

JPB Board of Directors Meeting of April 4, 2024

Correspondence as of April 4, 2024

- <u>#</u> Subject
- 1 please support SB 1031
- 2 AB1031

From: <u>Auros Harman</u>

To: <u>Public Comment; Baltao, Elaine [board.secretary@vta.org]</u>

Subject: please support SB 1031

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 4:30:56 PM

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Dear VTA and Caltrain boards,

I currently reside near the Caltrain station in San Bruno, and use the Caltrain to get to San Francisco or Palo Alto (where my employer is based) when I need to go to the office (though admittedly that's a lot less often than it used to be, post-COVID). I also commuted from the San Antonio station in Mountain View, up to San Francisco, on Caltrain, for many years, and I was a regular rider of the VTA 522.

I have read that there are some understandable concerns, with wanting to ensure that revenue from this proposal will benefit your agencies. But prematurely staking out an oppose-unless-amended position, while the bill language is still being negotiated and changed, would risk derailing the legislation, leading to cuts in transit service around the region and preventing progress toward a well-coordinated system. Now is not the time to play chicken with the future of the transit system. It's important that transit boards do what's best for riders, and not oppose the only viable option for saving Bay Area transit at such an early stage in the legislative process.

If you must take any position at all, make it one of support. Everyone that cares about reducing pollution and accidents from cars, and just making our region more livable, needs to focus on how we "get to yes" on this bill.

Regards, Auros Harman
 From:
 Shannon Rose

 To:
 Public Comment

 Application
 Application

Subject: AB1031

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 7:32:44 PM

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First, let me apologize that I'm sending this late. I hope you see it before you meet tomorrow on 4/4/24. My name is Shannon McEntee and I've lived in Palo Alto since 1976.

I use transit to get to San Francisco and Berkeley for the Ballet, the museums, and performances of various types. I could hop in my car but I have to do whatever I can to try and help save our suffering planet. Yes, I'm a 75 year-old environmentalist. I bought my first Prius in 2002. In other words, I do my very best not to pollute the air and our waters, and to reduce traffic and parking issues. I'm on my bike every day.

Please please add to your budget so you can improve your ability to serve the community -- from those people commuting to work on a regular basis to others like me who use transit to get to wherever we are going. For me that included taking my bike on Caltrain to serve on a jury in San Jose. One thing we really need: better coordination between Caltrain and BART in Millbrae. On Sunday I drove to Millbrae and then took BART to the Mission district to attend an event. As you know, there is only one train per hour on weekends and they don't connect well with BART. The Millbrae station is cold and windy so in the winter especially, I can't risk waiting for Caltrain for 30, 40, or 50 minutes.

We must keep transit alive and we must improve its efficiency. When it is more efficient (in the evenings and weekends especially) you will attract more ridership. If I can help in any way, please let me know. I want you to be successful and I want all folks on the Peninsula to have efficient transit they can count on.

Sincerely yours,

Shannon Rose McEntee 410 Sheridan Avenue Palo Alto, CA