

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 13, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

We are writing regarding the Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) Grant Program. We were surprised to find out that of the eighteen projects selected, none were from the Los Angeles region. If the goal of FASTLANE grants is to provide funding for projects with significant regional and national impacts by reducing congestion, expanding capacity, using innovative technology, and moving freight more efficiently, then applications from the Los Angeles region should have had priority. We ask that you provide our offices with an explanation of the selection process.

As you know, the Los Angeles region is home to the nation's busiest port complex, which includes the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach. Together they are responsible for at least 40 percent of all national container cargo trade and account for \$310 billion in national economic impact. As a result of the responsibility of transporting our nation's goods, Southern California residents suffer the worst traffic in the country. Annually, Angelenos spend on average 81 hours stuck in their cars on freeways and they are in need of relief.

The Los Angeles region submitted more than a dozen applications for nationally and regionally significant freight projects that tested innovative technology, increased capacity, improved multimodal efficiency and reduced congestion. Without FASTLANE funding, the region will now have to move forward with these projects on their own. It is decisions like these that have forced our constituents to willingly tax themselves in order to meet their transportation needs. It is unfair that rather than reward residents with additional needed aid, they are being penalized.

We will never fully achieve the goals of FASTLANE if the Los Angeles region continues to be ignored. By doing so we are not only hurting the local economy, but the national economy. We look forward to hearing the explanation of the selection process.

Sincerely,


Member of Congress

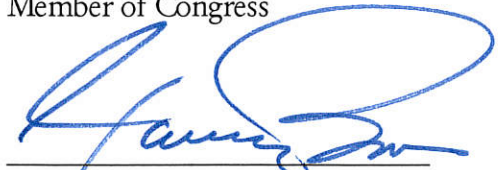

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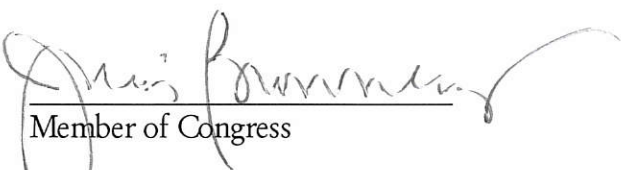

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