

August 24, 2020

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi  
Assemblymember  
State Capitol, 2179  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1286 Oppose Unless Amended**

Dear Assemblymember Muratsuchi,

I write on behalf of the City of San Jose to regretfully oppose AB 1286 unless amended. The City of San Jose has strong mode-shift goals to get people out of single occupancy vehicles and onto cleaner transportation modes. Micromobility options like scooters and bike share are key components to that strategy.

We are very supportive of the provisions in AB 1286 that would require mobility service providers to enter into agreements or obtain permits from local jurisdictions. This process helps us manage the overall transportation system and regulate our streets. We also very much appreciate the provisions in the bill that reaffirm a city's authority to establish rules around the parking, operation, and maintenance of micromobility devices.

However, we are concerned that AB 1286's provisions to prohibit mobility service providers from issuing waivers goes too far. We have heard from multiple providers and the insurance provider in the state that eliminating the waivers will cause a significant rise in insurance costs and therefore raise prices for consumers. We want micromobility services to be affordable to a large segment of our population and for people to use them as a cleaner transportation mode. We would ask that you delete the waiver provisions in AB 1286, and allow more time for stakeholder conversation to see if there is a nuanced solution that can put more guardrails on waivers without crippling the industry.

We also ask that micromobility services provided by contract public agencies be exempted from the bill. Publicly run or contracted services, such as Bay Wheels in Bay Area, are integrated part of our public transportation system. Adding the bills requirements to these systems will drive up their cost to users making them less accessible to disadvantaged communities.

We look forward to continued conversations about AB 1286, and appreciate your consideration of our remarks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

John Ristow  
Director, Department of Transportation