



November 26, 2008

Mr. Matthew Naclerio
Public Works Director
City of Alameda Public Works Department
950 West Mall Square, Room 110
Alameda, CA 94501

RE: Support for an Alameda/Oakland Estuary Crossing Project Study Report

Dear Mr. Naclerio:

There is a clear need for a safe new crossing between Oakland and Alameda for bicyclists, pedestrians and, perhaps, for transit. It would provide a safe, convenient option for commuters, recreational riders and tourists. In 2008, the City of Alameda recognized this need and co-sponsored the Oakland-Alameda Estuary Crossing Feasibility Study.

The purpose of the Feasibility Study was to identify and evaluate project alternatives that appeal to the potential users, adjacent communities, decision-makers, transit providers and funding authorities. The final Feasibility Study, due in 2009, will provide preferred alternative(s) that could include, but are not limited to, a bicycle/pedestrian/transit bridge, a water taxi or minor modifications to the existing tube. With improved access, estimates of future pedestrian and bicycling demand range between 2,000-4,000 trips per day.

Following the publication of the Feasibility Study, the next step is the Project Study Report (PSR) Equivalent. It will analyze the recommended preferred alternative(s) that will be described in the Feasibility Study. The purpose of a PSR is to document agreement on the scope, schedule and estimated cost of a project so that the project can be considered for inclusion in a future programming document such as the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). PSRs are prepared for State highway projects; PSR Equivalents are prepared for projects not on the State highway system.

Waterfront Action strongly supports the preparation of a Project Study Report, which will prepare the project for inclusion in future programming documents. A safe route for bicycles and pedestrians across the Estuary will improve conditions for commuters and travelers.

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Sincerely,
Sandra Threlfall
Sandra Threlfall
Executive Director