

September 28, 2017

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr. Governor, State of California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 595 (Beall)—Regional Measure 3. REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Hayward strongly supports Senate Bill (SB) 595 and respectfully requests your signature on the legislation. This measure would provide a public vote in the Bay Area to fund vital transportation projects and services.

People that live and work in the Bay Area have a problem: it's really hard to get where they need to go, whether to a job, school, shopping, medical services, or recreation. It impacts the quality of life, and it hurts the economic competitiveness of the Bay Area—especially for the middle skill jobs and businesses that our region needs to grow.

The problem is confirmed by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) own analysis, which ranks Bay Area traffic as second worst in the country. Public opinion surveys show the same thing: voters consider traffic to be the worst problem in the Bay Area, and the worst that it has ever been. However, of the infrastructure funding slated to be spent regionally during the next 20 years, less than 10 percent will be used to expand our transportation system, which would leave us, at best, as frustrated as we are now.

Senate Bill 595 provides the Bay Area with a solution, with an expenditure plan of transportation projects and services that will relieve congestion on Transbay bridges and approaches and that will improve mobility across all nine Bay Area counties. These projects include:

- Expanding BART's rail car fleet to accommodate growing ridership
- Doubling the size of the Bay Area's ferry network
- Extending BART to Diridon Station in downtown San Jose
- Bringing Caltrain to the Transbay Transit Center in downtown San Francisco
- Building towards a second Transbay passenger rail tube
- Creating new congestion-free highway express lanes, with expanded express bus services
- Relieving freeway chokepoints by improving outdated interchanges

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The City of Hayward also supports the establishment of the Independent Office of the BART Inspector General to ensure that BART is a prudent steward of the public dollars they receive annually.

The Bay Area needs these improvements, and the City of Hayward stands ready to deliver local projects with funding from the regional measure. Our City Council has made Complete Streets a strategic initiative, declaring our commitment to developing and building roadways that accommodate all modes of transportation and to provide alternatives to residents that get them out of their cars and on to public transit. All of these pieces coming together, as a result of the funding from RM3, will help ease our city and region of our current transportation congestion.

For these reasons, the City of Hayward respectfully requests your signature on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Benta Halliday
Barbara Halliday

Mayor

cc:

Senator Jim Beall, 15th District

Senator Bob Wieckowski, 10th District

Assembly Member Bill Quirk, 20th District

Hayward City Council

Kelly McAdoo, City Manager

Richard Harmon, Townsend Public Affairs

Sam Caygill, League of California Cities, East Bay Division, scaygill@cacities.org