

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Michael Regan
Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Administrator, Mail Code #1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Administrator Regan,

We are writing to request your full and fair consideration of the 15 projects included as part of the California State Transportation Agency's (CalSTA) Port and Freight Infrastructure Program (PFIP), and to urge the Biden-Harris Administration to prioritize both these projects as well as additional investments in California's ports for *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (IIJA) and *Inflation Reduction Act* (IRA) funding.

California is the United States' most significant global trade gateway. In 2020, California ports handled 38 percent of our nation's containerized imports, supporting over 3 million jobs and \$416 billion in waterborne trade that touches every single Congressional district in the country. At the same time, Californians have borne the environmental impact of these critical trade corridors. The recent supply chain crisis further highlighted the national significance of California's ports and goods movement system and underscored the need for continued federal investment.

For the last several years, the State of California has worked closely with the Biden-Harris Administration to address port congestion and supply chain challenges. In late-2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed Executive Order N 19-21 directing state agencies to take near-term actions and develop longer term budget proposals that support port operations and goods movement. In 2022, Governor Newsom proposed a \$2.3 billion supply chain resilience budget package, including one-time funding totaling \$1.2 billion for port and freight infrastructure, which was enacted by the California State Legislature. It is now imperative that the Biden-Harris Administration match California's historic investment in these nationally significant port and freight infrastructure corridors.

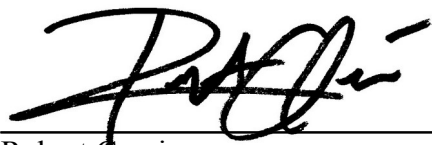
In July, CalSTA awarded more than \$1.2 billion – including approximately \$450 million for zero-emission infrastructure, locomotives, vessels and vehicles – as part of the state's historic one-time program to build a more efficient, sustainable and resilient supply chain. PFIP grants were provided to 15 infrastructure projects, which benefit each of the state's major ports, making long-term upgrades that will increase the capacity to move goods through California's global trade gateways while reducing environmental impacts on neighboring communities and creating an estimated 20,000 jobs. Please see attached list for more information. In addition to the PFIP projects, California ports are pursuing additional projects with other state and local resources that support sustainable goods movement, zero emissions technology deployment, and supply chain efficiency.

We would emphasize that these projects strongly align with the economic, equity and climate objectives of the federal IIJA and IRA programs, and that coordinating state and federal support will allow us to maximize the return on these critical investments.

Therefore, we urge the Biden-Harris Administration to support CalSTA's nationally significant PFIP program of projects, as well as other priority port projects, through federal programs like U.S. DOT's *Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP)*, *Multimodal Project Discretionary Grants* (the INFRA, MEGA and Rural programs), the *Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Program*, the *Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Program (RCN)*, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) *Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles* and *Clean Ports Programs*.

Thank you for your leadership on supply chain issues and your full and fair consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



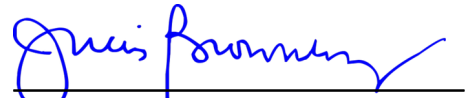
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



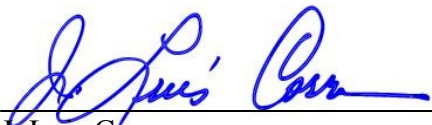
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress




Josh Harder
Member of Congress



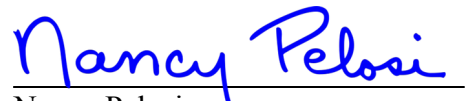
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



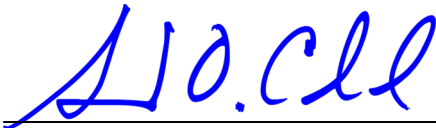
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



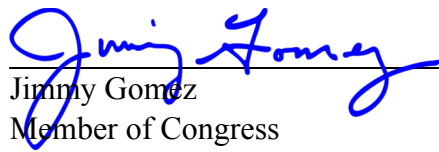
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



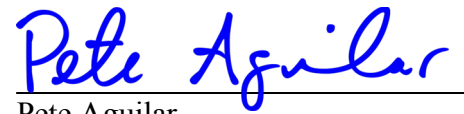
Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



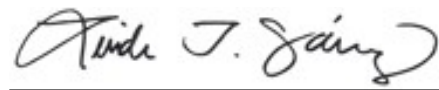
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



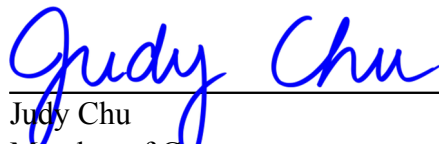
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Katie Porter
Member of Congress



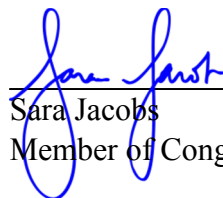
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



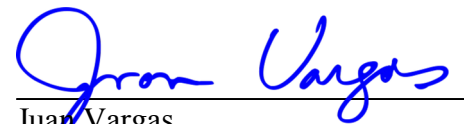
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress