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as of 6-12-2020

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SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
(650) 508-6200

June 11, 2020

The Honorable Toni Atkins
Senate President pro Tempore
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Confirmation of Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin- SUPPORT

Dear Senate President pro Tempore Atkins,

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans), the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain), and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (Transportation Authority), I write to respectfully request Senate confirmation of Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin.

Our agencies have been working diligently for several years to address safety and congestion management along goods movement arterials, such as Highway 101, which runs down the Bay Area Peninsula through the heart of Silicon Valley, while simultaneously working on providing multi-modal options through the pursuit of commuter rail service, enhanced public transportation and ferry service, and active transportation projects to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We strive to continue improving air quality and mobility while also accommodating heavy traffic within our region. Director Omishakin's willingness to understand the opportunities and challenges presented in each region to balance addressing mobility, throughput, and clean air has been appreciated.

In addition, his emphasis on improving safety and congestion management on the state highway system, and background in delivering multi-modal options during his previous tenure with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, will allow for greater collaboration to meet state and regional objectives.

For these reasons, we strongly support Senate confirmation for the appointment of Toks Omishakin as Caltrans Director.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Hartnett".

Jim Hartnett
General Manager/Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director

CC: Members of the California State Senate
Governor Gavin Newsom
David Kim, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency
Toks Omishakin, Director, California Department of Transportation
The Honorable Marc Berman, Assembly Member, 24th District
The Honorable Kevin Mullin, Assembly Member, 22nd District
The Honorable Phil Ting, Assembly Member, 19th District
San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors
San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors