

# TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL No. 7



Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

November 8, 2011



Organized November 18, 1907  
United with JC# 38 January 1, 2010

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

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am pleased to submit this letter of support 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. We proudly represent employees who work for port-dependent industries in Oakland and throughout California, and have nearly 5,000 members who live with their families in the City of Oakland itself.

It has been more than 10 years since the Oakland Army Base was decommissioned and is way past due for economic redevelopment. There is a solid team and master plan in place to secure the private and public resources needed to install new infrastructure and prepare the site for commercial development. The TIGER III grant application has the potential to trigger the alignment of more than \$400,000,000 in local, state, federal, and private funds to develop over 300 acres of prime property adjacent to the Port of Oakland.

With the potential of 3,000 jobs, enhanced intermodal capacity for the Port, substantial emissions reduction due to expanded use of rail, and substantially increasing the economic competitiveness of the Port – this project is compelling. Thousands of construction and permanent job opportunities for a community experiencing an unemployment rate of 17% is exciting. Cleaning the air for the surrounding community and mitigating the decaying and wasteful infrastructure currently serving the site is essential. Tens of millions of dollars in contracting opportunities for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises will stimulate the economy of a city that is suffering from the recession impacting the State of California and nearly all local governmental agencies.

Again, I am proud to convey my support for the Oakland Global Trade and Logistics project and the City's TIGER III application.

Sincerely,

Rome A. Aloise  
President

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