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Commission Agenda Item 7f



Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Anna G. Eshoo Eighteenth District California

April 17, 2020

The Honorable Scott Haggerty, Chair Metropolitan Transportation Commission Bay Area Metro Center 375 Beale Street, Suite 800 San Francisco, California 94105-2066

Dear Chair Haggerty,

l write in support of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) proposed allocation of funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

I'm proud to support the CARES Act which provides \$25 billion in grants to transit agencies that have been severely impacted by dramatic decreases in ridership and fare revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Bay Area was an initial hotspot and the first region in the country to implement a shelter in place order, placing a significant strain on the budgets of our transit agencies.

As you know, MTC is responsible for distributing the \$1.3 billion in CARES Act funding allocated to the Bay Area, and I applaud the work of your staff in reaching consensus among local transit agencies on an equitable formula for the first tranche of funding. This formula accounts for immediate losses due to decreased ridership but also anticipated future losses due to declining sales tax and other revenues. As MTC develops its strategy to allocate the remaining funds, I encourage you to apply these same principles as transit agencies gain more information about the scope of their losses and to adjust additional allocations on a systemby-system basis.

Thank you again for ensuring that the funding provided by Congress reaches transit agencies in our region in an expedient manner, and I urge you to adopt the proposed allocations.

Most gratefully,

Anna G. Eshoo Member of Congress

cc:

Commissioners, Metropolitan Transportation Commission Therese McMillan, Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Commission