

Riverside County Transportation Commission

May 27, 2015

Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support of Caltrans Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (Commission) expresses its support of the Caltrans Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) 2015 grant application being submitted for the construction of a grade separation at the intersection of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) San Bernardino Subdivision mainline and Rosecrans/Marquardt Avenues in the city of Santa Fe Springs. This application is to complete the funding package for this project that is matched by local and state funds.

The project is located on the *Pacific Surfliner* corridor, the second busiest intercity/commuter rail corridor in the nation, which carries an average of 130 passenger and freight trains. In addition, 52,000 vehicles utilize this crossing, including trucks, buses, and cars each day.

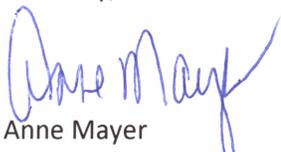
Construction of the grade separation will not only eliminate the most dangerous crossing in California, as ranked by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), but it is the remaining project necessary to allow the completion of the LA Triple Track project, 15 miles of third main track between Los Angeles and Fullerton. Completion of the LA Triple Track project will allow Amtrak and the Southern California Regional Rail Authority to significantly increase the number of passenger trains operating between Los Angeles and San Diego. At the same time, completion of the project will allow more fluid freight operations with the movement of goods in and out of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Caltrans is partnering with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, BNSF, the California High Speed Rail Authority, the CPUC, and the city of Santa Fe Springs in the development of this important project. Project stakeholders include the cities of La Mirada and Pico Rivera, Amtrak, the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency, Orange County Transportation Authority, and the Commission.

In summary, the Commission considers the Rosecrans/Marquardt grade separation project an excellent candidate for funding under the TIGER 2015 discretionary grant program and we respectfully submit our support of the Caltrans and Metro effort to secure such funding.

Thank you for your consideration of the Rosecrans/Marquardt grade separation project application.

Sincerely,

Anne Mayer
Executive Director