



Warren Slocum
Supervisor, Fourth District

January 29, 2018

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105**

Dear Metropolitan Transportation Commissioners:

Next year offers a once in a generation opportunity for major changes in our region's transportation network. With the passage of SB1, as well as the prospective votes on Regional Measure 3 and local and multiple county sales tax measures, we will have the opportunity to leverage these dollars to move forward with a series of major capital projects that will relieve congestion, improve mobility and build a solid foundation for the future.

We believe one of the high priority projects that should move forward is highway management, bus, and rail improvements to the Dumbarton Corridor. This project has been discussed for decades but until now not given serious attention. With the results of a long-awaited feasibility study released by the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) on August 15, clearly things have changed. The time for action is now. The new study reflects the impact of our region's economic strength and the stunning job growth in the heart of Silicon Valley. As a result, traffic congestion on the Peninsula and between the East Bay and Peninsula has become a nightmare—and is only projected to get much worse.

The Dumbarton Corridor study recommends several phases of Dumbarton Corridor highway management, bus and rail projects that are projected to serve 32,900 daily transit riders across the Bay, combined on the upgraded highway bridge and on a new rail bridge by 2035. In addition, the strong transit ridership numbers produced by connecting Caltrain with BART, ACE and Capitol Corridor in the East Bay, open up new opportunities to connect beyond the Bay Area to the larger "mega-region," including Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valley. A truly significant Dumbarton Corridor program enables us to address the question: How do we move people within and beyond the Bay Area to the jobs in Silicon Valley in a reliable and timely manner? Under this scenario, the Dumbarton Corridor upgrades become the missing mid-Bay link to exciting new possibilities.

Like any major project, it will need to develop funding from a variety of sources, including local, regional, state and federal dollars. The Dumbarton Corridor plan has the additional advantage of the opportunity to create a funding model for a true public-private partnership and land value capture.

Many transportation leaders from throughout the Bay Area have previously viewed the Dumbarton Corridor based on assumptions that may have been valid in the past. But times have changed and the Dumbarton Corridor is now at the epicenter of growth. We urge decision makers to review the Study through a new lens and consider the opportunities it creates.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
United States House of Representatives, California District 14

Congressman Eric Swalwell
United States House of Representatives, California District 15

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