

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 6, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

We write to support full consideration for the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program Grant application for funding to advance the Pacific Surfliner Coastal Bluff Track Bed Stabilization and Seismic Improvements Project (Project).

The Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor is the second busiest intercity rail corridor in the nation. This corridor also supports significant freight and commuter rail operations and is part of the U.S. Strategic Rail Corridor Network (STRACNET). A portion of the LOSSAN Rail Corridor in San Diego County runs through the City of Del Mar on bluffs located adjacent to the Pacific Ocean (Del Mar Bluffs). The Del Mar Bluffs, which support the railroad infrastructure and track-bed, have experienced and continue to be vulnerable to major erosion. This Project includes the design, environmental and construction components of a package of improvements for the long-term stabilization of the Del Mar Bluffs.

A significant failure of the bluffs will severely impact the local and regional economy and the ability for individuals to access jobs, schools, and other economic activity centers in southern California. Additionally, a failure of the bluffs will cause detrimental impacts to freight rail services on the only viable rail corridor connecting San Diego with the rest of the nation. Completion of this Project aligns well with the Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program's goals to reduce the state of good repair backlog, improve Intercity Passenger Rail performance, and enhance safety for transportation in American communities.

Again, we urge full consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



MIKE LEVIN
Member of Congress



SUSAN A. DAVIS
Member of Congress



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress



SCOTT PETERS
Member of Congress