

**TA**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**as of 4-9-2021**



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

EMILY BEACH, CHAIR  
RICO E. MEDINA, VICE CHAIR  
CAROLE GROOM  
DON HORSLEY  
JULIA MATES  
MARK NAGALES  
CARLOS ROMERO

JIM HARTNETT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 7, 2021

The Honorable Jackie Speier  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
2465 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0514

Re: Transportation and Infrastructure Request – Burlingame Broadway Station Project

Dear Representative Speier:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I am pleased to offer our support for the City of Burlingame's (City) Transportation and Infrastructure Committee request for the Broadway Grade Separation Project (Project).

As background, the Project will grade separate Broadway Avenue from the Caltrain commuter rail line. With over 10,000 at-grade railroad crossings throughout the State of California, the Broadway at-grade railroad crossing currently is ranked *first* on the California Public Utilities Commission Grade Separation Priority List for fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. The Project is currently included as part of the Caltrain Grade Separation Program in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Long-Range Transportation Plan 2040 with Project ID No. 17-06-0039. Furthermore, the Project is also included as part of Caltrain Grade Separation Program in the draft Plan Bay Area 2050, which is anticipated to be adopted by MTC later this year.

Grade separating Broadway Avenue is crucial, as it is the only gateway to the City from U.S. 101, connecting the freeway to the Downtown Business District, the Rollins Road Industrial District, numerous City services, and hospitality facilities. Additionally, Broadway Avenue provides connections between downtown and a new Facebook campus and numerous hotels adjacent to U.S. 101 including Hyatt, Hilton, and Marriott to name a few. The concentration of these major destinations generates high traffic volumes that are compounded by the current at-grade railroad crossing which experiences some of the worst traffic congestion in the area.

The Project also includes the reconstruction of the current Caltrain commuter rail station at Broadway Avenue, which is currently only served on weekends due to operational constraints associated with the "hold-out-rule" whereby trains that pass through the current station must hold outside of the station when a train is stopped at the station. With the new station at the grade-separated railroad crossing, this constraint will no longer be a factor and could be served by weekday trains which provide connections to major employers along the Caltrain rail line, such as Google,

The Honorable Jackie Speier

April 7, 2021

Page 2 of 2

Salesforce, and Facebook, as well as connections to major sporting destinations such as Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, and the Chase Center and Oracle Park in San Francisco.

The TA has partnered closely with the City and Caltrain on the Project and has provided over \$23 million in Measure A grade separation program funding toward the preliminary engineering and final design phases. The Project is also eligible to receive TA Measure A grade separation program funds for the right-of-way and construction phases of the project. Now that the Project has received environmental clearance from the Federal Transit Administration in October 2020, final design is underway and is well-positioned to move toward construction quickly and efficiently.

Thank you for considering the City's request for this critical project.

Sincerely,



Jim Hartnett  
Executive Director

Cc: San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

EMILY BEACH, CHAIR  
RICO E. MEDINA, VICE CHAIR  
CAROLE GROOM  
DON HORSLEY  
JULIA MATES  
MARK NAGALES  
CARLOS ROMERO

JIM HARTNETT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 7, 2021

The Honorable Jackie Speier  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2465 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE FOR  
FUNDING U.S. 101/PENINSULA AVENUE INTERCHANGE PROJECT

Dear Representative Speier:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I am pleased to offer our support for the City of San Mateo's Transportation and Infrastructure Project Funding Request of \$2 million for the U.S. 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange Project (Project).

The Project consists of the relocation of the existing U.S. 101 southbound on- and off-ramps from East Poplar Avenue to Peninsula Avenue in order to create a single, full-access interchange at Peninsula Avenue and Airport Boulevard. This would improve safety and traffic operations as well as reduce most typical travel times within the Peninsula Avenue interchange area for residents of both San Mateo and Burlingame. The Project would also provide bicycle and pedestrian improvements on Peninsula Avenue from just west of North Humboldt Street to North Bayshore Boulevard.

The Project is included in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Project is currently in the preliminary engineering and environmental review phase, funded by a \$3.5 million grant from the TA's Measure A highway program.

Additionally, the Project is listed in the TA's draft Short Range Highway Plan and will be eligible to apply for Measure A and Measure W highway program funding to help fund future phases of work.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Hartnett', is written over a circular blue stamp or seal.

Jim Hartnett  
Executive Director





BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

EMILY BEACH, CHAIR  
RICO E. MEDINA, VICE CHAIR  
CAROLE GROOM  
DON HORSLEY  
JULIA MATES  
MARK NAGALES  
CARLOS ROMERO

JIM HARTNETT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 7, 2021

Congresswoman Jackie Speier  
2465 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Transportation and Infrastructure Request – US 101/Produce Avenue Interchange Project

Dear Congresswoman Speier,

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I am pleased to offer our support for the City of South San Francisco Transportation and Infrastructure Committee request of \$5,000,000 for the U.S. 101/ Produce Avenue Interchange Project (Project).

The Project enhances safety, for motorists and pedestrians, and improves traffic operations on U.S. Highway 101, a heavily traveled transit route between San Francisco and San Jose, and adjoining streets. The interchange also provides a new east-west crossing of U.S. 101, improving overall traffic connections and supporting operations and growth in one of the largest concentrations of biotech companies in the Silicon Valley.

The Project is in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and is currently in the preliminary design and environmental review phase, utilizing a \$3 million grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). The total Project cost is estimated at \$130 million. Preliminary design and environmental will be complete in approximately ten months, and the project will progress to the Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) and Right of Way phases.

In addition to the TA, the Project is also supported by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). Additionally, the project is included in the TA's draft Short Range Highway Plan and will be eligible to apply for San Mateo County Measure A and Measure W highway program funding later this year. Thank you for your consideration of this impactful project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Hartnett', is written over a light blue circular stamp or watermark.

Jim Hartnett  
Executive Director