

1 [Support Senate Bill (SB) 1031: Connect Bay Area Act]

2 **Motion supporting SB 1031 - Connect Bay Area Act and urging the Mayor, Board**
3 **of Supervisors, and San Francisco’s members of the State Legislature to support.**

4 WHEREAS, SB 1031, introduced by State Senator Scott Wiener and Aisha
5 Wahab, will authorize a Bay Area ballot measure to provide transportation funding on
6 the 2026 ballot or later; and

7 WHEREAS, The bill will authorize the Metropolitan Transportation Commission
8 (MTC), the regional transportation authority, to propose a measure generating a
9 minimum of \$750 million per year in revenue to stabilize transit systems’ operations,
10 avoid service cuts, and make service better; and

11 WHEREAS, SB 1031 will include a study on consolidating Bay Area public transit
12 agencies to improve customer experience, expand capacity to take on complex
13 projects, identify potential efficiencies and cost saving, and address future workforce
14 needs; and

15 WHEREAS, Young people tend to be more reliant on public transit as a means of
16 transportation to go to school and recreational activities; and

17 WHEREAS, The climate crisis necessitates a rapid transition from existing car-
18 centric forms of transportation infrastructure towards more efficient modes of public
19 transit infrastructure like buses, trains, subways, etc.; and

20 THEREFORE BE MOVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the
21 San Francisco Board of Supervisors and Mayor London Breed to support Senate Bill
22 1031.

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1 **[Support Senate Bill (SB) 1031: Connect Bay Area Act]**

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3 **Supplemental Information:**

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5 See attached document [Letter of Support]

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Youth Commission
City Hall ~ Room 345
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



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Room 345
San Francisco, CA 94102

April 15th, 2024

Senator Steven Glazer, Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee Chair
State Capitol
1021 O Street Suite 7520,
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1031 (Wiener and Wahab) – Connect Bay Area Act – Support

Dear Senator Steven Glazer,

The San Francisco Youth Commission is proud to support SB 1031, a bill to bring much needed transportation funding and transit agency coordination reforms to the Bay Area.

Addressing the converging affordability, climate, and housing crises will require revolutionizing our public transit system and SB 1031 is an essential step toward such a transformation. Poorly coordinated and underfunded transit service contributes to a low rate of transit use in the Bay Area and disproportionately burdens low-income and vulnerable populations. Dramatically increasing the viability of public transportation will help boost our economy, make the Bay Area more affordable for all residents, connect our communities, reach our housing goals, and increase accessible and safe mobility options for all – but we must act quickly.



SB 1031 is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform Bay Area transit with significant funding for more robust service, safe street improvements, greater connectivity to transit, and investments in climate resilient infrastructure. Policy reforms in the bill will help guarantee that new and existing funding go further, delivering convenient, well-coordinated service and making sure our buses and trains are faster, safer, and more reliable.

More specifically, the bill would establish the Metropolitan Transportation Commission as “Regional Network Manager” for transit in the San Francisco Bay Area, and strengthen its authority to adopt and update rules and regulations to promote the coordination of fares, schedules, mapping and wayfinding, real-time transit information, and other customer-facing operating policies among all Bay Area transit agencies. This reform is a critically important part of the bill and will help create a seamless transit rider experience across the region and increase overall ridership.

We support the establishment of a dedicated body within MTC to oversee transit integration and network management that would include a mix of MTC commissioners and appointed transit and other subject matter experts.

Lastly, we support the bill’s inclusion of study on consolidation of Bay Area public transit agencies, guided by the goals of improving the customer experience, expanding capacity to



take on complex projects, identifying potential efficiencies and cost savings, and addressing future workforce needs. Knowing the potential costs and benefits of consolidation will be important prior to attempting to pass a regional funding measure in 2026. We support clarifying and refining the language in SB 1031 regarding the scope of the proposed consolidation analysis.

Taken all together, SB 1031 has the potential to transform the Bay Area's transit system into a world-class, seamless experience for the public, while improving access to jobs and housing for residents and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. New funding and the establishment of a more effective regional Network Manager Authority is the boost that Bay Area transit needs in order to serve our region's residents and achieve our affordability, housing, accessibility, and climate goals. It's crucial we pass SB 1031 and we are pleased to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Ewan Barker Plummer, Chair

Adopted on 04/15/2024

2023-2024 San Francisco Youth Commission

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San Francisco, CA 94102

April 15th, 2024

Senator Dave Cortese, Senate Transportation Committee Chair
State Capitol
1021 O Street Suite 6630,
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1031 (Wiener and Wahab) – Connect Bay Area Act – Support

Dear Senator Dave Cortese,

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