

April 12, 2017

Via email to: Tyler.Munzing@sen.ca.gov

The Honorable Anthony Cannella 12th Senate District State Capitol, Room 5082 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for SB 477 (Cannella): Intercity rail corridors: extensions

Dear Senator Cannella:

On behalf of the Coast Rail Coordinating Council, I am writing to express our strong support of Senate Bill (SB) 477: Intercity rail corridors: extensions (as amended, March 27, 2017). Our planning coalition includes policy members of the transportation agencies along the coast rail corridor and technical staff from each of the agencies.

This bill is critical for our efforts to improve passenger rail on the "Coast Corridor". It would authorize the extension of intercity passenger rail service beyond the currently defined boundaries of the corridor, subject to inclusion in and approval of the relevant joint powers board's business plan.

Since 1992, the Coast Rail Coordinating Council, a coalition of coastal county transportation and planning agencies, has advocated for increased passenger rail service on the coast line, possibly as an extension of passenger rail service north of San Luis Obispo to San Jose/San Francisco. SB 477 would allow the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor to extend north of San Luis Obispo, to close a gap in passenger rail service along the California coast.

Thank you very much for your authorship of this important bill and for supporting efforts to improve transportation in California. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Peter Rodgers at (805) 781-5712, or our Sacramento legislative analyst, John Arriaga, at (916) 669-1340 or jea@jeaandassociates.com.

Sincerely,

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Dave Potter CRCC Policy Committee Chair

cc: Hon. Bill Monning, 17th Senate District, Hon. Anna Caballero, 30th Assembly District Hon. Mark Stone, 29th Assembly District