



March 22, 2024

Mr. Michael S. Regan, Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

RE: EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program

Dear Mr. Regan:

On behalf of the **Oakland Latino Chamber of Commerce (OLCC)**, I am writing in support of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART) application requesting federal funding under the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program for the Mobility Nexus: Integrating Mobility, Housing and Equity for Climate Action.

BART provides a critical service to the Bay Area, providing over 48 million trips in 2023 with an overwhelmingly greenhouse-gas-free power supply. For Latinos in Northern California, access to safe and reliable public transportation is a strong determinant of progress, and it fosters inclusion. Transportation affects individuals and families' abilities to access jobs, education, social engagements, healthy food, faith-based activities, and more. BART plays a major role in supporting access to transportation, impacting low-income communities, as nearly one-third of BART riders live in households with income under \$50,000.

The **Oakland Latino Chamber of Commerce** deeply cares about the communities we serve, and we are committed to continue working with BART to ensure that business owners, families, and individuals receive pertinent information regarding these enhancements so that they can use them. Furthermore, the **OLCC**, supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, which this program will also address. The MTC/BART program includes enhanced lighting, wayfinding and signage, improved access for bikes and people with disabilities, better integration with local bus services, and charging for electric vehicles accessible to our local community. All of these improvements will greatly benefit our community.

The **Oakland Latino Chamber of Commerce** enthusiastically supports MTC/BART's CPRGP application. If you have any questions regarding our support, please contact me at president@oaklandlatinochamber.com.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Partida", is written over a horizontal line.

Joe Partida/President
Oakland Latino Chamber of Commerce
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<https://www.oaklandlatinochamber.com>