

Bicycle Outreach Funding for Transit Recovery and Mobility Transformation

Letter to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) January 22, 2021

To: Theresa Romell, Director, Funding Policy and Programs Alfredo Pedroza, Commission Chair Commissioners and MTC Staff

Our Bay Area bicycle coalitions are very pleased to see the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) invest \$50M+ to support quick build pedestrian, biking, and transit access improvements through the "Safe and Seamless Quick-Strike" program. This is also a key opportunity for MTC to invest substantially in bicycling promotion and engagement as part of a transportation recovery and long-term mode shift strategy.

We ask that Commissioners allocate at least 10% of the "Safe and Seamless Quick-Strike" funds to support bicycle outreach and engagement programming. Furthermore, to ensure equitable, inclusive outcomes and distribution of funds, we ask that the commission:

- Dedicate these funds to support community benefit organizations (CBOs), including community bike shops, direct service partners, and bicycle promotion organizations.
- Ensure these programs prioritize culturally competent, multilingual education and encouragement activities such as outlined in our <u>August 27, 2020 program brief</u> to MTC directors and staff.
- Prioritize funding to reach communities of color and low-income, immigrant and monolingual communities.

This investment would complement MTC's concurrent strategies for quick-build infrastructure improvements. MTC's leadership is needed to prevent potentially historic levels of congestion and single occupancy auto trips, and the greenhouse gas emissions, traffic collisions, and negative health outcomes that accompany them. Taken together, these strategies will forward our collective vision for an efficient and well-connected Bay Area transportation system that promotes health, sustainability and equity in our communities.

Sincerely,

Ginger Jui Executive Director, Bike East Bay

Patrick Band, Executive Director, Napa County Bicycle Coalition

Tarrell Kullaway Executive Director, Marin County Bicycle Coalition Brian Wiedenmeier Executive Director, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition

Shiloh Ballard Executive Director, Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition

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