



AGENDA REPORT



TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmembers Charlene Wang & Rowena Brown

DATE: April 30, 2026

SUBJECT: Resolution in support of Assembly Bill 1837
(González) Video Imaging of Parking of Violations on Public Transit

RECOMMENDATION:

COUNCILMEMBERS CHARLENE WANG AND ROWENA BROWN RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 1837 (GONZÁLEZ) VIDEO IMAGING OF PARKING OF VIOLATIONS ON PUBLIC TRANSIT.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

AB 1837 seeks to make permanent the existing authority for transit agencies—including AC Transit—to use forward-facing cameras to ticket vehicles illegally parked in bus lanes or at bus stops. The current authorization for this program is set to expire on January 1, 2027. By removing this sunset date, AB 1837 ensures that transit operators can maintain reliable schedules, improve passenger safety, and deter traffic violations that impede public transit. This resolution aligns with the City's commitment to a "Transit First" policy and is supported by the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) and AC Transit.

BACKGROUND:

Public transit efficiency in Oakland is frequently compromised by unauthorized vehicles parking or standing in dedicated bus lanes and at bus stops. Existing California law allows for automated video enforcement to address these violations, but this authority is temporary.

On April 16, 2026, the Alameda CTC staff recommended a formal "Support" position on AB 1837, noting that AC Transit is a co-sponsor of the legislation. AB 1837 would indefinitely authorize the use of video imaging for these enforcement purposes, providing a permanent tool for transit agencies to manage right-of-way obstructions.

Supporting AB 1837 advances several core priorities identified in the region's 2026 Legislative Program:

- **Operational Efficiency:** Automated enforcement helps transit operators maintain on-time schedules by keeping transit-only lanes clear of obstructions.
- **Safety:** Removing illegally parked vehicles from bus lanes and stops prioritizes the safety of all users, particularly transit riders boarding or exiting buses.
- **Increased Ridership:** By deterring traffic violations and improving service reliability, this legislation encourages more residents to choose public transit over single-occupancy vehicles.
- **Economic Vitality:** A reliable, efficient transportation system is essential for providing access to opportunities and sustaining prosperity across the Northern California megaregion.

RACIAL AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The support of AB 1837 directly aligns with the Equity and Healthy Communities core priorities of the Alameda CTC 2026 Legislative Program. This legislation provides focused support for low-income and underserved populations by:

- **Expanding Access:** Advocacy for this bill ensures the continued delivery of safe, affordable, and reliable transportation options throughout the County.
- **Economic Opportunity:** Reliable transit, maintained through effective enforcement of transit-only lanes, is essential for connecting underserved communities to jobs, education, and health services.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact to the City of Oakland associated with the adoption of this resolution. The implementation and operation of video enforcement systems are managed by the respective transit agencies, such as AC Transit.

CONCLUSION:

AB 1837 provides a critical, proven tool for improving the reliability and safety of Oakland's transit network. Given that AC Transit co-sponsors the bill and the Alameda CTC has recommended a support position, taking the step to join this coalition will ensure the long-term viability of automated transit lane enforcement.

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