

TA

CORRESPONDENCE

as of 6-28-2024



June 19, 2024

The Honorable Laphonza Butler
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Butler:

On behalf of the City of Burlingame, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA) and the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain), we are writing to thank you for submitting a funding request for the Burlingame Grade Separation Project as part of the FY 2025 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill.

The Broadway Grade Separation Project (in the City of Burlingame) will replace the at-grade railroad crossing with a new configuration that will separate the railroad from the street. This project will reduce vehicle conflicts, increase safety, and promote clean modes of transportation at this critical east/west gateway in San Mateo County.

The project is shovel-ready, and we have worked together to successfully narrow the funding gap needed to move the project toward construction. However, with the proposed state budget cuts, the state funding previously approved for this project is now at risk. Your support and help to secure a much-needed federal investment is even more vital to move this project forward.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has ranked the Broadway at-grade crossing as the number one statewide priority for grade separation out of the over 10,000 at-grade railroad crossings in the entire state since 2018. Separation of the Broadway crossing will play a critical role in eliminating train-vehicle collisions and improving efficiency of rail operations.

Broadway is the only gateway to Burlingame from U.S. 101, connecting the freeway to two vital business districts, numerous small and large businesses, and eleven San Francisco International Airport-serving hotels. One hundred and four Caltrain trains pass through the Broadway at-grade railroad crossing daily providing passenger service to Bay Area communities. The concentration of these major destinations generates high traffic volumes that are compounded by the current at-grade railroad crossing which experiences some of the worst traffic congestion in the area. In addition to addressing the dangers associated with this crossing, the project will improve traffic flow and the overall quality of life in and around the project area.

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We thank you for your continued support of transportation improvements that are so fundamental to the vitality and health of our region. We look forward to working with you to secure final approval of this funding as part of the FY 2025 appropriations cycle.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact San Mateo County Transportation Authority Government and Community Affairs Director Jessica Epstein at epsteini@samtrans.com.

Sincerely,



Lisa K. Goldman
City Manager
City of Burlingame



April Chan
Executive Director
San Mateo County Transportation
Authority



Michelle Bouchard
Executive Director
Caltrain

Cc: City of Burlingame – Council
San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors



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The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
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