

December 2018 Monthly Washington, D.C. Report



To: Steve Heminger, Executive Director

From: Tom Bulger, President GRI

Date: December 28, 2018

RE: Monthly Report for December 2018

- **Federal Government Partial Shutdown**
- **Caltrain Positive Train Control (PTC) Grant**
- **San Francisco Receives Grant from Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation**

Federal Government Partial Shutdown

Roughly 800,000 federal employees nationwide have been furloughed, which extends to a quarter of the federal government. The President has demanded \$5 billion in funding for a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, but the proposal lacks support in Congress, and no agreement is in sight. The last Continuing Resolution (CR) expired on December 21, 2018. Republican House leaders have said that they will take no action before the Democrats take control of the House chamber on January 3, 2019. Congress has officially adjourned.

When Congress convenes in January, they could pass a yearlong CR, which includes the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). This would mean that USDOT program funding would be set at FY 2018 levels.

Caltrain Positive Train Control (PTC) Grant

On December 21st, the Federal Railroad Administration awarded 11 projects to assist with deployment of PTC systems. Caltrain received up to \$3.9 million for PTC configuration management and Office Segment Fallover.

San Francisco Receives Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Grant

On December 11th, USDOT Secretary Elaine L. Chao announced \$1.5 billion in BUILD discretionary grant funding for 91 projects. Better Market Street Phase 1 in San Francisco received \$15 million for improvements on Market Street between 6th and 8th streets.