

CITY HALL 2019 AUG 29 AM 2:12 • FRANK H. BOGAWA PLAZA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

REBECCA KAPLAN  
Council President  
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FAX: (510) 238-6910  
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Date: August 29, 2019  
To: Members of City Council and Members of the Public  
From: Council President Kaplan  
Re: RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT CALTRANS PROVIDE TRANSIT PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS TO MITIGATE CONGESTION ASSOCIATED WITH THE MACARTHUR MAZE VERTICAL CLEARANCE PROJECT

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

I am introducing a Resolution that requests that Caltrans consider the following in the Macarthur maze Vertical Clearance Project:

- include transit-only lanes on all roadways in the project where AC Transit currently operates transit service; and
- include measures to mitigate transit service disruption and prioritize transit service in identified mitigations during the construction phase of the project through improvements including but not limited to: dedicated transit lanes, transit signal priority, transit queue-jump lanes, bus stop optimization and traffic signal coordination/actuation; and
- coordinate with the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville & Oakland to provide dedicated transit lane access to the Bay Bridge; and
- ensure any elements of the project or mitigations associated with the project or its construction conform to and support existing regional plans being developed or already adopted by MTC; ACTC; the District; and the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland.

Please note similar language was approved by the AC Transit Board on April 24, 2019 under Item 5.F, "Consider adoption of Resolution No. 19-015 requesting transit priority improvements associated with the Caltrans Macarthur Maze Vertical Clearance Project." That Resolution is also attached.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Kaplan".

Rebecca Kaplan  
Oakland City Council President

PW Committee  
September 10, 2019  
Item: \_\_\_\_\_

# ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT



## STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 4/24/2019

**Staff Report No. 19-146**

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**TO:** AC Transit Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Michael A. Hursh, General Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Macarthur Maze Clearance Project Transit Priority

### ACTION ITEM

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Consider adoption of Resolution No. 19-015 requesting transit priority improvements associated with the Caltrans Macarthur Maze Vertical Clearance Project.

#### **BUDGETARY/FISCAL IMPACT:**

This staff report requests the adoption of a resolution requesting consideration of transit and other modes in Caltrans' upcoming design and construction work for the Macarthur Maze Vertical Clearance Project. Though potential transit mitigation projects could have significant cost, the resolution has no budgetary or fiscal impacts for the District.

#### **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

Caltrans is considering a project that will re-build portions of the Macarthur Maze to accommodate a subset of freight traffic which cannot use the current San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge approaches due to vertical clearance issues.

Caltrans developed an Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment to analyze and not declare any environmental impacts as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as well as identify alternatives and seek input on the project. The initial public engagement opportunities were not well-known to the public or affected public agencies, so Caltrans has suspended the project after scheduling public hearings in Emeryville and Oakland on April 10 and 11. At those meetings, Caltrans committed to re-drafting the environmental document to address impacts identified by jurisdictions affected by the project.

Given likely impacts to transit service and customers as well as other transportation modes from both the construction and the completed project, staff is requesting the Board adopt a resolution requesting Caltrans include elements in the design and construction mitigations that facilitate and promote transit. In addition, the resolution requests that Caltrans adhere to and promote regional and local plans for multimodal (i.e., transit, bicycle, and pedestrian) improvements on corridors affected by the construction and final condition of the project.

#### **ADVANTAGES/DISADVANTAGES:**

There are two primary advantages to adopting this resolution. The first is to ensure Caltrans has official guidance from the AC Transit Board of Directors regarding the need to take this opportunity to implement long-needed transit priority improvements on the approach to the Bay Bridge. The second is the opportunity to tie multiple stakeholders and public agencies together to advance a multimodal future for the cities and neighborhoods impacted by the project.

Staff cannot identify clear disadvantages associated with adopting this resolution.

**ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS:**

The only alternative considered by staff was not adopting a resolution. Staff elected to pursue a request to the Board to adopt the resolution given the critical opportunity this project presents to improve access for more users than a subset of freight traffic that do not meet current vertical clearance requirements.

**PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTION/POLICIES:**

None.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Resolution 19-015

**Approved by:**

Ramakrishna Pochiraju, Executive Director of Planning & Engineering

**Reviewed by:**

Denise C. Standridge, General Counsel

Beverly Greene, Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing & Communications

Robert del Rosario, Director of Services Development and Planning

**Prepared by:**

Michael Eshleman, Manager of Service Planning

**ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 19-015**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING TRANSIT PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS TO MITIGATE CONGESTION  
ASSOCIATED WITH MACARTHUR MAZE VERTICAL CLEARANCE PROJECT**

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**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has issued a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed project to increase vertical clearance on some roadways within the Macarthur Maze; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (District or AC Transit) operates nearly 1,000 bus trips each day through the Macarthur Maze, carrying more than 14,000 passengers through the interchange each weekday; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction associated with the project will likely divert significant automobile, freight, and transit traffic onto streets in the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, this change in traffic patterns will result in significant delays for transit operations and customers as well as negatively impact conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians; and

**WHEREAS**, once complete, the project will lead to an increase in freight traffic through the interchange, competing for already limited space for transit and leading to delays and increased operating costs for the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the region has made relieving congestion and reducing automobile traffic across the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge a priority, including the completion of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Core Capacity Transit Study and through the recent passage of Regional Measure 3 and; and

**WHEREAS**, funding from Regional Measure 3 will result in a 30-percent increase in AC Transit Transbay service through the area which should be supported through opportunities to prioritize this increase in transit capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) has prioritized improvements to local bus transit service through its County-wide Transportation Plan, which has resulted in such efforts as the San Pablo Avenue Corridor Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the District plays a critical role in reducing congestion in the region and will continue to do so through planned efforts detailed in documents such as the Major Corridors Study; and

**WHEREAS**, the inclusion of elements supporting transit priority and facilitating complete streets (include transit, bicycles, and pedestrians) within the Macarthur Maze Vertical Clearance

Project is necessary mitigation for the impacts from construction and increased freight movement through the interchange; and

**WHEREAS**, Caltrans has extended the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Report to April 24 at 11:59 p.m. with public hearings to be held in Emeryville and Oakland on April 10 and 11, respectively; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Directors of the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District does resolve as follows:

**Section 1.** Request that Caltrans include transit-only lanes on all roadways in the project where AC Transit currently operates transit service.

**Section 2.** Request that Caltrans include measures to mitigate transit service disruption and prioritize transit service in identified mitigations during the construction phase of the project through improvements including but not limited to: dedicated transit lanes, transit signal priority, transit queue-jump lanes, bus stop optimization and traffic signal coordination/actuation.

**Section 3.** Request that Caltrans coordinate with the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville & Oakland to provide dedicated transit lane access to the Bay Bridge.

**Section 4.** Request that Caltrans ensure any elements of the project or mitigations associated with the project or its construction conform to and support existing regional plans being developed or already adopted by MTC; ACTC; the District; and the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019.

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Joe Wallace, President

Attest:

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Linda A. Nemeroff, District Secretary

I, Linda A. Nemeroff, District Secretary for the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

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Linda A. Nemeroff, District Secretary

Approved as to Form and Content:

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Denise C. Standridge, General Counsel

# ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT



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**FROM:** Michael A. Hursh, General Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Macarthur Maze Clearance Project Transit Priority

### ACTION ITEM

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Consider adoption of Resolution No. 19-015 requesting transit priority improvements associated with the Caltrans Macarthur Maze Vertical Clearance Project.

#### **BUDGETARY/FISCAL IMPACT:**

This staff report requests the adoption of a resolution requesting consideration of transit and other modes in Caltrans' upcoming design and construction work for the Macarthur Maze Vertical Clearance Project. Though potential transit mitigation projects could have significant cost, the resolution has no budgetary or fiscal impacts for the District.

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**ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS:**

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**PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTION/POLICIES:**

None.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Resolution 19-015

**Approved by:**

Ramakrishna Pochiraju, Executive Director of Planning & Engineering

**Reviewed by:**

Denise C. Standridge, General Counsel

Beverly Greene, Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing & Communications

Robert del Rosario, Director of Services Development and Planning

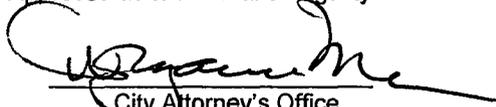
**Prepared by:**

Michael Eshleman, Manager of Service Planning

FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

2019 AUG 29 AM 2:13

Approved as to Form and Legality

  
City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT KAPLAN

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT CALTRANS PROVIDE TRANSIT PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS TO MITIGATE CONGESTION ASSOCIATED WITH THE MACARTHUR MAZE VERTICAL CLEARANCE PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has issued a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed project to increase vertical clearance on some roadways within the Macarthur Maze; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (District or AC Transit) operates nearly 1,000 bus trips each day through the Macarthur Maze, carrying more than 14,000 passengers through the interchange each weekday; and

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**WHEREAS**, once complete, the project will lead to an increase in freight traffic through the interchange, competing for already limited space for transit and leading to delays and increased operating costs for the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the region has made relieving congestion and reducing automobile traffic across the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge a priority, including the completion of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Core Capacity Transit Study and through the recent passage of Regional Measure 3 and; and

**WHEREAS**, funding from Regional Measure 3 will result in a 30-percent increase in AC Transit Transbay service through the area which should be supported through opportunities to prioritize this increase in transit capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) has prioritized improvements to local bus transit service through its County-wide Transportation Plan, which has resulted in such efforts as the San Pablo Avenue Corridor Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the District plays a critical role in reducing congestion in the region and will continue to do so through planned efforts detailed in documents such as the Major Corridors Study; and

**WHEREAS**, the inclusion of elements supporting transit priority and facilitating complete streets (include transit, bicycles, and pedestrians) within the Macarthur Maze Vertical Clearance Project is necessary mitigation for the impacts from construction and increased freight movement through the interchange; and

**WHEREAS**, Caltrans has extended the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Report to April 24 at 11:59 p.m. with public hearings to be held in Emeryville and Oakland on April 10 and 11, respectively; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the City Council requests that Caltrans:

- include transit-only lanes on all roadways in the project where AC Transit currently operates transit service; and
- include measures to mitigate transit service disruption and prioritize transit service in identified mitigations during the construction phase of the project through improvements including but not limited to: dedicated transit lanes, transit signal priority, transit queue-jump lanes, bus stop optimization and traffic signal coordination/actuation; and
- coordinate with the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville & Oakland to provide dedicated transit lane access to the Bay Bridge; and
- ensure any elements of the project or mitigations associated with the project or its construction conform to and support existing regional plans being developed or already adopted by MTC; ACTC; the District; and the cities of Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Council hereby directs the City Administrator to send a copy of this Resolution to Caltrans.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the  
City of Oakland, California