



**SAN
FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

January 4, 2016

Timothy J. Sullivan, Executive Director
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Application No. A-15-12-021 Tideline Marine Group

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce would like to go on record in support of Tideline Marine Group's (TMG) application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for a "Vessel Common Carrier" certificate to operate a scheduled Tideline Water Taxi service in San Francisco Bay. We understand that the authority TMG seeks would enable TMG to operate a scheduled water taxi commuter service between the Berkeley Marina area and Pier 1.5 in San Francisco.

The Chamber of Commerce is San Francisco's most vibrant business network. It is a private, nonprofit 501(c)6 membership organization led by an active Board of Directors. The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce attracts, supports, and grows business through advocacy, economic development, and business development. The Chamber partners with more than 2,500-member businesses and their 200,000 employees to support local business, promote commerce and cultivate a dynamic economy.

The Chamber agrees that TMG's proposed service will provide commuters with a unique transportation alternative that will complement the ferry operation currently under the auspices of WETA. In the foreseeable future there are no other water transportation services we are aware of that plan to operate a ferry service from Berkeley to San Francisco. The service TMG plans to offer will help address the needed regional approach to the current transportation problems we all face.

The San Francisco Chamber's support for your approval of TMG's application for a "Vessel Common Carrier" is consistent with our vision of mitigating the traffic congestion in the Bay Area. We hope to see efforts to expand water commuter service and to make it convenient for today's commuters and employers. We believe that granting this certificate will help in achieving that vision.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President of Public Policy