



CITY OF
TUCSON

OFFICE OF THE
CITY MANAGER

July 17, 2018

Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administration
130 West Congress, 10th Floor
Tucson, Arizona 85701-1317

Re: **BUILD Grant - Union Pacific Railroad Nogales Line**

Dear Mr. Huckelberry:

The City of Tucson continues to support the ongoing development of the Aerospace Research Campus (ARC) in an area south of the Tucson International Airport (TIA), in support of creating regional employment centers. The economic development benefits of this endeavor are key to the region's long-term economic growth and sustainability. One of the primary drivers of this initiative is the development of an auxiliary multi-modal surface transportation corridor between Interstate 10 (I-10) and Interstate 19 (I-19). Integral to the success of the new corridor is the construction of an 11-mile rail bypass route that will remove the Nogales Line from the densely populated urban core into the rural area surrounding the ARC.

The City of Tucson understands that Pima County will be applying for the USDOT Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant to assist with the project development, infrastructure planning and design necessary to formally begin this project. To support this large endeavor, the City of Tucson agrees to provide \$50,000 in regional monies set aside for rail corridor safety planning specific to the Nogales Line. The BUILD grant will allow the region and our private industry partners, including U.P.R.R. to continue to pursue economic initiatives that not only benefit the region, but all of Arizona.

Please let me know if additional support is needed for this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Ortega, P.E.
City Manager

c: Albert Elias, Assistant City Manager
Robin L. Raine, Interim TDOT Director
Jim DeGroot, RTA Manager