



**Metro**



May 1, 2009

The Honorable David Dreier  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dreier,

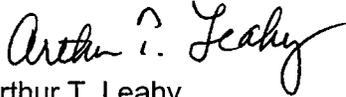
We are writing to express our strong support for the Southern California Regional Rail Authority's (Metrolink) request that \$20 million be authorized for implementation of a Positive Train Control (PTC) system in the new surface transportation legislation to be considered by Congress this year. The total cost of this project segment request is \$25 million and **we are committed to providing the funding balance of 20% non-federal funds through state transportation bond funding and other local sources** needed to promptly install this much needed safety enhancement. We strongly support inclusion of a rail safety program in the upcoming transportation authorization, with PTC for Metrolink being the top priority of the program. The total cost of the Metrolink's PTC system is estimated at \$201 million. **Southern California transportation agencies are united in support of Metrolink's PTC request.**

In Southern California we have a heightened collective concern that extraordinary and aggressive steps must be taken to ensure that the safety of commuter rail passengers is safeguarded. We believe it is essential that we invest, without delay, in the rail safety infrastructure needed so that we can maintain public confidence in Metrolink and encourage this valuable public transportation service to grow to its full potential. The September 12, 2008 Metrolink collision with a Union Pacific train in Chatsworth, California where 25 people lost their lives and many were injured, further reinforces the urgency of these improvements.

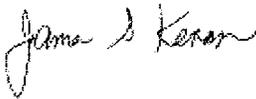
We view the request for a \$20 million as complementary to the Railroad Safety Improvement Act of 2008. This legislation, passed by Congress and signed into law (Public Law No: 110-432) by the President last year mandates the installation of PTC by commuter and freight railroads by 2015. Metrolink operates on among the busiest passenger and freight rail tracks in the United States. We believe that given the unique challenges of operating a commuter rail system in a region where an enormous amount of America's imports are transported via our rail network, a significant share of funding should be made available to Metrolink.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of our request to dramatically enhance the safety of Southern California's rail network. Please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Mahoney, SCRRA Government Affairs Manager at 213 452-0259 or mahoneye@scrra.net with any questions regarding this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Arthur T. Leahy  
Chief Executive Officer  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority



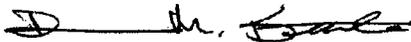
James S. Kenan  
Interim Chief Executive Officer  
Orange County Transportation Authority



Anne Mayer  
Executive Director  
Riverside County Transportation Commission



Deborah Robinson Barmack  
Executive Director  
San Bernardino Associated Governments



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