

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

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2021

April 22, 2021

Mark Foley

Rebecca Saltzman

Robert Powers
GENERAL MANAGER

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Janice Li 8TH DISTRICT

Bevan Dufty

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker, United States House of Representatives 1236 Longworth H.O.B. Washington, DC 20515

RE: San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District Surface Transportation

Reauthorization Member Project Request - Embarcadero Station Platform

Elevator Capacity and Redundancy Project

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), I am pleased to submit this Surface Transportation Reauthorization Member Project Request for \$6.25 million to support the District's Embarcadero Station Platform Elevator Capacity and Redundancy Project. The project will increase elevator reliability and redundancy, improve station access, and enhance station capacity.

The Embarcadero Station Platform Elevator Capacity and Redundancy Project will install a new elevator, refurbish one existing elevator, and widen station stairways in one of the Bay Area's busiest transit hubs, with nearly 50,000 daily station exits in 2019. This station directly serves both BART and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), with surface transit connections to SFMTA Muni and bus service and multiple other regional transit operators including Golden Gate Transit buses and ferries, Alameda-Contra Costa Transit Transbay buses, and San Francisco Bay Ferry service. The elevator will serve the BART platform, but an emergency stop will be provided at the Muni platform. The existing elevator will then be used exclusively to access the Muni platform. Since both elevators will be able to stop at each platform, if one elevator is taken out of service, the other can be used to maintain accessible service for both operators.

The total project cost is \$23.8 million, and BART has already secured \$17.6 million in funding through a combination of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) formula funds, BART funds, and funding from the City and County of San Francisco. The \$6.25 million BART is requesting will close our funding gap and allow us to move forward toward construction. The project is under contract and at 95% design. Our anticipated date of completion is Fall 2024.

BART riders also recognize the benefit of having two elevators at Embarcadero Station, providing greater reliability and redundancy in the case the single elevator would go out of service. Currently, if the single elevator at Embarcadero station stops working, all BART and Muni customers who need to use an elevator, must exit at an alternative BART station in downtown San Francisco. This process is both complex and difficult for community members with mobility issues or physical disabilities, seniors, as well as riders with strollers and luggage.

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BART conducted extensive community outreach for this project as part of the Embarcadero and Montgomery Capacity Implementation Plan and Modernization Study. The outreach included a series of open houses, surveys, fliers, BART news stories, email alerts, and social media engagement events. BART will continue to conduct public outreach on the project and provide advance public notice for each of the construction phases to ensure minimal impact to both BART and Muni customers.

We appreciate your consideration of this \$6.25 million request. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Amanda Cruz, Manager of Government Relations and Legislative Affairs, at 510-301-8350 or <a href="mailto:acruz1@bart.gov">acruz1@bart.gov</a>, with any questions or requests for additional information if needed.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Powers

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General Manager



April 23, 2021

The Honorable Speaker Nancy Pelosi United States House of Representatives 1236 Longworth H.O.B. Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District's Appropriations Community Project Request

Dear Speaker Pelosi.

The San Francisco Travel Association is pleased to support the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART) Embarcadero Station Platform Elevator Capacity and Redundancy Project and their request for \$6.25 million in Appropriations Community Project funding. The San Francisco Travel Association is San Francisco's official destination marketing organization and it represents over 1,000 businesses in the Bay Area.

The Embarcadero Station Platform Elevator Capacity and Redundancy Project will install a new elevator, refurbish one existing elevator, and widen station stairways in one of the Bay Area's busiest transit hubs, with nearly 50,000 daily station exits in 2019. This station directly serves both BART and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) light rail, with surface transit connections to SFMTA bus service and multiple other regional transit operators including Golden Gate Transit buses and ferries, AC Transit transbay buses, San Francisco Bay Ferry service, and others. This project will increase elevator reliability and redundancy, improve station access, and enhance station capacity.

In 2019, San Francisco welcomed over 25 million visitors who spent over \$11 Billion during their stay and generated over \$770 Million in taxes and fees for our City's General Fund. The industry also employs over 80,000 residents from around the Bay Area. Ensuring that our public transit system can accommodate visitors and employees is essential to economic recovery of the regional economy, as well as riders' safety and positive experience while using our transit system.

We look forward to continued partnership with BART to deliver this regionally significant project.

Thank uou.

Joe D'Alessandro
President and CEC

The Honorable Speaker Nancy Pelosi United States House of Representatives 1236 Longworth H.O.B. Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District's Member Project Request

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

I am pleased to support the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART) Embarcadero Station Platform Elevator Capacity and Redundancy Project and their request for \$6.25 million in Member Project funding. The BART Accessibility Task Force (BATF) has long supported redundant elevators in BART stations, which ensure elevator availability for mobility-challenged individuals and seniors, and other investments that expand and improve access to BART's stations.

The Embarcadero Station Platform Elevator Capacity and Redundancy Project will install a new elevator, refurbish one existing elevator, and widen station stairways in one of the Bay Area's busiest transit hubs, with nearly 50,000 daily station exits in 2019. This station directly serves both BART and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) light rail, with surface transit connections to SFMTA bus service and multiple other regional transit operators including Golden Gate Transit buses and ferries, AC Transit transbay buses, San Francisco Bay Ferry service, and others. This project will increase elevator reliability and redundancy, improve station access, and enhance station capacity.

The BATF advises the BART Board of Directors and staff on disability-related issues and advocates on behalf of people with disabilities and seniors to make the BART system accessible to and useable by people regardless of disability or age. The BATF supports elevator access improvements like this project, which enhances access to stations.

We look forward to supporting BART in delivering this regionally significant project. Should your office have any questions about our support of this project, please contact me at rglockl@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Randall Glock

Chair, BART Accessibility Task Force