

The Board of Supervisors

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

John Gioia, 1st District
Candace Andersen, 2nd District
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Karen Mitchoff, 4th District
Federal D. Glover, 5th District

Contra Costa County



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

November 13, 2018

Jake Mackenzie, Chair
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale St #800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: RE: July 25, 2018 CASA Steering Committee Agenda: Action #11.1 Reduce Impact Fees

Dear Chair Mackenzie:

On behalf of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to comment on the CASA Steering Committees recommendations found in the July 25, 2018 Steering Committee agenda packet. Specifically, we have concerns regarding “*Action 11.1 Reduce Impact Fees.*” While the County supports the effort to address the housing shortage, we strongly recommend *against* adopting the subject action as it relates to traffic impact fees.

Much like our colleagues throughout the region, County jurisdictions develop traffic impact fees through a collaborative process which includes the development community, local staff, and policy makers. Through transparent public processes, jurisdictions throughout Contra Costa develop fees which balance transportation needs and market conditions based on unique, local knowledge. Traffic impact fees are a critical component in the delivery of capital projects. By way of example, both the eBART extension to Antioch and the widening of State Route 4 through Eastern Contra Costa County would not have been possible without the fee program administered by the East Contra Costa Fee and Financing Authority.

Centralized influence over impact fees would compromise the County’s substantial investment in our strategically developed traffic impact fee programs. A number of these fee programs are embedded in our collaborative, multijurisdictional growth management program which has been in place since the 1980s.

In the event MTC proceeds with the “Reduce Impact Fees” strategy as proposed, we respectfully request that local jurisdictions be reimbursed for any lost revenue including those related to traffic impacts.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments on CASA’s important work. We look forward to collaborating on these policies in the near future. If you have any questions on this letter please feel free to contact me or my staff, Planning Director John Kopchik john.kopchik@dcd.cccounty.us, (925) 674-7819.

Sincerely,

Karen Mitchoff, Chair
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, District IV

C: Federal D. Glover, MTC Commissioner
Amy Worth, MTC Commissioner

Julie Pierce, ABAG Immediate Past President
Martin Engelmann, Deputy Director, Planning – CCTA