



June 19, 2024

Chair Alfredo Pedroza
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: SUPPORT FOR METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC) RESOLUTION
NO. 4411, INITIAL PROGRAMMING OF RM3 DUMBARTON CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Chair Pedroza,

As Mayor of the City of Newark, this letter affirms my strong support for initial programming of \$130 million in Regional Measure 3 (RM3) Project #17, Dumbarton Corridor Improvements. Specifically, I support the MTC staff proposal presented on June 12, 2024, to the Programming and Allocations Committee. The proposed projects will reduce congestion in this important corridor and, very importantly, will retain purchasing power of the RM3 funds. Consistent with the statute, the projects support “capital improvements within the Dumbarton Bridge and rail corridor in the counties of Alameda and San Mateo to relieve congestion, increase person throughput, and offer reliable travel times.”

The combined impact of the proposed list of projects will result in greater transit, rail, and bicycle/pedestrian connectivity for the highly utilized yet under-resourced corridor. Specifically within Southern Alameda County, funding will support Newark’s Thornton Avenue Multimodal Complete Streets and Bay Trail multi-phased suite of projects that will reduce congestion and significantly improve bicycle and pedestrian access on Thornton Avenue between State Route 84 and Interstate 880. The Newark Old Town Streetscape Project will include sidewalk widening and the addition of bicycle lanes as part of a streetscape improvement project that will greatly benefit this Priority Development Area and serve as a catalyst for additional private investment and economic revitalization. The Thornton Avenue Complete Streets project located between Hickory Street and Gateway Boulevard will provide a separated two-way cycle track and Class I pedestrian trail to dramatically improve safety and access for pedestrians and bicyclists to the Don Edwards Wildlife Refuge, nearby Bay Trail options and the Dumbarton Bridge bicycle path. These are near-term projects with the first phase scheduled to begin in 2025.

Other projects in Southern Alameda County include a much-needed pedestrian at-grade rail crossing in Union City to get more passengers to BART; the development of Quarry Lakes Parkway, a local “Complete Streets” roadway that will provide a 20-foot multi-use trail connection to regional parks and capacity for over 2,000 new residential units in the Union City Station District Priority Development Area; improvements to Decoto Road



Chair Alfredo Pedroza
Page 2
June 19, 2024

Complete Streets and the I/880 Interchange that will improve bus and bike connectivity through the Dumbarton Bridge corridor; and other important projects in Fremont, Newark and Union City that will allow more people to bike or walk to where they need to go.

As residents continue to commute from their homes in the East Bay to jobs along the Peninsula and Silicon Valley, the proposed programming of RM3 Dumbarton Corridor funding represents an unprecedented investment in a transportation corridor that is increasingly vital to the success of the region. More importantly, the projects will provide transportation improvements that our constituents have long been waiting for. Therefore, I strongly encourage the Commission to support the proposed initial programming of the full \$130 million, as recommended by staff and approved by the Programs and Allocations Committee, in Regional Measure 3 (RM3) Project #17, Dumbarton Corridor Improvements.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL K. HANNON
Mayor