

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Juan Carillo
Assembly Local Government Committee, Chair
1020 N Street, Room 157
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 259 (Rubio) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Carillo:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), the Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Madera County, I write in support of AB 259 (Rubio), which would remove the January 1, 2026, sunset under the Brown Act for local agencies to use teleconferencing as an option for participation, allowing the current practice of hybrid meetings indefinitely.

This bill would allow MCTC Board members to continue participating remotely, on a limited basis, for the agency to conduct business if circumstances provided under existing law preclude a member from attending in person. Given that MCTC meets monthly, Board members will continue to be limited to no more than two virtual meetings annually. This bill recognizes that life events happen to locally elected officials that may preclude their physical participation.

For these reasons, we ask that you support AB 259 (Rubio) when it is heard by the Assembly Local Government Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,

Jose Rodriguez

Jose Rodriguez (Apr 2, 2025 19:18 PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Assembly Local Government Committee
The Honorable Blanca E. Rubio, Assemblymember, 48th District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Lori Wilson
Assembly Transportation Committee, Chair
1020 N Street, Room 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 267 (Macedo) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: high-speed rail, water infrastructure and wildfire prevention – OPPOSE

Dear Chair Wilson:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in opposition to AB 267 (Macedo), which would suspend the appropriation to the High-Speed Rail Authority for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 fiscal years from the Cap and Trade Program and would instead require those amounts from monies collected by the State Air Resources Board to be transferred to the General Fund, and redirected to water and wildfire prevention programs.

Substantial investments have been made in the San Joaquin Valley to improve service for the ACE, the San Joaquins, and the high-speed rail system, compel mode shift, and improve the region's air quality. Continued investments are necessary to complete stations, lay tracks, and enhance the region's economic vitality, particularly in Madera, where a station will be placed.

For these reasons, we ask that you oppose AB 267 (Macedo) when it is heard by the Assembly Transportation Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,


Jose Rodriguez, Apr 2, 2025 (1:16 PM PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Assembly Transportation Committee
The Honorable Alexandra Macedo, Assemblymember, 33rd District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 3, 2025

The Honorable Lori Wilson
Assembly Transportation Committee, Chair
1020 N Street, Room 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 289 (Haney) – State Highway: work zone speed safety pilot program – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Wilson:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in support of AB 289 (Haney), which would authorize Caltrans to establish a speed safety system pilot program for speed enforcement in state highway construction or maintenance areas.

This bill would protect Caltrans workers and the public from unnecessary collisions and fatalities by requiring the motorizing public to be cautious while traveling through a construction zone. Far too many Caltrans workers have lost their lives performing work to make our roads safer.

For these reasons, we ask that you support AB 289 (Haney) when it is heard by the Assembly Transportation Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,


Jose Rodriguez (Apr 3, 2025 15:23 PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Assembly Transportation Committee
The Honorable Matt Haney, Assemblymember, 17th District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Lori Wilson
Assembly Transportation Committee, Chair
1020 N Street, Room 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 891 (Zbur) Quick-Build Project Pilot Program – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Wilson:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in support of AB 891 (Zbur), which would establish the Quick-Build Project Pilot Program within Caltrans' maintenance program to expedite the development and implementation of at least six low-cost projects on the state highway system.

This bill could expedite the delivery of bicycle and pedestrian facilities to accommodate mode shift by allowing projects that require minor construction, are built with low-to moderate-cost materials, and last up to five years to be considered.

For these reasons, we ask that you support AB 891 (Zbur) when it is heard by the Assembly Transportation Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,


Jose Rodriguez (Apr 3, 2025 15:24 PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Assembly Transportation Committee
The Honorable Rick Zbur, Assemblymember, 51 District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Lori Wilson
Assembly Transportation Committee, Chair
1020 N Street, Room 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 1058 (Gonzalez) – Suspension of Motor Vehicles Taxes– OPPOSE

Dear Chair Wilson:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in opposition to AB 1058 (Gonzalez), which would suspend motor vehicle taxes for one year.

Transportation funding relies heavily on gas tax revenue to fund local streets and roads, state highway maintenance, and multi-modal investments in each county. Public transportation is also highly dependent on diesel sales tax. A suspension on motor vehicle fuels would delay making our roads safer and less congested, reduce mobility options, and hinder our response to meet climate goals.

For these reasons, we ask that you oppose AB 1058 (Gonzalez) when it is heard by the Assembly Transportation Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,

Jose Rodriguez

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Assembly Transportation Committee
The Honorable Jeff Gonzalez, Assemblymember, 36th District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Lori Wilson
Assembly Transportation Committee, Chair
1020 N Street, Room 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 1268 (Macedo) – Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law: adjustment suspension – OPPOSE

Dear Chair Wilson:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in opposition to AB 1268 (Macedo), which would suspend the inflationary adjustment on motor vehicle taxes for one year.

Transportation funding relies heavily on gas tax revenue to fund local streets and roads, state highway maintenance, and multi-modal investments in each county. Public transportation is also highly dependent on diesel sales tax. An inflationary adjustment suspension on motor vehicle fuels would delay making our roads safer and less congested, reduce mobility options, and hinder our response to meet climate goals.

For these reasons, we ask that you oppose AB 1268 (Macedo) when it is heard by the Assembly Transportation Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.
Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Jose Rodriguez (Apr 2, 2025 10:21 PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Assembly Transportation Committee
The Honorable Alexandra Macedo, Assemblymember, 33rd District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Dave Cortese
Senate Transportation Committee, Chair
State Capitol, Room 405
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 71 (Wiener) – CEQA Exemption Sunset Removal for Transit Projects – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Cortese:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in support of SB 71 (Wiener), which would remove the January 1, 2030, sunset date on an existing California Environmental Quality (CEQA) exemption for various transportation projects, including active transportation plans, restriping on streets and highways, bicycle parking, signage, and storage, transit projects, and transit planning. The bill also expands the exemption to include a comprehensive transit operational analysis, a transit route readjustment, or other transit agency route addition or elimination.

MCTC works closely with transit operators and local jurisdictions to provide multi-modal options for county residents. This bill would allow transit operators to calibrate service to maximize accessibility and ridership and enhance active transportation options to compel mode shift.

For these reasons, we ask that you support SB 71 (Wiener) when it is heard by the Senate Transportation Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,

Jose Rodriguez

Jose Rodriguez (Apr 2, 2025 15:22 PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Senate Transportation Committee
The Honorable Scott Wiener, Senator, 11th District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo
Senate Local Government Committee, Chair
State Capitol, Room 407
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 239 (Arreguín) – Open meetings: teleconferencing for subsidiary bodies – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Durazo:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in support of SB 239 (Arreguín), which allows a subsidiary body of a local agency to teleconference its meetings without having to notice and make each teleconference location publicly accessible or have at least a quorum from locations within the agency's boundaries.

A subsidiary body is defined as a commission, committee, board, or other body of a local agency, whether permanent or temporary, decision-making, or advisory, created by charter, ordinance, resolution, or formal action of a legislative body that does not take final action on behalf of a local entity.

This bill would allow for greater public participation and ensure that citizens' advisory committees or others serving in an advisory capacity can more readily access, participate, and provide valuable policy input to better transportation infrastructure and mobility decisions made by the MCTC Policy Board.

For these reasons, we ask that you support SB 239 (Arreguín) when it is heard by the Senate Local Government Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,


Jose Rodriguez (Apr 2, 2025 19:22 PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Senate Local Government Committee
The Honorable Jesse Arreguín, Senator, District 7
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Jerry McNerney
Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee, Chair
State Capitol, Room 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 752 (Richardson) – Sales Tax Exemptions For Zero- Emission Transit Buses – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Cortese:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write in support of SB 752 (Richardson), which would extend the sales tax exemption for zero-emission transit buses from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2028.

MCTC works closely with transit operators and local jurisdictions to provide multi-modal options for county residents. Public transportation agencies statewide have struggled to maintain existing services with declining resources, such as the sales tax on diesel, which funds the State Transit Assistance program for capital and operating purposes. This bill would allow transit operators to afford emerging technology better to compel mode shift and address climate goals.

For these reasons, we ask that you support SB 752 when it is heard by the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, at 916-605-8975 or gus@khouriconsult.com.

Sincerely,

Jose Rodriguez

Jose Rodriguez (Apr 2, 2025 19:17 PDT)

Jose Rodriguez, Chair
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee
The Honorable Laura Richardson, Senator, 35th District
The Honorable Esmeralda Soria, Assemblymember, 27th District
The Honorable David J. Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District
The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil, Senator, 4th District