

2157 Santa Clara Avenue  
Alameda, California 94501

May 29, 2013

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast  
Washington, District of Columbia 20590

**Re: TIGER - San Francisco Bay Trail Expansion and Repair - City of Alameda**

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As a strong supporter of the San Francisco Bay Trail Expansion and Repair Project, I ask you to approve the TIGER Grant application submitted to the Department of Transportation by the City of Alameda in partnership with the East Bay Regional Park District.

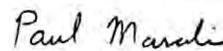
Public transit, bicycling and walking are viable modes of transportation in many parts of the country, but the City of Alameda is uniquely positioned to be a success story for further investment in these modes.

Geographically speaking, Alameda (population 75,000) is an island, with only five road links to the rest of the San Francisco Bay Area. The capacity of these road links has not been increased in over four decades, and future increases are infeasible, given the high cost of movable bridges and underwater tubes.

The Project would complete and repair almost eight miles of the San Francisco Bay Trail, making it more convenient for local residents and workers to use bicycling and walking for "last mile" access to public transportation. Not merely a recreational facility, the Bay Trail feeds "green transportation" alternatives such as the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) regional rail system, the Amtrak Capitol Corridor inter-regional rail system (a federal-state partnership unique in the nation), and the Alameda - Contra Costa (AC) Transit local bus network (with its growing Rapid Bus component).

I support Alameda's TIGER Grant project because it will contribute to livability, congestion reduction, economic development, and fossil fuel independence. Thank you for considering my comments.

Yours truly,



Mr. Paul Marcelin, MBA