



July 6, 2021

The Honorable Thomas Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol, Room 2187
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 917 (Bloom) Safe & Reliable Access to Transit Services – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Umberg:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) I write to voice our **SUPPORT** for Assembly Bill 917 (Bloom). This bill would expand current state law to authorize transit agencies to use camera technology to discourage illegal parking in transit-only lanes and at transit stops where parking is already prohibited under existing law.

Under AB 917, transit agencies would be authorized to install forward-facing cameras on their transit vehicles to collect images of parking violations that occur in transit-only lanes and at transit stops. The parking citations do not negatively impact a driver's record, carry the same fine as a parking ticket, and can be appealed. The bill contains privacy protections and sets noticing requirements for a newly enacted program.

California has witnessed a growing number of cars on the state's roads in recent years, and with it an increase in drivers parking in designated transit-only lanes and at transit stops. Illegal parking in these zones compromises transit operators' ability to provide safe, reliable, and accessible public transit service. Until the vehicle relocates, transit-only lanes and transit stops are effectively rendered out of service. This reduces transit system reliability by slowing down transit vehicle speeds and negatively impacts transit riders.

In addition to the service impacts, a partially blocked transit stop creates significant safety concerns. When a transit operator is not able to reach the curb, riders are forced to negotiate the street and the gap that is created between the transit vehicle and the curb. This is a potentially dangerous maneuver for riders to make, and an impossible one for those with a disability or mobility impairments, including seniors.

SamTrans has long-supported efforts allowing transit agencies to use innovative technologies to improve service and passenger safety and we are pleased to **SUPPORT** AB 917 (Bloom). Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or need

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additional information, please contact Jessica Epstein from the SamTrans Government and Community Affairs staff at epsteinj@samtrans.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carter Mau".

Carter Mau

Acting General Manager/CEO

Cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors
San Mateo County Transit District State Legislative Delegation

Seamans, Dora

From: AC Transit eNews <actransit@service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:15 AM
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Subject: AC Transit Parcel Tax Fiscal Oversight Committee Recruitment

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RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE COMMITTEE

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Applications are currently being accepted to fill two vacancies on the District's Parcel Tax Fiscal Oversight Committee. These are non-paid, volunteer positions with a term of office of three years and are subject to reappointment by the Board. Completed applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 30th. Please consult the [Recruitment Notice and Application](#) for details and instructions.

Office of the District Secretary
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
1600 Franklin Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, California 94612
Fax: (510) 891-4705
www.actransit.org

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This email was sent to board@samtrans.com using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit), 1600 Franklin St., Oakland, CA 94612.

