



February 4, 2010

Mr. Peter Rogoff, Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration
East Building
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Mr. Leslie Rogers, Regional Administrator
FTA Region IX
201 Mission Street
Suite 1650
San Francisco, CA 94105-1839

RE: Support for Yolo County Transportation District's Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar Urban Circulator Grant Application

Dear Mr. Rogoff and Ms. Rogers:

As the state Assemblymember representing West Sacramento, I am requesting your approval of Yolo County Transportation District's \$25 million Urban Circulator Grant application for final design and construction of Phase I of the Downtown West Sacramento/Sacramento Riverfront Streetcar Project and purchase of 3 streetcar vehicles.

This project is part of an effort to develop a vibrant, thriving community and I believe it meets the selection criteria for the Urban Circulator grant program perfectly – the Sacramento region and the Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar project could have written the criteria! The emphasis on livability and sustainability are exactly what the groundbreaking Sacramento Region Blueprint plan envisions. The Blueprint development process, which included community participation, and the plan itself, which helps to guide local transportation and land use planning decisions, are consistent the FTA's Livability Initiative.

The Downtown/Riverfront streetcar project will:

- provide a convenient transportation option for travelers in the Sacramento urban core;
- efficiently connect with the regional transportation network;
- serve a variety of riders, from downtown office workers to residents of economically disadvantaged neighborhoods;
- spur development in the most promising mixed-use infill sites; and
- coordinates with existing innovative transit-oriented land use plans.

Page Two
February 4, 2010
Mr. Peter Rogoff

In addition, the project involves an extraordinary degree of private and public cooperation. The capital budget includes direct financial contributions from property owners, and West Sacramento residents have approved a sales tax to support operations. Two cities and two transit districts with the support of two counties and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments have undertaken project planning.

I am pleased to support this important and much-needed project, and urge your approval of the application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mariko Yamada". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MARIKO YAMADA
8TH Assembly District