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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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Senior Whip

April 27, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I respectfully request your full and fair evaluation of a TIGER grant application by the San Mateo County Harbor District in the amount of \$4 million. The project would expand and improve the safety and maneuverability of on Johnson Pier at Pillar Point Harbor, and within the harbor itself. Not only will this benefit the fishing industry and the economy, but the improvements would also assist recreational boaters and related tourism.

For years, there have been safety issues stemming from the sharp curvature of the road in the harbor, and large boat towing trailers and fishing trucks pose a special hazard. The roads are too narrow and the angles are too sharp. When turning, the large trailered boats infringe upon the sidewalk curb as well as the next lane of oncoming traffic. I am pleased that the San Mateo County Harbor District will finally compete for a grant that would mitigate this safety issue. Also under the grant, changes will be made to the pier so as to facilitate the safe intermingling of trucks and workers at the end of the pier during times when boats are unloading. The pier improvements will also speed the offloading of fish.

Upon completion of this project, the businesses in the Pillar Point Harbor area, such as fish sellers, restaurants, and party boats are expected to see an increase in business, supporting many middle class families. In 2013, the harbor supported \$17 million in fresh seafood sales. 3.8 million visitors come to the coast annually, and many visit the harbor to take advantage of its launch capacity, its restaurants and its other amenities.

I also note that the harbor is used by various law enforcement and similar agencies for drug interdiction and other activities. Johnson Pier, as part of the overall harbor infrastructure, has a role in the harbor's capacity to serve law enforcement.

The San Mateo County Harbor district has been an active part of the coast since its establishment in 1933. I appreciate that this grant application will be evaluated according to all appropriate rules, and I look forward to learning if the grant application is accepted.

All the best,



Jackie Speier

KJS/bp