

## 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**David Ivester**, President  
*Briscoe Ivester & Bazel LLP*

**Richard Sinkoff**, Vice President  
*Port of Oakland*

**William H. Butler**, Treasurer  
*Lind Marine, Inc.*

**Amy Breckenridge**, Secretary  
*ERM*

**William Adams**  
*International Longshore  
& Warehouse Union*

**Scott Bodensteiner**  
*Haley & Aldrich*

**Paul Campos**  
*Building Industry Association  
of the Bay Area*

**Leonard Cardoza**  
*AECOM*

**Peter Dailey**  
*Port of San Francisco*

**Grant Davis**  
*Sonoma County Water Agency*

**Ane Deister**  
*Parsons Corporation*

**Art Coon**  
*Miller Starr Regalia*

**Bill T. Dutra**  
*The Dutra Group*

**Chris Elias**  
*Santa Clara Valley Water District*

**Michael Giari**  
*Port of Redwood City*

**Greg Gibeson**  
*Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association*

**Walton Gill**  
*Chevron Products Company*

**Josh Gravenmier**  
*ARCADIS*

**Tom Guarino**  
*Pacific Gas & Electric*

**William H. Hanson**  
*Great Lakes Dredge & Dock, Inc.*

**Laura Kennedy**  
*Kennedy/Jenks Consultants*

**Jim Holland**  
*Levin-Richmond Terminal Corp.*

**James D. Levine**  
*Montezuma Wetlands LLC*

**Wendy Manley**  
*Wendel Rosen Black & Dean LLP*

**Pat Mapelli**  
*Cargill*

**Christian Marsh**  
*Downey Brand LLP*

**James C. Matzorkis**  
*Port of Richmond*

**James McNally**  
*Manson Construction Company*

**Gary Oates**  
*Environmental Science Associates*

**Richard M. Rhoads**  
*Moffatt & Nichol*

**Captain John Schneider**  
*Tesoro*

**Phil Tagami**  
*California Capital & Investment Group*

**Dilip Trivedi**  
*Moffatt & Nichol*

**Ellis A. Wallenberg III**  
*Weiss Associates*

**Scott Warner**  
*Ramboll Environ*

**Anju Wicke**  
*Anchor QEA*

**Jeff Wingfield**  
*Port of Stockton*

**John A. Coleman**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

April 4, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in support of the application submitted by the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) to the Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for Long-term Achievements of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) grant program.

Bay Planning Coalition is a nonprofit, member organization that advocates for sustainable commerce, industry, infrastructure, recreation and the natural environment connected to the San Francisco Bay and its watershed. We work very closely with the Port of Oakland and regional government bodies such as Alameda CTC on improving goods movement throughout the region and view this as a key project related to that goal.

The Alameda CTC, in partnership with the Port of Oakland and numerous other stakeholders, is developing the Global Operations at the Port of Oakland: Roads, Rails and Technology (GoPort!) project, which will alleviate significant truck and rail bottlenecks at the nation's fifth busiest seaport. The project's anchor component, the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Grade Separation Project will remove an at-grade truck-rail crossing of the port's primary access road rail terminal lead tracks, greatly improving efficiency and reliability for both trucks and intercontinental trains. In addition, improvements to Middle Harbor Road, a critical last-mile connector to marine terminals, and deployment of innovative Intelligent Transportation System technologies will improve safety and operations.

The GoPort! Project improvements are essential to the global competitiveness of the Port of Oakland, which supports more than 73,000 jobs and provides the Northern California Megaregion's primary connection point to world markets. In addition, these improvements provide vital internal circulation to support the growth envisioned as the former Oakland Army Base is transformed into the Oakland Global Trade and Logistics Center. This redevelopment will create thousands of middle-wage logistics jobs and will provide the combination of modern warehousing facilities and intermodal rail access in close proximity to a major port that today's global shippers demand. The Oakland Army Base redevelopment, which was supported through the TIGER program, also helps to offset the impacts of the loss of thousands of jobs from the base closure will shift truck traffic to rail, alleviating congestion on three National primary Freight Network freeway segments.

Finally, the GoPort! Project improvements will generate extensive safety, quality of life, and environmental sustainability benefits. In particular, the reduction in idling of trucks and trains will greatly reduce diesel particulate matter, improving health for the adjacent West Oakland neighborhood, where asthma rates exceed the regional average more than threefold. A new bicycle and pedestrian path on Middle Harbor Road and Maritime Street will provide a separated bike and pedestrian path for local community access to jobs and to recreation at a shoreline park.

Substantial local funds have been invested in planning and project development for these nationally significant improvements at the Port of Oakland, but this critical package of projects will not come to fruition without funding support through the FASTLANE grant program. I urge you to join me in supporting these vital investments.

Sincerely,



John A. Coleman  
Chief Executive Officer