

The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Room 106
Martinez, California 94553-1293

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Candace Andersen, 2nd District
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Contra Costa County



David Twa
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 335-1900

February 3, 2016

Honorable Susan A. Bonilla
California State Assembly, 14th District
State Capitol, Room 4140
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Re: AB 1592 (Bonilla) Autonomous Vehicle Pilot Project – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblywoman Bonilla:

On behalf of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our support for AB 1592 (Bonilla), which would authorize the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) to conduct a pilot project for the testing of shared autonomous vehicles not equipped with a steering wheel, brake pedal, or operator.

California is on the cusp of transforming everyday transportation, increasing road safety, improving traffic congestion and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. However, it is critical that the state is committed to supporting the growth of advanced technologies to ensure that California remains a global leader in innovation and becomes a potential hotbed for investment, development and job creation.

In 2012, Senate Bill 1298 was signed into law, authorizing the operation of autonomous vehicles on public roads for testing purposes and requiring the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to adopt regulations by January 2015. While DMV is still drafting the final regulations for the full deployment of autonomous vehicles on public roads, it is imperative that research, development and testing of such rapidly advancing technologies are not stalled.

AB 1592 supports safe testing of low-speed, multi-passenger, electric autonomous vehicles at GoMentum Station – the largest secure transportation technology proving grounds in the nation, and a private business park in Contra Costa County, to be designated by CCTA.

Contra Costa County is proud to support AB 1592 (Bonilla) which will help cultivate safe, innovative, convenient, and complementary modes of transportation in our community. I would like to thank you for your leadership on this important policy matter and if you have any questions, please contact John Kopchik, Director of Conservation and Development at 925-674-7819 or john.kopchik@dcd.cccounty.us.

Sincerely,

Candace Andersen
Chair
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors