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March 8, 2012

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

**RE: Support for the Port of West Sacramento TIGER 2012 Grant Application**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of Bay Planning Coalition, I am pleased to offer my support for the Port of West Sacramento TIGER 2012 grant application for Phase 2 of the Marine Highway Container Service. The proposal will expand the operation of transport containers from the Port of West Sacramento, designated as rural, to the Port of Oakland via the Deep Water Channel.

The original TIGER I funded efforts to innovate Goods Movement throughout the Greater San Francisco Bay Area as an alternative to traditional ground transportation. Phase 1 funded a shared barge for Ports of West Sacramento, Oakland, & Stockton for the Marine Highway Container Service. Based on the success of Phase 1 operations and strong interest to utilize the service, the Port of West Sacramento now needs an additional barge to accommodate the needs of Goods Movement through the Greater San Francisco Bay Area.

Additionally, the Marine Highway Container Service will be beneficial to the environment by further reducing the amount of ground transport between the ports, will help create jobs by expanding the container service, and offers an alternative to our deteriorating highway system by utilizing our Deep Water Channel.

Again, I am pleased to convey my support for this application and ask that you give it your full consideration under the TIGER 2012 grant competition.

Sincerely,



John A. Coleman  
Executive Director

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Executive Director