

June 2, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8630
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon
Assembly Speaker
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Toni Atkins
Senate President Pro Tempore
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom, Chair Senator Skinner, Chair Assemblymember Ting, Senate President Pro Tem Atkins, and Assembly Speaker Rendon,

Public transportation systems across California like BART, SFMTA, AC Transit, Caltrain, LA Metro and Metrolink, are facing major budget shortfalls in the aftermath of the pandemic. While the Governor and legislative leaders have acknowledged the need to address the funding shortfall, the latest budget proposals do not provide nearly enough. The Governor proposed no funding for the fiscal cliff and instead proposed cutting \$2 billion in transit capital funding - money that is critical to leveraging billions in federal funding for our transit systems' long term viability. The legislature's budget proposals restores that capital funding, but does almost nothing to support transit operations. If transit operations are not supported with significant new state funding, transit agencies will be forced to implement devastating service cuts from which they may never recover.

Massive transit service cuts will be a disaster for everyone. Low-income families that rely on public transit will become isolated from economic opportunity. Seniors will not be able to get to the hospital, and kids won't be able to get to school. Drivers across the state would face increased congestion as hundreds of thousands more riders are forced into unnecessary car trips. Downtowns will continue to hollow out, as businesses won't be able to attract workers or customers. And ultimately our planet will suffer from increased emissions at a time where our state should be leading the nation in addressing our climate emergency change.

As local elected leaders, we know how much our communities, constituents and local businesses rely on transit. That's why we urge you to craft a budget solution that avoids massive transit service cuts, and implement critical reforms that put transit agencies on a path to fiscal sustainability and to better serve Californians in the future.

Sincerely,

Nick Josefowitz
Vice-Chair, MTC

Jen Wolosin
Mayor, City of Menlo Park

Rebecca Saltzman
BART Director, District 3

Rashi Kesarwani
Councilmember, City of Berkeley

Carolyn Wysinger
Councilmember, City Of El Cerrito

Rigel Robinson
Councilmember, City of Berkeley

Mark Humbert
Councilmember, City of Berkeley

Terry Taplin
Councilmember, City of Berkeley

Paul Fadelli
Councilmember, City of El Cerrito

Devin Murphy
Mayor, City of Pinole

Jim Spering
Commissioner (Solano County), MTC

David Rabbitt
Supervisor, County of Sonoma

Susan Noack
Councilmember, City of Pleasant Hill ,
Commissioner (Contra Costa County), MTC

Victoria Fleming
Council Member Santa Rosa

Eddie Ahn
Commissioner (San Francisco County),
MTC

Libby Schaaf
MTC Commissioner
Former Mayor, City of Oakland

Margaret Abe-Koga
Councilmember, City of Mountain View

Jesse Arreguin
Mayor, City of Berkeley

Matt Dorsey
Supervisor (District 6), City and County of
San Francisco

Hillary Ronen
Supervisor (District 9), City and County of
San Francisco

Nate Miley
Supervisor (District 4), Alameda County

Diane Shaw
Board of Directors (Ward 5), AC Transit

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Sergio Lopez
Councilmember, City of Campbell

Carlos Romero
Councilmember, City of East Palo Alto

Stacy Jimenez
Councilmember, Foster City

Jen Caenaugh
Mayor, City of Piedmont

Laura Nakamura
Councilmember, City of Concord

Omar Din
Vice Mayor, City of Sunnyvale

Maria Doerr
Councilmember, City of Menlo Park

Victor Aguilar
Councilmember, City of San Leandro

Ariel Kelley
Mayor, City of Healdsburg

Amit Pal
Councilmember, City of Suisun City

Tessa Rudnick
Mayor Pro Tem, City of El Cerrito

Princess Washington
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Suisun City

Buenaflor Nicolas
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Councilmember, City of Half Moon Bay

Sophie Hahn
Councilmember, City of Berkeley

Andy Kelley
Boardmember, Rent Stabilization Board,
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Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Mayor, City of Alameda

John Bauters
Mayor, City of Emeryville

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