

## Attachment 4: Letters of Support

1. U.S. Members of Congress Eric Swalwell and Barbara Lee
2. California Assemblymember Mia Bonta
3. California State Senator Nancy Skinner
4. California Department of Transportation
5. City of Oakland Department of Transportation
6. City of San Leandro
7. San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District
8. Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
9. Bike East Bay
10. East Bay Economic Development Alliance
11. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
12. TransForm

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 31, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant  
Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We are writing to express support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project. The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete streets improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) line through the cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will address infrastructure barriers, reconnect communities and neighborhoods between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station, and improve people's lives. It will help meet local, state, and national goals and priorities of safety, economic strength, equity, climate and sustainability, and transformation.

According to Alameda CTC, the East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods and provides access to destinations including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. Alameda CTC reports that project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network.

The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in disadvantaged communities identified as regional equity priority communities that have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. According to Alameda CTC, the project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

We request that you give the Alameda CTC's RCN grant application full and fair consideration of Alameda CTC's application consistent with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Lee*

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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

*Eric Swalwell*

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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0018  
(916) 319-2018  
FAX (916) 319-2118

**E-MAIL**

Assemblymember.MBonta@assembly.ca.gov



**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
ELIHU M. HARRIS STATE BUILDING  
1515 CLAY STREET, SUITE 2204  
OAKLAND, CA 94612  
(510) 286-1670  
FAX (510) 286-1888

September 11, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project.

The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete streets improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) line through the cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will address infrastructure barriers, reconnect communities and neighborhoods between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station, and improve people's lives. It will help meet local, state, and national goals and priorities of safety, economic strength, equity, climate and sustainability, and transformation.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods and provides access to destinations including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in disadvantaged communities identified as regional equity priority communities that have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates.

This segment of the East Bay Greenway Multimodal project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

Therefore, I urge your favorable consideration of Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mia Bonta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MIA BONTA  
Assemblymember, 18th District  
mtb:mf

CAPITOL OFFICE  
1021 O STREET  
SUITE 8630  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4009  
FAX (916) 651-4909

DISTRICT OFFICE  
1515 CLAY STREET  
SUITE 2202  
OAKLAND, CA 94612  
TEL (510) 286-1333  
FAX (510) 286-3885

SENATOR.SKINNER@SENATE.CA.GOV

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
NANCY SKINNER  
NINTH SENATE DISTRICT



CHAIR  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
CHAIR  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE  
WOMEN'S CAUCUS  
COMMITTEES  
ENERGY, UTILITIES AND  
COMMUNICATIONS  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE  
HOUSING  
PUBLIC SAFETY

Sept. 11, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in support of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project.

Located within my Senate district, the project will include a regional trail bikeway facility and complete streets improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) line through the cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will address infrastructure barriers, reconnect communities and neighborhoods between the Lake Merritt and the Bay Fair BART stations, and improve people's lives. It will help meet local, state, and national goals and priorities of safety, economic strength, equity, climate and sustainability, and transformation.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods and provides access to destinations including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high-injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in disadvantaged communities identified as regional equity priority communities that have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates.

This segment of the East Bay Greenway Multimodal project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds, which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project. Therefore, I urge your favorable consideration of Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nancy Skinner'.

Nancy Skinner  
California state Senator, District 9

## California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49 | SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001  
(916) 654-6130 | FAX (916) 653-5776 TTY 711  
[www.dot.ca.gov](http://www.dot.ca.gov)



September 28, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Program Discretionary Grant Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2023 for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal (Phase 1): Lake Merritt to Bayfair Project (Project).

Alameda CTC seeks RCN funding for the Construction Phase of the Project. The Project, located along the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District corridor in the cities of Oakland and San Leandro, California, is planned to improve multimodal access to many key activity centers in regionally identified disadvantaged communities and provide an all ages and abilities, inter-jurisdictional active transportation route, along State Route 185.

The Project is planned to fulfill RCN goals of safety impact, equity, engagement and collaboration, effective practices and strategies, and sustainability and economic competitiveness and will be consistent with Caltrans' priorities of delivering transportation projects that promote multi-modalism and reduce vehicle-miles traveled, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and criteria air pollutants, and increase equity and access to historically disadvantaged and neglected communities.

Caltrans would like to thank USDOT for its consideration of this Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Tavares'.

TONY TAVARES  
Director



City of  
Oakland

Dalziel Building · 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza  
Suite 4344 · Oakland, CA 94612-2033  
Department of Transportation (OakDOT)

August 30, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant  
Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the City of Oakland Department of Transportation (OakDOT), I am writing to express support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project. The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete street improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) line through the Cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will provide significant benefits to the communities that it traverses between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station while helping to meet local, state, and national goals to improve transportation safety, economic competitiveness, climate resilience, and community connectivity.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods to destinations of need including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in communities that are identified as regional equity priority communities and have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. The project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

OakDOT requests that the USDOT approve Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

Megan Wier  
Assistant Director  
City of Oakland, Department of Transportation (OakDOT)


# FED RCN 2023 East Bay Greenway Letter of Support - City of Oakland

Final Audit Report

2023-09-01

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City of  
Oakland

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**City of San Leandro**  
Civic Center, 835 E. 14th Street  
San Leandro, California 94577  
[www.sanleandro.org](http://www.sanleandro.org)



August 31, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)  
Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of City of San Leandro, I am writing to express support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission’s (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project. The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete street improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) line through the Cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will provide significant benefits to the communities that it traverses between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station while helping to meet local, state, and national goals to improve transportation safety, economic competitiveness, climate resilience, and community connectivity.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway “spine” that connects neighborhoods to destinations of need including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in communities that are identified as regional equity priority communities and have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. The project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

Juan González III, Mayor

City Council:

Victor Aguilar, Jr.

Bryan Azevedo

Peter Ballew

Xouhoa Bowen

Celina Reyes

Fred Simon



Secretary Buttigieg  
Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)  
Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project  
August 31, 2023  
Page 2

City of San Leandro requests that the USDOT approve Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
C063C023AF624E3...

Fran Robustelli  
City Manager  
City of San Leandro  
Phone: (510) 577-3319  
[frobustelli@sanleandro.org](mailto:frobustelli@sanleandro.org)



**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT**

2150 Webster Street, P.O. Box 12688  
Oakland, CA 94604-2688  
(510) 464-6000

2023

August 30, 2023

Janice Li  
PRESIDENT

Mark Foley  
VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Powers  
GENERAL MANAGER

DIRECTORS

Debora Allen  
1ST DISTRICT

Mark Foley  
2ND DISTRICT

Rebecca Saltzman  
3RD DISTRICT

Robert Raburn, Ph.D.  
4TH DISTRICT

John McPartland  
5TH DISTRICT

Elizabeth Ames  
6TH DISTRICT

Lateefah Simon  
7TH DISTRICT

Janice Li  
8TH DISTRICT

Bevan Duffy  
9TH DISTRICT

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Alameda CTC East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), I am writing to support the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (Alameda CTC) Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) grant application requesting \$30 million for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project.

The project includes a regional bikeway along streets parallel and connecting to five BART stations through the cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. It will provide significant benefits to community members traversing between the Lake Merritt and Bay Fair BART Stations. Additionally, it will help meet local, state, and federal goals aimed at improving transportation safety, climate resilience, and community connectivity.

The East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project is designed to provide an all-ages and abilities bikeway "spine" connecting neighborhoods to transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will protect vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. Also, it will provide healthy and affordable mobility options to communities that have low levels of access to automobiles and high rates of asthma.

The requested \$30 million in RCN funds will help Alameda CTC leverage another \$58 million of secured federal and state funds.

As a regional partner with Alameda CTC, BART strongly supports this transformative project and respectfully requests your approval of their RCN grant application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Jones  
Deputy General Manager

cc: Alameda CTC Commissioners  
Alameda CTC, Executive Director



Service Development Department  
1600 Franklin Street, Oakland CA 94612

August 30, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of AC Transit, I am writing to express support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project. The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete street improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) line through the Cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will provide significant benefits to the communities that it traverses between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station while helping to meet local, state, and national goals to improve transportation safety, economic competitiveness, climate resilience, and community connectivity.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods to destinations of need including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network, including those accessing AC Transit bus stops. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in communities that are identified as regional equity priority communities and have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. The project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

AC Transit requests that the USDOT approve Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert del Rosario".

Robert del Rosario  
Director of Service Development & Planning



[BikeEastBay.org](http://BikeEastBay.org)

September 8, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of Bike East Bay, I am writing to express support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project. The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete street improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) line through the Cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will provide significant benefits to the communities that it traverses between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station while helping to meet local, state, and national goals to improve transportation safety, economic competitiveness, climate resilience, and community connectivity.

Bike East Bay is a 501c3 non-profit bicycle advocacy organization that has been promoting healthy, sustainable communities throughout Contra Costa and Alameda Counties since 1972. We have been actively involved in the development of the East Bay Greenway since its inception in 2008, and are excited to see this deeply transformational project move closer to implementation.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods to destinations of need including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in communities that are identified as regional equity priority communities and have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. The project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

Bike East Bay requests that the USDOT approve Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

Robert Prinz  
Advocacy Director  
Bike East Bay



**East Bay Economic Development Alliance**  
1221 Oak Street, Suite 555 Oakland, CA 94612 | (510) 272-6746

September 1, 2023

Hon. Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the East Bay Economic Development Alliance (East Bay EDA), I am writing to express our organization's strong support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project.

This project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete streets improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) line through the cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will address infrastructure barriers, reconnect communities and neighborhoods between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station, and improve people's lives. It will help meet local, state, and national goals and priorities of safety, economic strength, equity, climate and sustainability, and transformation.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods and provides access to destinations including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in disadvantaged communities identified as regional equity priority communities that have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. The project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

East Bay EDA strongly urges the U.S. DOT to approve Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 272-3874 or [stephen@eastbayeda.org](mailto:stephen@eastbayeda.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'S. Baiter'.

Stephen Baiter  
Executive Director



September 8, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Application for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, I wish to convey our enthusiastic support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (Alameda CTC) RCN application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal Lake Merritt to Bayfair project. The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete street improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) line through the Cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will provide significant benefits to the communities it traverses between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station area while helping to meet local, state, and national goals to improve transportation safety.

The East Bay Greenway is part of the 2,600-mile Bay Area regional trail network developed by the Bay Area Trails Collaborative, a coalition of over 40 organizations working together to complete this connected trail network. Notably, the BATC partners have designated the East Bay Greenway as one of the top 13 Priority Projects within the entire network, due to the significant benefits it will provide.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods to destinations of need including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will provide significant safety benefits for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in communities that are identified as regional equity priority communities and have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. The project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

Rails to Trails Conservancy requests that the USDOT approve Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

*Laura Cohen*

Western Region Director  
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy



August 31, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Application  
for East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of TransForm, I am writing to express support for the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (Alameda CTC) RCN grant application for the East Bay Greenway Multimodal: Lake Merritt to Bayfair project. The project will construct a regional trail bikeway facility and complete street improvements along streets parallel and connecting to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) line through the Cities of Oakland and San Leandro, spanning 10.6 miles. The project will provide significant benefits to the communities that it traverses between the Lake Merritt BART station and the Bay Fair BART station while helping to meet local, state, and national goals to improve transportation safety, economic competitiveness, climate resilience, and community connectivity.

TransForm promotes walkable communities with excellent transportation choices to connect people of all incomes to opportunity, make California affordable, and help solve our climate crisis. With diverse partners we engage communities in planning, run innovative programs, and win policy change at the local, regional, and state levels. We often facilitate community engagement with East Oakland residents and we know firsthand that biking along San Leandro Street is simply dangerous. This project is critical to promote equitable and environmentally sustainable travel options for some of the Bay Area's most marginalized residents.

The East Bay Greenway will provide an all ages and abilities bikeway "spine" that connects neighborhoods to destinations of need including transit, commercial districts, affordable housing, community colleges, regional open spaces, schools, social services, parks, hospitals, and job centers. The project will improve safety for vulnerable bicyclists and pedestrians along streets that have been identified as part of the countywide high injury network. The project will also provide healthy and affordable mobility options in communities that are identified as regional equity priority communities and have low levels of access to automobiles and high asthma rates. The project has already obtained \$58 million in federal and state funds. Alameda CTC is requesting \$30 million in RCN funds which will be matched with local, self-help transportation funds to fully fund the project.

TransForm requests that the USDOT approve Alameda CTC's RCN grant application request.

Sincerely,

Mario Valadez  
Alameda County SR2S Site Coordinator  
TransForm