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California State Senate

SENATOR
LOIS WOLK
FIFTH SENATE DISTRICT



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LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

February 8, 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 Senator representing Yolo County and West Sacramento, I am writing to request 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 three streetcar vehicles.

For 20 years, since light rail was first established in Sacramento, we have been planning for a rail extension to serve West Sacramento and Yolo County. A rail connection has been included all this time in master plans for Sacramento Regional Transit, West Sacramento and Yolo County. I am pleased that the 2007 STIP funding from Yolo County has been put to good use, and resulted in the preliminary planning and engineering and environmental review for the Downtown/Riverfront streetcar. That investment has brought the project this far; it is now poised to go further into implementation with your help.

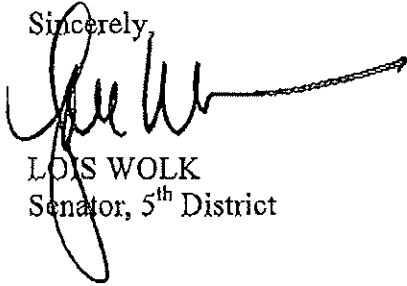
My district also includes much of the Sacramento/San Joaquin River Delta. Serving on the Food and Agriculture Committee, and Natural Resources and Water Committees, and chairing the Select Committee on Delta Stewardship and Sustainability, I am acutely aware of the sustainability issues that affect my district. Sustainability for the Delta region means, in part,



concentrating new development in cities. Creating livable, walkable, and dense mixed use communities – exactly what my colleagues in West Sacramento have been planning for, pursuing and building over the last decade – is an important part of that strategy. This is the kind of urban development that we need to support and invest in, and this is the right place to direct the Livability Initiative's efforts and resources.

Finally, it's important to highlight the commitment made by private property interests and the city of West Sacramento to help finance the Downtown/Riverfront streetcar proposal, even in the midst of ongoing state and local budget difficulties. This project is a great fit for the Urban Circulator program, it deserves your support and I am pleased to offer mine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lois Wolk", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

LOIS WOLK
Senator, 5th District