



*Matt Mahan*  
Mayor

February 9, 2023

Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Operations Committee  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

**Subject: Agenda Item #5a: Contract - Bay Wheels Bikeshare E-bike Expansion - Lyft, Inc.**

Dear Operations Committee Members,

I write in support of the staff recommendation for Bay Wheels Bikeshare E-bike Expansion with Lyft, Inc. For the past nine years, the City of San José has proudly been a service area for Bike Share, which has been widely used by those who live, work and play in San José. This shared mobility system has provided users in San José a greener transportation alternative to traverse throughout the Capital of Silicon Valley. Furthermore, San José has one of the highest proportion of riders using Bay Wheels equity program Bike Share for All, which provides discounts based on income. Unfortunately, COVID-19 significantly impacted system usage with decreased ridership.

The one silver lining we have seen is that while E-bikes constitute approximately 10% of the total 1,000 bike fleet in San José, they are consistently chosen over pedal bikes (Classic Bikes). Therefore, we are excited by the potential introduction of 650 new E-bikes into the San José market, and expansion of service and equity programming. This regionwide approach and \$16 million investment are critical to restoring the vision for bike share and further our mode shift goals in San José.

While we fully support the proposed framework shaped by MTC staff, I request that the committee ensures that cities are kept involved in the forthcoming negotiation process to ensure that major service areas like San José have a voice in shaping a more equitable and sustainable regional bike share system.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Mahan".

Matt Mahan  
Mayor  
City of San José

**From:** [Parker Day](#)  
**To:** [MTC-ABAG Info](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for MTC Meeting Feb 10, 2022  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 7, 2023 12:26:58 PM

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**\*External Email\***

Hello,

My name is Parker Day and I'm a resident of San Francisco. As a person who is a longtime Bay Wheels member, I wanted to write in strong support of Item 5a, the contract with Bay Wheels Bikeshare for e-bike expansion. Bike share has been transformative for me, allowing me to make one way trips, compliment transit trips, and reduce my reliance on car transportation. It is especially helpful to have one predominant bike share system for the bay area, and expansion of that system is very important.

With this contract, it will be nice to finally see ebike share return to the east bay. These bikes work for the most types of riders, not relying on personal strength or route planning. I also feel safer riding ebikes around car traffic since they move a little faster, lowering the speed differential.

I am quite confident that ebike share has the power to really transform the way we move around our metro area and I hope you'll approve this contract.

Thank you,

Parker Day  


**From:** [Sandhya Laddha](#)  
**To:** [MTC-ABAG Info](#)  
**Subject:** Comment for 2/10 Operations committee meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, February 9, 2023 12:49:50 PM

**\*External Email\***

Hello,

My name is Sandhya Laddha and I wanted to provide the following public comment for the [2/10 Operations committee meeting](#). Thank you!

Dear committee members,

My name is Sandhya Laddha, Policy Director at Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, a non-profit that aims at building healthier and more just communities by making bicycling safe and accessible for everyone in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

We want to applaud MTC's efforts on putting a major investment toward bike share in the Bay Area - this is the very first much needed public subsidy for bikeshare which will help bring some financial stability to the system; and we hope this is one of the many to come! We are thankful to MTC to start laying the groundwork for next steps as the contract with Baywheels ends in 2027.

This investment will bring 650 new bikes and 21 new stations in San Jose alone against 100 e-bikes that the City currently has. It will also bring e-bikes to the East Bay which currently do not have any! At the same time the program proposes a price drop in fees, a new accumulator feature and a college student discount program - all these initiatives would not only benefit those already using bikeshare but also encourage others to use this as a viable option to commute to places - helping reduce the number of cars on our roads - ultimately reducing traffic and congestion. We are also excited about the potential of expanding the current Baywheels program to adjacent cities which would add great value to the bikeshare system given all the Bay area cities are so close to one another.

This is an important first step and down payment toward a publicly funded, seamlessly integrated, equitable, accessible regional micro mobility program. We look forward to working with MTC, Lyft and the City of San Jose on outreach efforts as well as making sure the new stations and bikes are equitably distributed across the City.

We request you to vote in favor of this endeavour and hope to see the new e-bikes on ground as soon as possible.

Thank you!

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Cheers,

**Sandhya Laddha**

Policy Director | she/her/hers



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