



Rail Passenger Association of California

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26th March, 2011

Hon. Joe Kellejian
Chairman
LOSSAN RAIL BOARD
C/O SANDAG
San Diego, CA

Via Fax 619 699 1905 (2 PAGES)

Dear Chairman Kellejian:

FEDERAL INTERCITY RAIL and HIGH SPEED RAIL FUNDS

We understand that the Federal Railroad Administration plans to re-allocate HSR funds that Florida has refused to accept. California is among the states vying for a share of the \$2.4 billion available.

In November of 2009, California was poised to apply for federal funds for improvement of its three intercity rail corridors as well as for the high-speed rail project. As reported as the lead story in the LA Times on November 13, 2009, "Schwarzenegger quietly quashed effort to improve commuter (and intercity) rails." The entire application of \$1.1 billion by Caltrans Division of Rail for rail cars and track/signal improvements was never even applied for as per the Governor's last-minute directive.

Unlike the high-speed rail project, almost all of the projects Caltrans was to apply for were and are shovel ready. Again today, both Caltrans and the High Speed Rail Authority will apply for the available funds, with applications due **April 4th**. The California state passenger rail corridors are themselves vital components of the High Speed Rail Program. The infusion of funds to the state corridors will provide *immediate* employment to construction workers as well as laying important building blocks upon which the state rail system will thrive whether true high speed rail is built or not.

RailPAC has been informed that the High Speed Rail lobbyists are trying to persuade Governor Brown to withdraw the Division of Rail application so that all of the available money will go to HSR projects. In our view this is a serious mistake, and we request that the LOSSAN Board take up this matter in the brief time available and send a strong message supporting applications for funding for the state rail corridors.

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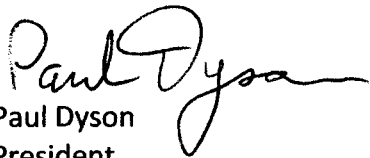
Chairman Kellejian

LOSSAN

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RailPAC is a non profit, all volunteer group that campaigns for modern passenger rail. We support incremental investment in our state rail corridors and a sensible, phased approach to the implementation of High Speed Rail, starting with the Los Angeles to Bakersfield gap in the state passenger rail system.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Dyson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Dyson".

Paul Dyson

President

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cc State Rail Boards

California elected officials