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May 13, 2022

Polly Trottenberg, Deputy Secretary Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590 **United States**

Deputy Secretary Trottenberg,

On behalf of the California Transit Association, I write to you today to voice our support for the Department of Transportation's proposed temporary waiver of the Buy America requirements for construction materials established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The Association represents California's transit industry, inclusive of 80 transit agencies in California and more than 200 member organizations nationwide.

We appreciate that the Department of Transportation has proposed this temporary waiver to provide transportation agencies with an additional 180 days to prepare for compliance with the new requirements and processes. We agree with the justifications provided for moving this waiver forward, and support the waiver being used by USDOT to gather more data on materials and products to determine how best to increase domestic capacity of construction materials. Without this waiver, we believe that transportation projects, including those pursued by our member organizations, will face delays in securing necessary materials that will ultimately slow project delivery.

Thank you for the consideration as our members work to advance implementation of the IIJA. We look forward to continuing to engage with you on this topic. If you have any questions, please contact me at 916-446-4656 x1034 or via email at michael@caltransit.org.

Sincerely,

Michael Pimentel **Executive Director**

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