



El Cerrito

Hercules

June 1, 2023

Pinole

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Richmond

The Honorable Nancy Skinner Chair  
Senate Budget Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8630  
Sacramento, CA 95814

San Pablo

The Honorable Phil Ting  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom, Senator Skinner, and Assemblymember Ting,

Contra Costa  
County

The Board of Directors of the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC) urges your support to prioritize funding in the FY 2023-24 budget to sustain critical transit operations in California.

As you know, the pandemic disrupted commuter habits which significantly impacted ridership on most of the state's transit services. While the federal government provided operating assistance, through Covid relief measures, that assistance will run out soon.

AC Transit

Without additional assistance, necessary cuts in service will detrimentally impact Californians who can least afford mobility challenges. In West Contra Costa County, we are particularly concerned about severe impacts to BART, AC Transit, WestCAT, and the Capitol Corridor. Our subregion has a disproportionate share of low-income residents who rely on these transit services in their daily lives.

BART

Ridership on transit *is* slowly rebounding. However, in the near term, transit agencies are facing a "fiscal cliff" from the loss of fare revenue and disappearance of federal relief. Without aid from the state, no amount of belt tightening, or budget adjustments will be enough to reasonably manage the impact of this revenue loss.

WestCAT

Dramatic service cuts in transit service will hinder the post-pandemic ridership recovery and delay transit stabilization. The result for California will be greater congestion on local roadways, negative impacts to goods movement and the economy, additional emissions, and a reversing of the progress toward meeting our state's climate goals.

We can do better. We are asking for your leadership to support emergency funding that will protect the significant transit investments our state has already made and avoid the worst impacts of the fiscal cliff. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Fadelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being more prominent than the last name "Fadelli".

Paul Fadelli  
Chair, WCCTAC

CC: WCCTAC Board of Directors  
The Honorable Buffy Wicks,  
The Honorable Tim Grayson  
The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan