

TA

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as of 3-25-2022



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March 22, 2022

Therese W. McMillan, Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Dear Ms. McMillan:

The San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) supports creating the MTC's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Regional Grant Strategy (BIL Strategy) to maximize the Federal investment in our critical regional projects. A focused, unified, and strategic effort will serve the Bay Area well in securing Federal funding for regional projects that improve mobility, the environment, and equity. SMCTA thanks the MTC for including the Caltrain Electrification in the BIL Strategy, and respectfully requests that the MTC consider including the following projects in the BIL Strategy.

- The Managed Lanes North of I-380 project would close a regional gap and create a continuous managed lane network along Highway 101 in San Mateo County; facilitate mode shift by encouraging transit, shuttles, and HOVs; and potentially support the San Mateo County Express Lane Equity Program, which includes a \$100 Clipper Card or \$100 preloaded FasTrak transponder for eligible low-income participants.

- The 92/101 Managed Lanes Director Connector Project will provide a direct connection from Highway 92 to the Highway 101 Express Lanes that will improve traffic flow and safety at this congested interchange and encourage mode shift by enabling transit, shuttles, and HOVs.

- The Burlingame Grade Separation at Broadway project is the most dangerous railroad grade separation in California and is finalizing its design. In addition, the South San Francisco/San Bruno Grade Separation is another pipeline grade separation project that will improve mobility and safety.

- The Highway 101/84 (Woodside) Interchange in Redwood City is a fully designed project that will improve regional trade and freight activity at the Port of Redwood City by removing a traffic bottleneck that routinely delays regional goods movement; and will include bicycle and pedestrian improvements that connect adjacent Communities of Concern to open space along the Bay.

We appreciate your efforts and look forward to supporting a BIL Strategy that maximizes federal investment in all these critical regional projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carter Mau', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Carter Mau

cc: San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors

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

March 17, 2022

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
Speaker pro Tempore
California State Assembly
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 8320
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 2197 (Mullin) – Funding for Caltrain Electrification - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Mullin:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write in support of AB 2197, which would appropriate \$260 million to help fund the Caltrain Electrification Project.

Caltrain's Electrification Project is under construction and when operational in fall 2024, will be the State's first electrified commuter rail system. The project will modernize the 150-year-old rail corridor, replacing 75% of the existing diesel fleet with high-performance electric trains.

Recently, Caltrain identified a funding gap due to delays and cost increases arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting supply chain issues, unforeseen site conditions, and resolution of commercial and contractor disputes. Caltrain is seeking \$260M in State funding to help close the funding gap.

Caltrain has made significant progress on the Electrification Project, which began construction in 2017 and continued throughout the pandemic. The civil infrastructure work is now complete, and the project team is focused on constructing the new signal system.

This spring, the first high-performance electric trains will arrive on the corridor. Full corridor testing will start in 2023 and passenger service is on track to begin in 2024.

SamTrans and the TA understand the importance of providing clean transportation options to Bay Area residents and commuters. Working together, we can all take one-step closer to a greener transit system that is vital in the fight against climate change.

///

Honorable Kevin Mullin

March 17, 2022

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Thank you again for your leadership in ensuring Caltrain can close this funding gap.

Sincerely,



Carter Mau

Acting CEO/General Manager/Executive Director

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