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Lori Donchak, *Mayor*
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Bob Baker, *Councilmember*
Tim Brown, *Councilmember*
Jim Dahl, *Councilmember*

George Scarborough, *City Manager*

Mr. Michael Willis, Principal
Marlowe and Company
1667 K St., NW, Suite 480
Washington, D.C. 20006

November 7, 2011

Dear Michael,

Thank you again for organizing a productive day in Washington, D.C. for Orange County Supervisor Bates, Orange County engineer, Harry Persaud and myself. The time was well managed and led to progress on two San Clemente priorities.

With regard to the La Pata extension, please accept my appreciation for the strategy to build new language into the Surface Transportation Act to recognize that evacuation in the event of a disaster is a national concern federal obligation to address. We are hopeful that, based on the meeting with Congressman Darrell Issa, you've been able to secure his support for the new language.

The FRA meeting was excellent in that it rebuilt momentum for a project that has been on the table for almost four years now. We expect that the FRA will now give serious consideration to the possibility of a waiver to The Final Rule for San Clemente's Quiet Zone.

The meeting also opened communication channels between the FRA, OCTA and BNSF which will help at the state level.

You and John Harms are to be complimented on your professionalism and dedication to the issues affecting our city. Thank you so much for helping us navigate the federal landscape so effectively.

Sincerely,

Lori Donchak
Mayor

Cc: City Council
Bob Marlowe, Marlowe & Company
George Scarborough, City Manager
Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer