

*(text OCR'ed from original letter)*

The Secretary of Transportation  
Washington, D.C. 20590

October 25, 2010

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

After I met with you and other members of the Bay Area delegation on September 30, a subsequent staff level meeting was held on October 8 that included Mike Scanlon and Bob Doty from Caltrain. At that meeting, the staff discussed investments in both future high-speed rail service and existing Caltrain service along the proposed California High-Speed Train corridor from San Francisco to San Jose.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has worked with the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) for almost a decade to plan and conduct the environmental analyses required by the National Environmental Policy Act for the Statewide high-speed train system. No final decision has been made regarding the design of this segment, and DOT must approve any final alternative in order for it to receive Federal funds. As long as this process is underway, we cannot prejudge the final outcome. As decisions are made on a final design, we will work with you to assure that community considerations are taken into account.

At my meeting with you, I expressed support for near-term investments that will benefit Caltrain immediately, as well as high-speed intercity passenger rail. I want to assure you that we are working diligently to identify possible investments in intercity passenger rail that provide joint benefits for high-speed rail and Caltrain.

I look forward to continuing to work with you and the other members of the Bay Area delegation to improve rail service from San Jose to San Francisco. A copy of this letter has been sent to each cosigner of your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Ray LaHood