



November 2, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Support for the City of Oakland's TIGER III Grant Application**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to express the support of the Bay Area Council for the City of Oakland's TIGER III grant application to convert the decaying former Oakland Army Base into a thriving Trade and Logistics Center.

The TIGER III funded project will be the first \$438 million phase of Oakland Global, an ambitious project that builds upon the Port of Oakland's recent efforts—50 foot channel deepening; 5 new berths; 85 acre intermodal rail terminal; new cranes; and air quality improvements—to further connect U.S. businesses to international markets. The first phase, to which TIGER III funds will be committed, includes:

- Creating a new intermodal rail terminal on 40 acres of the Port property.
- Restoring Oakland's only deep water break-bulk terminal, a unique component of the Marine Super Highway.
- Constructing new trade and logistics facilities for warehousing directly within the Port
- Relocating export-oriented recycling operations and trucking operation from impacted neighborhoods
- Improving the backbone infrastructure of the former Oakland Army Base

Subsequent phases of Oakland Global will bring further expansion of the rail terminal and an additional one million-plus square feet of trade and logistics facilities on the Port's land. The first phase will be implemented over the next five years and the subsequent phases should be completed in the following five years.

This project, the first phase of the larger Oakland Global project, will bring 3,000 jobs, enhanced intermodal connectivity, substantial emission reduction due to expanded use of rail, increased economic competitiveness of the Port of Oakland, and expanded access to export markets for American businesses. The Bay Area Council supports this project because it will be good for our region and our nation, and I urge you to approve the TIGER III request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jim Wunderman'.

Jim Wunderman  
President and CEO