From: John Baker
To: Mima Crume

Subject: Public comment: Managed lanes between 380 and San Francisco

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2023 5:41:32 PM

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Dear C/CAG Board member,

I am a South San Francisco resident, former trustee on the local school board, and a member of the Measure W COC (but not writing on its behalf).

I am writing to oppose Item 3.2 on the Consent Agenda for C/CAG's October 12 meeting, regarding funding for studying managed lanes on US 101 north of Interstate 380.

The east side of South San Francisco is among the worst areas in the State of California for pollution burden — 95th percentile in a CalEnviroscreen 4.0 ranking that you DON'T want to score high on. That part of South City is also well on the right side of the bell curve in terms of having high asthma rates and fuel-based particulate matter pollution. Brisbane and Daly City's Bayshore neighborhood also suffer ill effects, though not to the same level.

Much of that pollution is caused by close proximity to Highway 101 and its high traffic volume. As 101 has grown, so has its effect on surrounding communities. While the new complexes East of 101 have modern HVAC and filtering systems, many of the homes, schools, and businesses of District 5 do not.

Last week, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, against the advice of its Citizens Advisory Committee, decided to study expanding its managed lanes project north of Interstate 380 on 101 to the San Francisco border. It decided to apply for Measure A and/or W funds from C/CAG at your upcoming meeting.

I don't believe a study of this issue needs to be done. We ALREADY know it's a bad idea, thanks to existing studies linking highway expansion to induced demand.

While I am generally in favor of converting existing freeway lanes to high-occupancy vehicle lanes as an incentive to share trips, that is not the case here. Up the Peninsula, these managed lanes are not converted lanes, but are NEW lanes. Adding a lane to 101 will not solve congestion problems – it hasn't over the past 70 years, it won't now. It will only serve to induce the release of more participant matter (yes, even tire particles from electric vehicles) into some of the most-burdened areas of our County.

So please, join me in opposing these new lanes, and help build a regional transportation system for the 2050s, not the 1950s.

Thank you.

John Baker