

February 18, 2020
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mayor Arreguin,

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 making driving cheaper and less regressive than public transit even though most transit funding does not come from fares. Fare-free transit is an approach a number of cities around the world have made work and as president of Bay Area Governments Association you could bring this approach here. Such a move could both improve the local quality of life and reduce our carbon footprint.

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

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

Sincerely,
Eric Babson