



## MONTCLAIR

April 21, 2009

The Honorable David Dreier  
United States House of Representatives  
233 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 *David*

Dear Congressman Dreier:

On behalf of the City of Montclair, I would like to request your continued support for our Monte Vista Avenue/Union Pacific Railroad Grade Separation Project in the Reauthorization of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). **The City is requesting \$2,800,000 in federal assistance to help complete the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and the remaining right-of-way acquisition for the Monte Vista Avenue Grade Separation Project – Montclair's top transportation priority.**

As you know, increased rail traffic from the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles has caused significant delays at rail crossing throughout the Alameda Corridor and Alameda Corridor East. The Monte Vista Avenue grade separation project will reduce traffic delays, reduce air pollution from idling vehicles and increase public safety. The project will also enhance our local and regional transportation network.

Federal funding is being requested to complete the right-of-way acquisition. Before work on this acquisition can proceed, however, it is necessary to comply with federal environmental law. Therefore, the City's request also includes funding for completing the NEPA process. **The City's estimated cost for NEPA compliance and acquisition of remaining right-of-way is \$3,500,000. The City is requesting \$2,800,000 (80% of the estimated cost of this segment of the project) in federal funds and will commit \$700,000 in state Traffic Congestion Relief Act funds for the local match. Part of the NEPA process will include an opportunity for public comment and input.**

Should you or your staff have any questions concerning our project, please don't hesitate to contact our City Engineer, Michael C. Hudson, at 909-625-9441, who should be able to help you.

Thank you again for your support of our community and your leadership in Congress.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Eaton  
Mayor

### CITY OF MONTCLAIR

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