Coalition for America’s Gateways and Trade Corridors

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Freight Coalition Applauds LA Metro's TIGER Grant Award for Grade Separation Project

USDOT gives Regional Transportation Authority $15 million grant to improve goods movement and safety in nationally significant freight corridor

WASHINGTON, DC (August 10, 2016) – The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) recently announced nearly $500 million of awards through the eighth round of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) competitive grant program. One of just 40 recipients nationwide, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) was one of 585 eligible applications submitted for funding under the most recent round of the TIGER grant program.

“TIGER continues to be a highly-competitive funding program for all types of transportation infrastructure, and I congratulate LA Metro for earning an award,” said Coalition for America’s Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) Executive Director Elaine Nessle. “The Los Angeles region is a critical freight gateway, relied upon by our national supply chain. Federal partnership is necessary to ensure the safe, efficient, and reliable movement of goods in Southern California and I am pleased that LA Metro is being recognized for its competitive and forward-thinking freight project. This project will improve the reliability of both the regional and the national freight rail systems.”

The $15 million award will go toward the construction of a grade separation at the intersection of Rosecrans and Marquardt Avenues from the BNSF railroad mainline tracks located in Santa Fe Springs, about 15 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles. Currently, the tracks carry an average of 57 freight train trips per day and are crossed by more than 52,000 motor vehicles daily. The grade separation will eliminate the existing conflict point between motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, and freight and passenger trains.

Now in its eighth funding round, the TIGER competitive grant program is appropriated annually by Congress with the intention of generating economic recovery through investments. Funding requests this round totaled $9.3 billion, or 18.6 times the $500 million made available for the program.

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About the Coalition
The Coalition for America’s Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) is a diverse coalition of more than 60 public and private organizations dedicated to increasing federal investment in America’s intermodal freight infrastructure. In contrast to single mode interests, CAGTC’s main mission is to promote a seamless goods movement transportation system across all modes to enhance capacity and economic growth. For more information on the Coalition for America’s Gateways and Trade Corridors, please visit www.tradecorridors.org