

# California Legislature

March 8, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. – 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

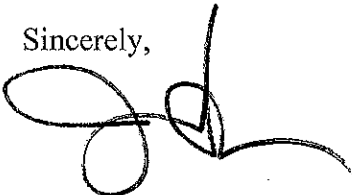
Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the California State Legislature's committees with jurisdiction over transportation issues, we are writing to urge your swift approval of the pending Federal Transit Administration funding for the Peninsula Corridor Electrification project (Caltrain). This project to modernize and electrify the Caltrain system is critical to Bay Area commuters and businesses. Currently, Caltrain serves more than 60,000 riders every weekday from San Francisco to San Jose and is at capacity. The electrification project will allow for the addition of more train cars, cut commute times, increase safety along the corridor, and improve air quality. Additionally, the project will support thousands of jobs.

We share your commitment to infrastructure investment and are working tirelessly on efforts here in California to increase funding to maintain and expand our state's transit and road systems. As you are aware, the State of California, coupled with local and regional governments in the Bay Area, have committed millions of dollars to the Caltrain project to match the federal funds. This vital project is ready to proceed and will provide benefits to commuters in one of the most congested corridors in the nation.

We urge you to give final approval to the Caltrain funding and we look forward to working with you on this and other exciting transportation projects in California in the future.

Sincerely,



Jim Frazier  
Chairman  
Assembly Committee on Transportation



Jim Beall  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Transportation and  
Housing