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October 31, 2011

Secretary Ray LaHood
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support for the City of Oakland's TIGER III grant application to convert the former Oakland Army Base into a thriving Trade and Logistics Center.

For more than 10 years, the Oakland Army Base has been decommissioned and ideal for redevelopment. It is my understanding that a solid team has been formed and a master plan is in place to secure private and public resources needed to install new infrastructure and prepare the site for development. The TIGER III grant application has the potential to trigger the alignment of more than \$400 million in local, state, federal and private funds to rebuild over 300 acres of prime property adjacent to the Port of Oakland.

Most importantly, the TIGER III grant and this Center has the potential of creating 3,000 jobs, enhanced intermodal capacity for the Port, substantial emission reductions due to expanded use of rail, and increased economic competitiveness of the Port. With Oakland experiencing an unemployment rate of nearly 17%, the jobs created through this project can act as an economic stimulus to revive its economy. In addition, the project will clean the air for those living in the surrounding community and mitigate the blight currently at the site.

I urge you to favorably consider supporting the City of Oakland's grant request for the Oakland Global Trade and Logistics Center.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

MARY HAYASHI