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February 12, 2024

The Honorable Martin Oberman
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Oberman,

I write to request full and fair consideration of North County Transit District (NCTD) General Counsel Lori A. Winfree's nomination to serve on the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Passenger Rail Advisory Committee.

Ms. Winfree has worked with NCTD since 2013 and has extensive experience overseeing its district-wide compliance with federal regulations and litigation matters. This includes working on issues related to the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, and Federal Railroad Administration. Ms. Winfree also served as NCTD's first in-house General Counsel. During her time with NCTD, she has gained valuable insights into passenger rail service.

If selected, she would bring the important perspective of someone with extensive knowledge about California rail. She would also serve as a representative from a commuter rail operator who owns and maintains facilities utilized by Amtrak, Metrolink, and BNSF. Ms. Winfree is well versed in matters pertaining to the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor which runs through the California 49th Congressional District. In addition to being the second busiest intercity passenger rail corridor in the nation, this corridor is also significant to national defense as it is part of the Strategic Rail Corridor Network.

I appreciate your full and fair consideration of Lori A. Winfree's nomination. Please contact me or my staff if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Levin
Member of Congress