

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 23, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: FY 2017 FASTLANE Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program**

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing to reiterate our strong support for two related pending applications for FY 2017 funding from the Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) freight and highway grant program: (1) America's Global Freight Gateway: Southern California Rail Program, and (2) America's Global Freight Gateway: Southern California Highway Strategy.

These regional applications seek funding for critical multi-modal and highway projects in Los Angeles County that will greatly improve global competitiveness, facilitate transcontinental freight mobility and relieve regional traffic congestion and goods movement chokepoints. The projects were selected based on their high priority and include: rail-highway grade separations in the Cities of Pico Rivera and Montebello (Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority), the Eastbound State Route-57/State Route-60 Confluence Freight Bottleneck Project (Cities of Industry and Diamond Bar), the Alameda Corridor Southern Terminus Gap Closure (Port of Los Angeles), the Terminal Island Railyard Enhancement (Port of Los Angeles), the Terminal Island Wye Improvements (Port of Long Beach), and the State Route-71 Freeway Conversion Project.

Funds awarded through the FASTLANE program are vital in addressing critical freight bottlenecks and highway projects across the country. The FASTLANE program is particularly important to Southern California, home to the largest port complex in the western hemisphere and which serves as the freight gateway and inland trade corridor for nearly 30 percent of our nation's exports and more than 40 percent of imports. One-fifth of the nation's export and import containers are carried along the Alameda Corridor-East transcontinental freight rail corridor to and from the rest of the United States.

Due in major part to the impacts on the region of nationally significant goods movement, Southern California consistently experiences the worst traffic congestion and air quality in the nation. Federal investment through the FASTLANE program is needed to resolve freight bottlenecks and increase the capacity, safety and efficiency of Southern California's highway, rail, and maritime infrastructure. Improvements in Southern California's freight network, funded in partnership from Federal, state, local, and private sources, will help maintain our nation's global competitiveness and mitigate the negative impacts of goods movement on our region.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated. We look forward to working with you, especially given your deep knowledge and experience involving maritime and goods movement issues.


Sincerely,



ED ROYCE  
Member of Congress



ADAM SCHIFF  
Member of Congress



GRACE NAPOLITANO  
Member of Congress



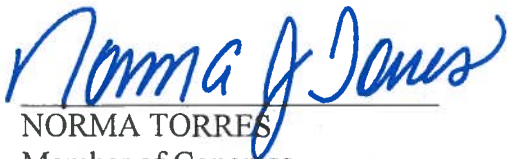
ALAN LOWENTHAL  
Member of Congress



JUDY CHU  
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LINDA SANCHEZ  
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NORMA TORRES  
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