



# City of Emeryville

INCORPORATED 1896

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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January 18, 2018

Susan Bransen, Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street, MS-52  
P.O. Box 942873  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for City of Emeryville's application to the 2018 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program for a Quiet Zone at 65th, 66th, and 67th Streets on UP's Martinez Subdivision**

Dear Ms. Bransen:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Emeryville, I write to express strong support for the City of Emeryville's application for funding from the 2018 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program to construct Quiet Zones on 65th, 66th, and 67th Streets on UP's Martinez Subdivision in northwest Emeryville.

Over the years, Emeryville land uses have changed from primarily industrial uses to more residential, office and commercial development. New apartment complexes are located on either side of the tracks with office development to the east. Numerous commercial establishments and hotels are located nearby.

The UP-Martinez Subdivision tracks, located through Emeryville, provide an important link in the region's freight and passenger rail network. Local and regional freight and passenger traffic traveling from the Bay Area to Sacramento, the Central Valley, and all along the West Coast from Seattle to San Diego all rely on this corridor to move goods and people. Future freight train growth is estimated to be a function of growth experienced at the nearby Port of Oakland, a major economic engine for the region.

The City has received numerous complaints about the noise of train horns including loss of sleep, interruption of phone conversations and meetings, loss of hotel business, and a decline in the peace and well being of residents at their homes. Creating Quiet Zones at the 65th, 66th, and 67th Street rail crossing will reduce noise, vibrations and traffic congestion. These changes will improve the quality of life for the people who live and work in our small, dense city while also improving safe freight movement and rail crossings.

In 2008, the City completed a feasibility study for improvements along this corridor. That study shows that Quiet Zone crossings will not only impact the quality of life of the residents in Emeryville but will also positively impact the residents in Berkeley, West Oakland, and the greater East Bay region.

Securing funding from the 2018 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program for installation of Quiet Zone crossings at 65th, 66th, and 67th Streets on UP's Martinez Subdivision will allow the City of Emeryville to construct these much-needed improvements that strengthen safety, maximize operational efficiencies, reduce air and noise pollutants and limit impacts to vulnerable members of our population.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John J. Bauters  
Mayor, City of Emeryville