

June 9, 2022

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Association of Bay Area Governments
Joint Legislation Committee
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Regional Revenue Options for Housing and Transportation, Joint ABAG and MTC Legislation Committee

Dear Chair Arreguin, Vice Chair Liccardo and Committee Members:

SPUR believes that the Bay Area must be able to generate the resources needed to solve our vexing housing and transportation challenges.

SPUR supports a regional housing ballot measure in 2024. We believe a regional housing measure can provide our region with the relief and resources needed to address our housing and homelessness challenges at the scale of the problem. We support the proposed next steps of directing the relevant committees and staff to proceed in earnest to pursue a \$10-20 billion regional housing measure in November of 2024.

Additionally, we support the staff proposal to move forward with the foundational work that is part of a pathway towards a regional measure for public transit and sustainable transportation, should the opportunity to advance a measure emerge.

We also agree with the staff proposal to pursue a comprehensive, multi-pronged strategy to fund transit and sustainable transportation. We encourage this multi-pronged strategy to include seeking state surplus funds, regional funding, decongestion pricing, pricing parking, and more sustainable long-term sources from the state through a gas tax alternative and other state funding programs. The COVID-19 pandemic has proven that we can no longer rely on the current business model.

MTC will need to be adequately resourced to move all of these efforts effectively.

Importantly, we hope that we can avoid pitting housing and transportation against each other and instead collectively set our sights on achieving a vision in which everyone has quality housing that they can afford and has access to sustainable transportation.

Thank you for your leadership in working to solve some of the most vexing challenges in our region.

Sincerely,

Laura Tolkoff
Transportation Policy Director

Sarah Karlinsky
Senior Advisor