

CITY OF OAKLAND



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Office of the Mayor
Honorable Sheng Thao

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June 11, 2024

RE: East Bay Representation on the 2026 Transit Measure Select Committee

Dear Chair Pedroza,

Thank you for moving to establish an MTC Select Committee to chart the path forward for the 2026 transit funding measure following the withdrawal of SB 1031. While there is clear consensus on the need to bring more sustainable funding to our transit agencies, improve street safety, and boost inter-agency connectivity, there is much more work needed before we have a legislative framework for a ballot measure that can be broadly supported throughout the region.

I am writing to request that the East Bay be represented on the Select Committee proportionally to the importance of our local network to the entire region's transportation system. The East Bay has more BART stations than any other part of the region, is home to AC Transit's 364 square-mile service area, and functions as a primary hub for those traveling on Amtrak to and from the Bay Area every day. The position of the East Bay at the geographic center of the Bay Area's bus, rail, and ferry systems makes our counties, cities, and transit agencies critical stakeholders in this process. As such, **I request that AC Transit be given a seat on the select committee.** The perspectives of either AC Transit's General Manager or a member of their Board of Directors would be greatly beneficial for the success of the select committee.

Among many challenging points of contention between differing counties and stakeholders, the path forward for a future transit funding measure must ensure fiscal stability for our transit agencies. Having AC Transit and the East Bay represented on the committee will ensure that they will have due consideration when crafting a funding measure that can be supported by the entire Bay Area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheng Thao". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sheng" being more prominent.

Sheng Thao
Mayor, City of Oakland

CC: Commissioner Spering
AC Transit General Manager Hursh