



March 8, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC, 20590

RE: Support for the joint City of Oakland and Port of Oakland TIGER 2012 Grant Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of the Bay Area Council, I write to offer my enthusiastic support for the Port and City of Oakland's TIGER 2012 grant application to transform the former Oakland Army Base into a world-class Trade and Logistics Center by developing the Port's Phase I Intermodal Rail Project.

Thirteen years after its decommissioning, the Oakland Army Base is well-poised for redevelopment, and the \$20 million TIGER 2012 grant would drive a dramatic expansion in rail cargo transfer capacity at the Port of Oakland. This expansion would have a direct role in creating jobs, improving national competitiveness, and decreasing carbon emissions. Over a decade in the making, this grant application is strongly supported by the region's political and business leadership.

From high-speed rail, to BART, to the bridges across the bay, the Bay Area Council has been a driving force on improving the regional economy through infrastructure development. Founded in 1945, the Council is widely respected as the voice of Bay Area business, and our 275 members employ more than 4.43 million workers and have revenues of \$1.94 trillion worldwide. As such, I respectfully request that you give the joint City and Port of Oakland grant application your full consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jim Wunderman'.

Jim Wunderman
President & CEO
Bay Area Council
201 California Street, Suite 1450
San Francisco, CA 94111