



February 14, 2017

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

RE: Core Capacity Grant Agreement for Caltrain Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project

Dear Secretary Chao:

Congratulations on your confirmation as U.S. Secretary of Transportation. We are looking forward to working with you on our shared goals of reducing traffic congestion, making smart infrastructure investments and creating jobs that will help fuel regional and national economic growth.

In just a few days, you will have the opportunity to execute a Core Capacity Grant Agreement that will modernize our Caltrain commuter rail system, a generational project of huge economic importance to workers and businesses in the San Francisco-Silicon Valley region and beyond. We respectfully urge you to approve that grant without delay.

This corridor is a tremendous economic success story, generating jobs for residents, tax receipts for governments, products and technologies that have transformed the ways that we live and work, and business purchases and expansion offices that extend economic benefits across the entire nation. In order to sustain this prosperity and keep this innovation region ahead of competitor regions around the world, government and business leaders have worked together for years on a plan to electrify the Caltrain commuter rail system. When complete, it will provide expanded capacity, improved speeds, reduced noise and pollution impacts on local communities, and greater reliability. Employers in this corridor view these benefits from Caltrain electrification as absolutely critical to the continued economic competitiveness of this region.

The majority of the approximately \$2 billion for this project comes from local, regional, and state sources. The requested \$647 million Core Capacity Grant is the final piece of the funding package and will enable the equipment suppliers across the nation and the construction companies in the Bay Area to immediately begin working. It's a smart investment in modernizing and relieving overcrowding on a successful existing commuter system, exactly the type of investment envisioned for the Core Capacity Grant program.

We are united in our support for this project and urge you to authorize the Core Capacity Grant Agreement at your earliest possible opportunity. Again, thank you for returning to public service in this important role and for your leadership to modernize and improve our nation's transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Acclaim Companies
Bay Area Council (BAC)
BKF Engineers
Blaisdell's Business Products
Bohannon Development Company
Burr, Pilger, Mayer
CalCEF
California Apartment Association, Tri-County Division
Cisco
Comcast
Commute.org
Costanoa Lodge
County of San Mateo
CSAA Insurance Group
Deloitte
DES Architects + Engineers
Dignity Health
Emerald Fund
Facebook
Foster City Chamber of Commerce
Genentech
Google
Hacienda
Heller Manus Architects
HNTB Corporation
Infinera
Joint Venture
Kaiser Permanente, San Jose
Kilroy Realty Corporation
Kwan Henmi Architecture / Planning
Legacy Partners
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford / Stanford Children's Health
Lyft
Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce
Montezuma Wetlands LLC

Mountain View Chamber of Commerce
MVgo
NVIDIA
O'Brien Homes
Oracle
Pacific Eagle Holdings
Parson Brinckerhoff
Peninsula Freight Rail Users Group
Pier 39
Pierry Inc
Premia Capital
Presencia LLC
Recology Inc
Redwood City - San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce
Russell Reynolds Associates
Safeway
San Carlos Chamber of Commerce
San Francisco 49ers
San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR)
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
San Francisco International Airport (SFO)
San Mateo County Community College District
San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA)
Sares-Regis Group
Seaport Industrial Association
Shorenstein Properties
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Sims Metal
Stanford Health Care
SummerHill Housing Group
Sutter Health
Synnex
The Kastrop Group Inc
TMG Partners
Universal Paragon Corporation
University of California, Davis
Webcor