

July 19, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Assembly Appropriations Committee, Chair
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: SB 1216 (Blakespear) – Transportation: Class III bikeways: prohibition– Oppose

Dear Chair Wicks:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I write to express our opposition to SB 1216 (Blakespear). This bill would prohibit the California Transportation Commission from approving applications to the Active Transportation Program that proposes to deliver a Class III bikeway or sharrow on a highway that exceeds a speed limit of 30 miles per hour.

MCTC is deeply concerned about the potential negative impact of SB 1216. By prohibiting Class III bikeways, this bill overlooks the unique traffic volumes in less densely populated areas, many being disadvantaged communities. It poses a significant threat to our region's efforts to promote mode shift and deliver multimodal options and our ability to comply with a sustainable communities strategy. This would preclude access to billions in state resources, such as the SB 1 competitive programs (Solutions for Congested Corridors and Trade Corridor Enhancement Program) to improve safety, air quality, and mobility on the state highway system or invest in public transportation infrastructure.

For these reasons, we oppose SB 1216 when it is heard in your Assembly Committee on Appropriations. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, at gus@khouriconsult.com or 916-605-8975. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission

cc: Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee