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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: January 12, 2017

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator 

Re: **Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant, Port of Tucson Freight Rail Improvements Performance Measure**

As you know, the County applied for and received a TIGER Grant for freight/rail improvements at the Port of Tucson. These improvements were constructed using federal rail grant funds, and the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) requires performance measure reporting. The January 6, 2017 report is attached for your information and measures significant performance improvements based on the TIGER Grant freight/rail improvements installed under the grant through our efforts, the FRA and those of the Port of Tucson.

In summary, the improvements have resulted in a significant time savings associated with trains entering and leaving the Port of Tucson. Average times have decreased from 30 minutes to 8 minutes. Given the number of inbound and outbound trains, this amounts to an annual time savings of approximately three days.

More importantly, in the performance measures reported container counts associated with the Port's intermodal port, the baseline handling of containers for 2014 was 911. In Calendar Year 2016, total container handling increased nearly 300 percent from 911 to 3,975.

The performance report indicates superior performance of the freight/rail improvements installed through the TIGER Grant and significantly increased economic activity associated with the Port of Tucson.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Interim Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Nanette Slusser, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works  
Dr. John Moffatt, Director, Economic Development Office  
Alan Levin, Owner, Port of Tucson/Century Park Properties

Tiger Discretionary Grant Program

Pima County: Port of Tucson – Container Export Rail Facility

FR TII-0029-14-01-00

Performance Measurements – 2016 Annual Measurements (1<sup>st</sup> Year)

Measure 1: Time Impacts to UPRR main line

For Baseline Year 2014:

- Trains entering and leaving the Port of Tucson impact the UPRR main line for an average of 30 minutes per train.
- During 2014 there were 312 inbound trains and 312 outbound trains.
- Total annual impact is 18,720 minutes (13 days)

For Calendar Year 2016:

- Trains entering and leaving the Port of Tucson impact the UPRR main line for an average of 8 minutes per train.
- During 2016 there were 312 inbound trains and 312 outbound trains.
- Total annual impact is 4,992 minutes (03 days)

\*UPRR average impact time provided by UPRR as the time to switch from the main line to the Port of Tucson siding through the manual switches.

\*\*Train counts provided by the Port of Tucson.

Measurement 2: Quarterly International intermodal Container Counts

For Baseline Year 2014:

- Total Lifts – 911
- Lifts per quarter
  - Q1 – 38
  - Q2 – 188
  - Q3 – 262
  - Q4 – 423

For Calendar Year 2016:

- Total Lifts – 3,975
- Lifts per quarter
  - Q1 – 889
  - Q2 – 876
  - Q3 – 1,023
  - Q4 – 1,187

\*Lift data provided by the Port of Tucson.