



CITY OF SAN MATEO

City Hall
330 W. 20th Avenue
San Mateo CA 94403
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Agenda Report

Agenda Number: {{item.number}}

Section Name: {{section.name}}

File ID: {{item.tracking_number}}

TO: City Council
FROM: Drew Corbett, City Manager
PREPARED BY: Finance Department
MEETING DATE: July 20, 2020
SUBJECT:
Caltrain Sales Tax Ballot Measure – Letter of Support

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a letter of support for Caltrain's sales tax measure to be sent to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board.

BACKGROUND:

The Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, the governing body for Caltrain, has been considering revenue enhancement ballot measures over the past six months to provide stable funding and service increases. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, average weekday ridership was 65,000. As of the end of June, due to COVID-19 and the shelter-in-place, average weekday ridership was at 3,200.

On Tuesday, July 14, 2020, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declined to introduce the sales tax measure. In order for the revenue enhancement measure to appear on the November 2020 ballot, approval is required from four transit agency boards and the Board of Supervisors from San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties. Absent the projected \$100 million in additional revenue from the sales tax measure, Caltrain officials indicate that they may need to shut down operations due to the financial impact of COVID-19, shelter-in-place, and the resultant loss in ridership. With approval from the City Council, the letter of support, included as Att 1, will be sent to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Approval of the letter of support has no impact on the City's budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This letter is not a project subject to CEQA, because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).)

NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

ATTACHMENTS

Att 1 - Draft letter of support

STAFF CONTACT

Rich Lee, Director, Finance
rlee@cityofsanmateo.org
(650) 522-7102