



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

July 22, 2020

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
United States House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn, HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for H.R. 2 (DeFazio): The Moving Forward Act

Dear Rep. DeFazio,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of H.R. 2 (DeFazio), the Moving Forward Act. As cities across the country continue to manage the COVID-19 pandemic, this important legislation will help stimulate economic recovery, job growth, and workforce development through investments in rebuilding our nation's infrastructure.

The Moving Forward Act is a broad funding package that would support a number of our City's priorities for equitable infrastructure development. The bill would allow for significant investments in our realignment of the Shoemaker Bridge and the state-of-the-art stormwater treatment facility at LB MUST. Moreover, the local financing provisions of the Moving Forward Act would help drive the City's four proposed Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts for technology, healthcare, housing, and advanced manufacturing sectors, as well as our Fiber Masterplan focused on expanding the technological infrastructure to advance digital inclusion.

Furthermore, as the home of the country's busiest port complex and an award-winning municipal airport supporting more than 1 in 20 jobs regionally, Long Beach has been hit especially hard by the economic slowdown due to COVID-19. Declining revenues have led to significant delays on more than \$50 million in critical infrastructure projects at our port and airport, and the Moving Forward Act would provide timely federal assistance to make numerous infrastructure and technology enhancements needed to protect public health and safety, instill confidence in air travel and cargo movement, and modernize facilities. If passed, the bill would not only spur local infrastructure investment, but also provide important bond financing enhancements that emphasize sustainability at our port and airport.

The City supports legislation that fosters greater economic opportunity through investments in transportation and infrastructure. The Moving Forward Act would provide resources for the City to expedite completion of infrastructure projects that have been stalled by COVID-19, helping to ensure a quicker recovery for our local and regional economy.

For these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports H.R. 2 (DeFazio).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", written over a white background.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein
The Honorable Senator Kamala Harris
The Honorable Congressman Alan Lowenthal, 47th District
The Honorable Congressman Nanette Barragan, 44th District

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