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Congress of the United States
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Co-Chair, Democratic Women's Caucus
Senior Whip

April 15, 2020

Therese McMillian
Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. McMillian:

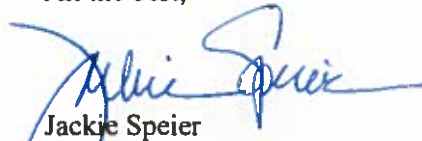
Thank you for the work that you and your staff have done to collaborate with Bay Area transit agencies on the quick allocation of funds from the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Thanks to your leadership, the CARES Act is delivering \$1.3 billion to support public transportation systems that have been severely and immediately impacted by dramatic ridership and fare revenue losses.

MTC's proposal provides a substantial initial tranche of funding that accounts for those losses, and also addresses anticipated declines in other revenues that support public transportation, like sales tax. Focusing the funds in this way is essential to equipping transit agencies with the resources they need to maintain services for residents that need to conduct essential travel during the shelter-in-place order.

As MTC explores strategies for subsequent tranches of funding, it will be important to adhere to these same principles. Over time, more information will be known about the extent of the revenue losses that agencies are experiencing and how long they are likely to continue. Additional allocations of funding should be adjusted on a system-by-system basis to reflect these known losses and should be prioritized so that agencies can budget for a return to normal operations as quickly as possible.

Once again, thank you for everything that you are doing to help our region get through this unprecedented pandemic. The example that the Bay Area is setting for the nation and the world is something that we are all very proud of, and your contributions to that are essential.

All the best,


Jackie Speier
KJS/bp