

JOHN GARAMENDI
10TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

228 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-1880
FAX: (202) 225-5914

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1981 N. BROADWAY, SUITE 220
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94696
PHONE: (925) 932-8899
Fax: (925) 932-8159

<http://garamendi.house.gov>

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2012

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TACTICAL AIR AND LAND
FORCES

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS,
FOREST AND PUBLIC LANDS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

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's TIGER IV
Grant Application**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Port of Oakland and City of Oakland have requested my support for their application for funding under the US Department of Transportation TIGER IV discretionary grant program to convert the former Oakland Army Base (OAB) into a thriving Trade and Logistics Center by developing the Port's Phase I Intermodal Rail Project.

It has been more than ten years since the Oakland Army Base was decommissioned and is past due for economic redevelopment. The proposed \$20 million TIGER IV grant funding would help facilitate a nearly four-fold expansion in rail cargo transfer capacity by building additional rail access in the OAB area. The total project cost is \$43 million, with strong local and state funding components totaling \$23M. This investment will complement the ongoing development plans and goals for the joint City of Oakland and Port of Oakland plans to install new trade infrastructure and prepare the OAB site for additional trade and logistics development. This rail project will make access to the Port more efficient for existing shippers and solidify the Port's position as a premier export gateway for a range of intermodal and commodity types.

In addition, this project will allow enhanced intermodal and bulk transfer capacity for the Port of Oakland, substantial emissions reduction due to expanded use of rail, and a significant increase in the economic competitiveness of the Port and the region. Hundreds of near-term construction and long-term permanent job opportunities present a compelling vision for a community that is experiencing sustained unemployment and is eager to see the ongoing development plans for the former Oakland Army Base realized in the near future.

I support this application and hope that the City of Oakland and Port of Oakland grant request will be given full and fair consideration consistent with applicable laws and regulations. Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact my Walnut Creek district office at 925-932-8899.

Sincerely,



JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress, CA-10