

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 1031 (Wiener, Wahab) - The Connect Bay Area  
2 Act]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 1031, introduced by Senators**  
4 **Scott Wiener and Aisha Wahab, to authorize a Bay Area transit funding ballot measure**  
5 **as early as November 2026 and to provide for an assessment of the benefits of**  
6 **consolidation of Bay Area transit agencies and integration of Bay Area transit systems.**

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8 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic caused a massive decrease in Bay Area transit  
9 ridership, resulting in a projected \$2.5 billion operating shortfall for transit operators over the  
10 next five years; and

11 WHEREAS, The 2023 State budget agreement between the Governor and the  
12 Legislature that provides \$1.1 billion in funds for transit statewide and \$400 million for the Bay  
13 Area, while critical to the survival of those operators, is nonetheless insufficient to prevent  
14 transit cuts and was intended as a bridge to provide time to identify a long-term funding  
15 source to stabilize and enhance transit; and

16 WHEREAS, Ridership has returned slowly, with the San Francisco Municipal  
17 Transportation Agency (SFMTA) seeing a 74% recovery of riders in February 2024 as  
18 compared to February 2019 and Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) seeing a 42% recovery of  
19 riders; and

20 WHEREAS, Without a sustained funding source, transit operators may be required to  
21 decrease service, remove entire lines, and cancel infrastructure improvement projects that will  
22 impact millions of riders and make it challenging for the region to achieve its climate, equity,  
23 and economic development goals; and

24 WHEREAS, California State Senate Bill 1031, authored by Senators Scott Wiener and  
25 Aisha Wahab, would authorize the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to propose

1 a revenue measure as soon as the November 2026 ballot, the proceeds of which would be  
2 used to stabilize and increase transit operations and regional transit coordination initiatives, as  
3 well as to fund zero emission transit vehicles and related infrastructure; safe streets, including  
4 pothole repairs, bicycle and pedestrian access; climate resiliency projects to protect  
5 transportation infrastructure; and capital improvements to support connectivity and mobility in  
6 a climate neutral manner; and

7 WHEREAS, SB 1031 also requires MTC to adopt transit network management policies  
8 that will improve fares, transfer schedules, wayfinding, and other customer-facing services to  
9 seamlessly connect all Bay Area transit operators beginning in 2025; and

10 WHEREAS, The California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) would be required to  
11 select a transportation institute to assess the impacts of potential consolidation of the Bay  
12 Area's 27 transit operators while prioritizing the needs of vulnerable populations and  
13 improving access, speed, and reliability of public transit; and

14 WHEREAS, If approved by voters, SB 1031 would also authorize MTC and the Bay  
15 Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to require employers with 50 or more  
16 employees to provide a subsidy to encourage non-solo driving, and employers located near  
17 transit would be required to purchase a universal, unlimited transit pass for each of their  
18 employees, which will get more vehicles off of roads and decrease carbon emissions; and

19 WHEREAS, The San Francisco County Transportation Authority is in active  
20 conversations with the authors and sponsor regarding desired amendments that  
21 include ensuring that MTC Regional Network Management (RNM) policies and requirements  
22 keep transit operators financially whole and do not require service cuts; fair representation of  
23 transit operators in the RNM governance structure in recognition of their experience and  
24 financial and other responsibilities as transit operators; and ensuring that the transit

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1 consolidation study does not presuppose the outcome, broadly defines consolidation, and  
2 considers other possible solutions; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports and seeks  
4 amendments as described above for Senate Bill 1031; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board send a copy of this Resolution to  
6 Governor Gavin Newsom and San Francisco's State Legislative Delegation.

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