

SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTON NO. 29/21-22

IN SUPPORT OF SEAMLESS TRANSIT PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS The San Francisco Bay Area, despite being an exceptional place to live, faces an uncertain future due to several interrelated crises -- decreasing housing affordability, increasing congestion, rising pollution, widening inequality, and the recent COVID-19 public health crisis -- all of which are exacerbated by an inadequate and poorly-performing public transportation system;

WHEREAS, Despite billions of dollars of investments in new transportation infrastructure over the past five decades, public transit in the Bay Area has failed to attract large numbers of new riders, and has never been used by more than 12% of the population for commute trips since 1970; by contrast automobiles have always been used for over 75% of commute trips;

WHEREAS The quality of and usage of public transit in the Bay Area has declined in recent years, with transit trips per capita declining by 10%, average bus speeds declining by 9%, and transit commute times increasing by 11% between 2001 and 2016;

WHEREAS The California Air Resources Board reported in 2018 that no California regions, including the Bay Area, are on track to meet their greenhouse gas reduction targets, with increasing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and declines in transit ridership cited as a primary factors;

WHEREAS Using public transit in the Bay Area is inconvenient and costly for many types of trips, requiring riders to: use multiple transit systems operated independently with little coordination; pay multiple separate fares; experience unpredictable transfers; and navigate different wayfinding systems and brand identities;

WHEREAS Low income people, many of whom have experienced displacement and have long commutes requiring multiple transit services, are among the most adversely affected the Bay Area's poorly integrated public transportation system, experiencing a significant financial burden from needing to pay multiple separate transit fares or being forced into costly vehicle ownership;

WHEREAS Regions with high-ridership public transportation systems are, by contrast, characterized by highly integrated networks of quality local and regional transit services that make traveling without a private automobile convenient and easy for all types of trips, featuring aligned routes and schedules, coordinated transfers, high quality transit hubs, common branding and customer information, and other common regional customer experience standards.

WHEREAS Regions that have successfully integrated and simplified transit fares have experienced many broad social benefits, including a shift in travel from private cars to public

transit, an increase in overall public transit usage, and expanded mobility options and cost savings for riders.

WHEREAS, A well-functioning and coordinated transit system plays a critical role in supporting public health and safety during an emergency, with 31% of Bay Area essential workers relying off public transit to get to work. It also plays a critical role in supporting an economic recovery. During and in the aftermath of major disruptions to our transit system, close coordination among agencies facilitates prioritization of the most critical needs, efficient deployment of resources, and clear communication to customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE AS FOLLOWS:

The San Mateo - Foster City School District affirms commitment to working collaboratively with State agencies, MTC, municipalities and other public agencies to develop a highly integrated regional transportation system that provides convenient, seamless, and affordable transit for customers.

The Board of Trustees of the San Mateo - Foster City School District supports the Seamless Transit Principles listed in Attachment (A), and agrees to be publicly listed as a supporter.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following vote of the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo - Foster City School District, County of San Mateo, State of California on April 28, 2022.

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

ATTEST:

Secretary of Said Board