

C/CAG
CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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May 31, 2022

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

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

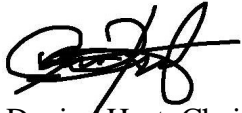
Dear Chair Rivas:

On behalf of the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), I write to voice our SUPPORT IF AMENDED for 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) [Chapter 200, Statutes of 2020] and extend the sunset date to January 1, 2030. We respectfully request that you consider an amendment that would address all housing displacement, not just “affordable” housing displacement as currently written.

In 2020, Governor Newsom signed into law SB 288, temporarily exempting from CEQA certain clean transportation projects, including projects for roadway improvements aimed at improving bicycle & pedestrian access; new bus rapid transit service, bus, or light rail services on public rail or highway rights-of-way; projects that improve customer information and wayfinding for transit riders, bicyclists, or pedestrians; and projects to construct or maintain infrastructure to charge or refuel zero-emission buses.

SB 922 (Wiener) 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. SB 922 (Wiener) extends the sunset on these exemptions for seven years. C/CAG, as the Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for San Mateo County, often has a lead role in implementing active transportation and traffic management programs and projects. SB 922 further solidifies the role of CMAs as a lead agency under the bill and will help C/CAG bring environmentally friendly projects online sooner, while reducing project costs. For these reasons, we SUPPORT SB 922 (Wiener) and ask that you please consider our suggested amendment. If you have any questions, please contact C/CAG Executive Director, Sean Charpentier at scharpentier@smcgov.org.

Sincerely,



Davina Hurt, Chair

City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County

cc: Senator Scott Wiener
San Mateo County Legislative Delegation
Josh Becker, California State Senate
Kevin Mullin, California State Assembly
Marc Berman, California State Assembly
Phil Ting, California State Assembly
Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
Members of the Senate Environmental Committee
California Transit Association