Park Street Business Association

May 29, 2013

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to seek your support for the **San Francisco Bay Trail Expansion and Repair** Project TIGER Grant application submitted to the Department of Transportation by the City of Alameda and in partnership with East Bay Regional Park District. The project will have a significant impact on the East Bay and the broader San Francisco Bay region, providing an important link in our transportation system.

This project will repair and complete almost eight miles of the San Francisco Bay Trail, connecting hundreds of miles of existing Bay Trail throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, which will ultimately create a 500-mile system. The five Bay Trail projects in this TIGER grant application are as follows:

- 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 options for bicycle commuters, and will bring economic, safety and health benefits to the over one million community members along and near these sections of the regional trail. 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, and will reduce congestion, our dependence on fossil fuels and health care costs.

I am pleased to support Alameda's TIGER Grant application. This project is a critical transportation improvement for the region that will enhance the livability of the area and will provide positive opportunities for economic development.

Sincerely,

Robb Ratto

Robb Ratto
Executive Director
Park Street Business Association

2447 Santa Clara Ave., #302, Alameda CA 94501
Phone: 510-523-1392 ❖ Fax: 510-523-2372 ❖email: parkstreet1 @comcast.net ❖ web: shopparkstreet.com