

September 5, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: SB 1216 (Blakespear) – Transportation: Class III bikeways: prohibition– VETO REQUEST**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), I respectfully request your veto of SB 1216 (Blakespear). This bill would prohibit the California Transportation Commission from approving applications to the Active Transportation Program that propose 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, I ask you to veto SB 1216. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, at [gus@khouriconsult.com](mailto:gus@khouriconsult.com) or 916-605-8975. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patricia Taylor  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Catherine Blakespear, Senator, 38<sup>th</sup> District  
Christina Aurre, Legislative Affairs Secretary  
Myles White, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary