

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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Contra Costa County



Monica Nino
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 655-2075

February ##, 2023

Honorable Lena A. Gonzalez, Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation
1021 O. Street, Suite 7720,
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: *Accessible Transportation* and SB 1121: State and local transportation system: needs assessment.

Senator Gonzalez:

On behalf of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors I am writing to thank you for your legislation, Senate Bill 1121, which would require the preparation of a needs assessment to determine the cost to operate, maintain, and provide for the necessary future growth of the state and local transportation system for the next 10 years. Equally important is the bill's focus on the fiscal component of the assessment, ensuring revenues and costs are documented and any shortfalls addressed.

This bill comes at an especially critical time relative to transportation services for older Californians and those with disabilities. As described in the attached white paper, "*Accessible Transportation Problem/Solution Summary: Transportation for Older Californians and Those With Disabilities*", transportation services for this vulnerable population are woefully inadequate and have been for quite some time. As documented in the attached, the State has studied how to improve accessible transportation 6 times in 20 years with no recommendations ever implemented.

I am writing to request that the Senate Transportation Committee provide clear direction to the California Transportation Commission that the needs assessment include accessible transportation issues and to address why decades of studies have not resulted in any improvements.

We appreciate your leadership in improving our transportation system for all Californians. It is our hope that with the needs assessment established in SB 1121, the "*largest and most complex transportation system in the nation*" will result in equitable transportation resources for our older and disabled Californians.

Sincerely,

John M. Gioia
Chair
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Attachment: Accessible Transportation Problem/Solution Summary

Copy

- Honorable Members of the Contra Costa County State Legislative Delegation
- Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee (CalHHS)
c/o Amanda Lawrence, California Department of Aging