

January 25, 2020
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Ms Saltzman,

I am concerned about cars. Nearly a third of US greenhouse emissions are associated with transportation and most of that from cars and light trucks. This is also the fastest growing source with commute times increasing again as the wealth gap and housing shortage push people farther from work. Traffic is also a danger to cyclists, a health problem for those living near highways and making trips around the bay area long and frustrating. Today roads (apart from a few bridges) are provided for free but transit pricing makes driving cheaper than BART and socially corrosive fare cheating common even though most of the funding does not come from fares. You have argued for off peak reduced fares and then Mayor Newsom looked into fare-free transit which a number of cities around the world have made work. Such a move would both improve the local quality of life and reduce our carbon footprint.

Please assure me that you will push for fare-free BART.

I am very proud to be a Berkeley resident and a large part of that derives from our progressive leadership.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson