

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments  
Joint MTC ABAG Legislation Committee**

**April 9, 2021**

**Agenda Item 3a**

**Assembly Bill 917 (Bloom): Camera-Based Enforcement for Transit Stops and Transit Only Lanes**

**Subject:** Expands an existing pilot program authorizing camera-based enforcement for parking violations in a transit-only traffic lane or transit stop or station.

**Overview:** AB 917 expands on existing law to allow transit agencies statewide to use readily available camera technology to discourage illegal parking in transit only lanes and at transit stops where parking is already prohibited. The parking citations would not impact a motorist's driving record, carry the same fine as a parking ticket and can be appealed.

**Recommendation:** Support

**Discussion:** Illegal parking in transit-only lanes and at transit stops and stations compromises transit operators' ability to provide safe, reliable and accessible public transit service. Illegally parked vehicles can block buses from continuing on their route, reducing reliability, and negatively impacting transit riders. In addition to the service impacts, illegal parking at a transit stop can pose safety hazards to riders. When a bus cannot reach the curb, riders may be forced to exit or enter the bus in the middle of the roadway. This can be dangerous for riders and impossible for those in a wheelchair or with other physical limitations.

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) was the first agency in California authorized to test forward-facing camera technology to enforce parking in bus-only lanes in 2007 by AB 101 (Ma). The program has conducted numerous evaluations demonstrating its success. It was extended multiple times, including by AB 1287 (Chiu, 2015), which eliminated the sunset date altogether. In 2016, the Legislature enacted SB 1051 (Hancock, 2016) expanding the authorization to include AC Transit, however AC Transit's authority is currently scheduled to sunset on January 1, 2022.

Consistent with MTC's 2021 Advocacy Program, which expresses support for legislation aimed at getting transit out of traffic, staff recommends a support position on AB 917 to give transit agencies throughout the Bay Area and statewide an additional tool that will help improve service reliability.

**Bill Positions:**

**Support:**

AC Transit (sponsor)

Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro)

California Transit Association (sponsor)

**Oppose:**

None on file

  
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