

TA

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as of 6-10-2022

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1250 SAN CARLOS AVE
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
(650) 508-6200

June 7, 2022

The Honorable Luz Rivas
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 922 (Wiener) California Environmental Quality Act: Exemption:
Transportation-Related Projects. – SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Rivas:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write in **SUPPORT** of SB 922 (Wiener). This bill would modify the statutory exemptions to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for clean transportation projects, established by SB 288 (Wiener). Additionally, this bill would eliminate the sunset on these exemptions.

In 2020, recognizing the CEQA process is often used by project opponents to stop or delay clean transportation projects, the Legislature passed, and Governor Newsom signed into law SB 288, temporarily exempting from CEQA certain clean transportation projects, including projects for new bus rapid transit, bus, or light rail services on public rail or highway rights-of-way; transit prioritization projects; projects that improve customer information and wayfinding for transit riders, bicyclists, or pedestrians; projects to construct or maintain infrastructure to charge or refuel zero-emission buses; and projects for pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

SB 922 modifies the CEQA exemptions provided by SB 288 to include additional project types that will further expedite the delivery of clean transportation options and expand access to alternative modes of mobility. In addition, SB 922 eliminates the sunset on these exemptions. With the enactment of the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, project streamlining will help agencies like SamTrans and the TA to leverage new funding opportunities to support the state's economic recovery and curb greenhouse gas emissions.

For these reasons, we **SUPPORT** SB 922. Please contact Government and Community Affairs Manager Jessica Epstein at epsteinj@samtrans.com if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carter Mau".

Carter Mau
Acting General Manager/CEO/Executive Director

Cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors
San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors
San Mateo County Transit District State Legislative Delegation
San Mateo County Transportation Authority State Legislative Delegation



June 8, 2022

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA) and the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), we write to personally thank you for submitting the US 101/SR 92 Area Improvements and Multimodal Project for funding consideration as part of the FY2023 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill.

The US 101/SR 92 Interchange is an essential connection to the San Francisco Airport, South San Francisco biotech industries, Silicon Valley as well as major East Bay destinations. Under normal conditions, over 345,000 vehicles travel through this interchange each day, which is consistently identified as the worst interchange in the County in terms of congestion and extended delays.

Throughout the Bay Area, we are seeing a return to pre-pandemic levels of traffic, where heavy traffic volumes and inadequate capacity at this interchange can cause traffic to slow to as little as seven miles per hour during both the morning and afternoon peak periods. These delays often result in miles of traffic in multiple directions as well as significant congestion on our local streets.

Your support will help fund activities related to the realignment of the 101/92 Interchange, implementation of dedicated bicycle facilities and pedestrian access improvements in the area, as well as construction of a transit mobility hub. The project will ease congestion by improving traffic flow, reduce hazardous vehicle weaving incidents, improve safety conditions and local connections to and from the highway. The proposed bicycle facilities, pedestrian improvements, and new transit mobility hub aim to support commute alternatives and improve local access for all modes of transportation.

We applaud you for your continued support of transportation improvements that are so fundamental to the vitality and health of this state. Please contact Government and Community Affairs Manager Jessica Epstein at epsteinj@samtrans.com if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carter Mau'.

Carter Mau
Acting Executive Director, TA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sean Charpentier'.

Sean Charpentier
Executive Director, C/CAG