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June 4, 2022

The Honorable Anna Caballero  
Senate Governance and Finance Committee, Chair  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1944 (Lee): Local Government: open and public meetings –SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Caballero:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) I am writing in support of AB 1944 (Lee), which would provide an exemption from the Brown Act for local agencies to meet virtually, without an emergency declaration, if a quorum is present at a physical location, and members of the public are provided with a video streamlining or call-in option to address the body remotely during the public comment period.

This bill will provide flexibility for our board members that may not be able to attend meetings in person and increases engagement to a broader segment of our population as well. It also aligns with the state's goals of reducing vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas reductions as members of our board are located throughout the Madera region and would not be required to travel on local roadways to attend meetings if AB 1944 is enacted.

For these reasons, we ask for your support of AB 1944 when it is heard in your Senate Committee on Governance and Finance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, at (916) 605-8975 or [gus@khouriconsult.com](mailto:gus@khouriconsult.com).

Sincerely,

Patricia Taylor  
Executive Director

cc: Members of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee  
The Honorable Alex Lee, Assembly Member, 25<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Frank Bigelow, Assembly Member, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Adam Gray, Assembly Member, 21<sup>st</sup> District

**Member Agencies: County of Madera, City of Madera, City of Chowchilla**