

**Board of Supervisors  
County of San Bernardino**

**GARY C. OVITT**  
CHAIRMAN  
SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT



March 30, 2009

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington DC 20590

**Re: California-Nevada Interstate Maglev Project**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As San Bernardino County Supervisor for the 4<sup>th</sup> District, and Chairman of the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, I would like to take this opportunity to express San Bernardino County's support for the letter sent to you by the California-Nevada Super Speed Train Commission, dated March 2, 2009, and its request that this important project be one of those you select for funding with the \$8 billion made available to you by President Obama and Congress under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

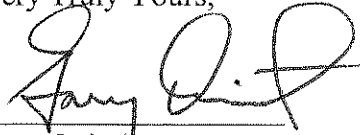
Over the past 10 years San Bernardino County has been supportive of the Commission's efforts to perform pre-construction design, engineering and environmental studies of the 269-mile high-speed rail project known as the California-Nevada Interstate Maglev Project. This project, among other benefits, will facilitate access to and additional usage of Ontario International Airport throughout the Southern California Basin, which can now only be accessed by Los Angeles, Orange County and San Bernardino residents through the use of heavily congested highways (i.e. SR-91, HW-57, I-10 and I-15). Transportation officials throughout the region are encouraging the growth of Ontario International Airport as a much needed alternative to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and John Wayne Airport (Orange County), both of which are already operating at near capacity.

It is estimated that by 2015 there will be 52 million people traveling along the I-15 corridor to be serviced by the California-Nevada Interstate Maglev Project. Existing highways and airports, however, have an annual capacity of only 38 million people, leaving 14 million with no means of travel. Building the California-Nevada Interstate Maglev Project will alleviate the need to expand airports and freeways, reduce existing congestion and avoid future congestion while providing far fewer emissions and other lifestyle benefits utilizing a 300 mph emissions-free "green" high-speed train technology. This system will service the Inland Empire cities of Ontario, Victorville and Barstow, California. It is worth noting in this regard that the growth in Southern California over the next 10 years will be eastward into the Inland Empire, which is in dire need of upgrading its infrastructure capacity to accommodate the travel needs of a population growth projected to be the equivalent of adding 2 new Chicagos.

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Thank you very much for your attention to this letter, and recognition of the widespread support for the California-Nevada Interstate Maglev Project, 80% will be built within the state of California.

Very Truly Yours,



Gary Ovitt  
Chairman San Bernardino County  
Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor – 4<sup>th</sup> District

CC: Mark Yachmetz (FRA: Associate Administrator – Office of Railroad Development)  
CC: U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer  
CC: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein  
CC: U.S. Senator Harry Reid  
CC: U.S. Senator John Ensign  
CC: Congressman Jerry Lewis (41<sup>st</sup> District-CA)  
CC: Congressman David Dreier (26<sup>th</sup> District-CA)  
CC: Congressman Gary Miller (42<sup>nd</sup> District-CA)  
CC: Congressman Joe Baca (43<sup>rd</sup> District-CA)  
CC: Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (47<sup>th</sup> District-CA)  
CC: Congresswoman Shelley Berkley (1<sup>st</sup> District-NV)  
CC: Congresswoman Dina Titus (2<sup>nd</sup> District-NV)