







June 2, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor, State of California 1020 O Street, Suite 9000 Sacramento, Ca, 95814

RE: Rail Cargo Theft Task Force Funding

Dear Governor Newsom.

As you know California is in the middle of a supply chain disruption that has resulted in delays for consumers and contributed to a spike in inflation that the entire country has seen. While much of this was caused by the pandemic, ongoing rail theft in the Los Angeles Basin has been a contributor as well, leading to increased delays and an untenable public safety situation.

First off, we would like to thank you for California's leadership to step up and help face this public safety crisis by funding and instructing the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to create a task force to work with local law enforcement and Union Pacific Railroad Police Department (UPPD). As a result of these efforts, we have seen an approximate 50% reduction in criminal activity/compromised containers compared to this time last year.

However, we are concerned that this CHP assistance may be winding down at the end of the month. CHP has been a driving force in helping reduce those numbers, providing about 40 officers in the last two months between patrolling and investigation resources. This change could negatively impact active investigations, thereby retracting the gains that have been made in the L.A. Basin.

Through the collaboration of all entities involved in the CHP's Cargo Theft Interdiction Program (CTIP) Taskforce, an obvious decrease in rail cargo container thefts on Union Pacific in the City and County of Los Angeles is evident, specifically along the Lincoln Heights rail line. This has been accomplished through UP's considerable investments of corridor hardening infrastructure surrounding targeted rail corridors, increasing UPPD Special Agent presence in the L.A. Basin, the acceptance of new best practices by our business stakeholders, and added trespass detection and deterrent technology.

Given these gains we would respectfully request that funding is continued for CHP involvement in the task force. To ensure this request is included in the budget, we are happy to provide any help or answer any questions your office may have.

Sincerely,

Adrian Guerrero

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