

1 [Urging the Governor and State Legislature to Provide Operations Funding to Help San
2 Francisco's Transit Systems Survive as They Recover From the Pandemic]

3 **Resolution urging Governor Gavin Newsom and the California State Legislature to**
4 **provide operations funding to help San Francisco transit systems survive as they**
5 **recover from the pandemic, including urging the Governor and State Legislature to**
6 **distribute additional transit operations in a way that would both not disadvantage San**
7 **Francisco's transit agencies and be based on a formula that would avoid service cuts**
8 **that most impact transit dependent riders, and urging the Governor and State**
9 **Legislature to allow one-time investments of excess Federal Highway funds into transit**
10 **operations as suggested by President Joe Biden.**

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12 WHEREAS, Based on current ridership, service levels, and cost trends, Bay Area
13 operators forecast annual budget shortfalls in the tens of millions of dollars in Fiscal Year (FY)
14 2023-2024, growing to almost four hundred million dollars beginning in FY 2024-2025 and
15 growing to over seven hundred millions of dollars in the subsequent years; and

16 WHEREAS, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) is facing a \$130
17 million budget deficit by FY 2024-2025; and

18 WHEREAS, Over five years, SFMTA's cumulative budget shortfall will total \$796
19 million; and

20 WHEREAS, SFMTA may have to cut one bus lane a month for 20 months if the budget
21 shortfall is not addressed; and

22 WHEREAS, BART is facing large operating deficits starting in FY24-25 ranging from
23 \$140 million-\$300 million; and

1 WHEREAS, If new funding is not secured, BART is facing devastating cuts that will
2 have serious impacts on the quality of life in the Bay Area, including potentially eliminating
3 early morning, late evening and much weekend service; and

4 WHEREAS, People of color, students, seniors and low-income people are the primary
5 users of public transportation and that hundreds of thousands of San Franciscans would be
6 devastatingly impacted by massive transit service cuts; and

7 WHEREAS, Transit ridership has yet to return to pre-pandemic levels which poses
8 challenges for transit agencies primarily funded by fares like SFMTA and BART; and

9 WHEREAS, The State of California provides a smaller portion of SFMTA and BART's
10 operations budget than other states do for similar large transit systems in their state; and

11 WHEREAS, The legislature's current proposal would lead to massive service cuts for
12 SFMTA, BART, Caltrain and AC Transit; and

13 WHEREAS, The legislature's current proposal would disadvantage San Francisco's
14 transit agencies as the funding distribution would be based on a region's formula rather than a
15 region's transit ridership or lost transit revenue, which are much better proxies for how the
16 state should distribute funding to avoid service cuts that would most impact transit dependent
17 riders in San Francisco and beyond; and

18 WHEREAS, The legislature's current proposal would not allocate any additional
19 funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to avoid massive transit service cuts,
20 despite the State itself acknowledging that transit ridership needs to double in order to meet
21 the State's climate targets; and

22 WHEREAS, The legislature's current proposal would not allow excess one-time
23 Federal Highway funds to be spent on transit operations to avoid massive service cuts,
24 despite President Biden urging states to do so in his recent budget memo; now, therefore, be
25 it

1 RESOLVED, That The Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and State Legislature
2 to provide the funding that would avoid massive service cuts to San Francisco’s transit
3 agencies; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and State
5 Legislature to ensure than any funding is distributed based on the needs of transit agencies to
6 avoid massive service cuts, rather than simply based on population; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and State
8 Legislature to ensure that transit operations is prioritized in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction
9 Fund to avoid massive transit service cuts; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and the
11 State Legislature to ensure that excess one-time Federal Highway funds are spent on transit
12 operations to avoid massive transit service cuts; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors believes closing transit funding
14 gaps is necessary to aide our post-pandemic recovery, equitably serve Bay Area residents
15 and visitors, and further our ambitious climate goals; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors requests the Clerk of
17 the Board to submit a copy of this Resolution to Assembly Member and Budget Chair Phil
18 Ting, Assembly Member Matt Haney, State Senator Scott Wiener, and Governor Gavin
19 Newsom.

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