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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0509

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May 31, 2013

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

It is my pleasure to write in support of the TIGER Grant application submitted to the U.S. Department of Transportation by the City of Alameda, in partnership with East Bay Regional Park District, for the San Francisco Bay Trail Expansion and Repair Project. As the Representative of California's 13th Congressional District, I support projects such as this one that provide crucial linkages within the transportation system in my district and throughout the San Francisco Bay region.

It is my understanding that this project will complete and repair nearly eight miles of the San Francisco Bay Trail. These sections will connect a network of hundreds of miles of existing trails throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, ultimately creating a 500-mile system. The five Bay Trail projects in this TIGER grant application include the following:

- Bay Farm Island Trail Resurface/Widen (City of Alameda)
- Clement Avenue Bikeway/Truck Route (City of Alameda)
- Gilman to Buchanan Bay Trail (Cities of Albany and Berkeley)
- Pinole Shores to Bayfront Park Trail (City of Pinole)
- Shore Line Drive / Westline Drive Cycle Track (City of Alameda)

These Bay Trail projects will create new transportation opportunities for bicycle commuters, and will bring economic, safety, and health benefits to the over one million community members who live and work along and near these sections of the regional trail. I understand that these "Green Transportation" corridors will provide "last mile" access to commute alternatives including buses, the Bay Area Rapid Transit system, the Capitol Corridor commuter rail service, and Amtrak, reducing automobile congestion, dependence on fossil fuels, and ultimately, health care costs.

Therefore, I am pleased to express my support for the City of Alameda's TIGER Grant application and request that you give it every serious consideration. This project is a critical transportation improvement for the region that will enhance the livability of the area and will provide positive opportunities for sustainable economic development and healthy communities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

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