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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

March 30, 2012

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The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast
Washington D.C., 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am pleased to offer my support for the Port of Oakland and City of Oakland's TIGER 2012 grant application to convert the former Oakland Army Base (OAB) into a Trade and Logistics Center by developing the Port's Phase I Intermodal Rail Project.

It has been more than ten years since the OAB was decommissioned and it is overdue for economic redevelopment. The proposed \$20 million grant application will help to 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, and this investment will complement the City and Port's ongoing development 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.

This project will also result in enhanced intermodal and bulk transfer capacity for the Port, substantial emissions reduction due to expanded use of rail, and an increase in the Port and region's economic competitiveness. Hundreds of 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 OAB realized in the near future.

I respectfully request that you give this application your full consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact Amanda Thompson on my staff at (202) 225-5065 or amanda.thompson@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Pete Stark
Member of Congress