



The Honorable Peter Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing on behalf of San Francisco Transit Riders (SFTR) in strong support of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority's (TJPA) application for the FY25-26 Mega Program. The project described in this application will fund 100% of the final design for the Downtown Rail Extension's (DTX) 1.8-mile tunnel between the Salesforce Transit Center and a new underground rail station at Fourth and Townsend Streets. Finishing this design work is the critical next step needed to begin construction of the tunnel which is the pathway for Caltrain and California high-speed rail to bring electrified rail passenger service into the heart of downtown San Francisco.

SFTR is San Francisco's member-supported, grassroots advocacy organization for excellent, affordable, and growing public transit. We believe that empowering everyday transit riders to speak up for rider-first policies will bring us the world-class transit system we need for a livable, sustainable, and accessible San Francisco.

Completing the Transbay Project will provide direct long-term mobility benefits to all the neighborhoods in the project area including transit-dependent and environmental justice populations. The two stations included in the DTX project at the Salesforce Transit Center and at Fourth & Townsend Streets will be within convenient walking distance of SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities and AB 1550 Low-Income Communities.

Providing the funding requested in this application will allow for the completion of what is almost literally the last mile of Caltrain's 77-mile long existing commuter rail service and what will be the last mile of future California high-speed rail into downtown San Francisco. It will also be instrumental in completing what will be one of most seamless multi-modal transportation hubs in the nation. This project speaks directly to the Administration's laudatory goals regarding climate change, environmental justice, safety, and the mobility demands of a diverse and growing population.

On behalf of SFTR, I strongly urge you to support this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dylan Fabris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Dylan Fabris
Community & Policy Manager
San Francisco Transit Riders