project to move forward as planned, USDOT must approve the \$647 million FTA Core Capacity Grant prior to March 1, 2017. Any delay would result in costly penalties and cost increases that would threaten the viability of the project and the associated jobs that would be created in the United States.

The Core Capacity funds are being matched with over \$1.3 billion in local, regional, state and federal formula funds to create more than 9,600 jobs across the nation, as shown in the attached map.

There is concern among your colleagues in the Administration and in Congress that this project will benefit the California High Speed Rail project and so they oppose it. While California's High Speed Rail system plans to use this same corridor, eventually, it is the last section of the project that will be completed – nearly 20 years from now. In the meantime, the benefits to the Bay Area, and to our business in Ambler, PA are accruing right now.

This is a project that will bring congestion relief to an area that desperately needs it. The project also supports hundreds of manufacturing jobs all across the US – including some engineering jobs at my company. As you know, the transit industry supports the US content rules under the Buy America regulations for every project undertaken. This is a great example of how infrastructure projects can increase US employment with good-paying jobs.

Details of the project are available in the attached FAQs. We would be happy to brief you or your staff on the direct benefits that will be created for us (specifically, 20 jobs in engineering) and we look forward to a continued partnership with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

LTK Engineering Services

Dominic A. DiBrito, P.E.
President