

From: [Joan Flaherty](#)
To: "pyollmann@oaklandca.gov"; "elake@oaklandca.gov"
Subject: Howard Terminal Draft EIR
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:12:32 PM
Attachments: 2021-03-17. UPRR - Letter to City of Oakland re Howard Terminal Draft EIR.pdf

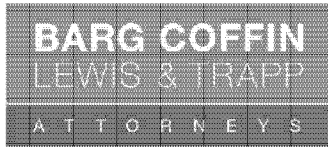
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Please see attached correspondence of today's date.

Joan Flaherty | for JOHN F. BARG
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Please note that our e-mail addresses have changed to **@bargcoffin.com**. Please update any contact lists or spam filters as needed



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March 17, 2021

Via Email

Peterson Vollmann
City of Oakland Bureau of Planning
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pvollmann@oaklandca.gov

Elizabeth Lake
Deputy City Administrator of Real Estate
And Major Projects
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
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**Re: Howard Terminal Draft EIR—Request for Extension of Time
to Provide Comments**

Dear Mr. Vollmann and Ms. Lake:

I am counsel to Union Pacific Railroad, writing to request that the 45-day comment period on the lengthy and complex Draft EIR be extended by at least 45 days to allow Union Pacific necessary time to consider fully the traffic, transportation, and safety issues presented by the proposed project and addressed in the DEIR, and to offer Union Pacific's safety concerns over this important proposed project. As you know, Union Pacific operates freight trains serving industry in the project area, and its tracks and right-of-way are used by Amtrak passenger trains as well. Union Pacific's tracks pass through the middle of the project area, and crossing key traffic arteries, including Market Street and Martin Luther King Boulevard. Existing safety concerns for vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians crossing these tracks at grade will be exacerbated by the proposed project, and require mitigation measures that will assure safe and efficient passage from one side of the tracks to the other. Safety concerns are especially acute during rail car switching operations that block vehicle traffic and pedestrians from reaching the project area until the switching operations are complete. Impatient drivers and pedestrians can be expected to try to cross the blocked intersection, likely resulting in deaths, injuries, and property damage. Union Pacific's critical safety concerns will only grow with the increased traffic and pedestrian flows that can be expected if the project goes forward.

The DEIR consists of thousands of pages of report, appendices, figures, and tables, all of which require careful study and consideration to ensure that Union Pacific's safety goals are achieved. We expect that the City of Oakland shares Union Pacific's deep concern about the safety of the community if the project moves forward without significant safety mitigation measures.

Accordingly, Union Pacific respectfully requests that its deadline for submission of comments on the DEIR be extended no less than 45 days.

Peterson Vollman
Elizabeth Lake
March 17, 2021
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We appreciate your consideration of this request. Please let me know if you have questions or need further information.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John F. Barg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Barg" clearly distinguishable.

JOHN F. BARG

JFB/jf