



TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Nila Gonzales • Interim Executive Director

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Chairman
House Transportation I Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio:

On behalf of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA), I want to voice our strong support for the INVEST in America Act that your Committee will be marking up on June 9. TJPA was created by the City and County of San Francisco, Bay Area counties and transit agencies for the purpose of developing, building and operating the multimodal Transbay Transit Center, the Grand Central Station of the West. This transformational project connects all modes of transportation under one roof; created a transit-oriented neighborhood with 35% affordable housing; and will bring commuter and high-speed rail service into downtown San Francisco to create an integrated transportation system that connects to the State's statewide high-speed rail service system.

The INVEST in America Act represents a much-needed federal commitment to building infrastructure that increases mobility and access, makes a real and lasting contribution to improving the environment and connects communities in a more efficient and equitable fashion. It will give our region the opportunity to compete for the level of funding necessary to complete this important project.

There are many features of this legislation that make it uniquely beneficial. First among those are the recognition that truly transformational infrastructure projects require substantially higher levels of funding than have been provided in the past. In particular, the legislation's Projects of National and Regional Significance will provide competitive grant opportunities for large transportation projects that cannot be funded through annual appropriations or other discretionary sources. With these large projects come substantial community and environmental benefits that can be realized in the here and now and provide lasting long-term benefits.

We truly appreciate the time, effort and thought you and your Committee have put into the INVEST in America Act and we wish you every success as you navigate through the legislative process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nila Gonzales', is written over the typed name and title.

Nila Gonzales
Interim Executive Director