

Resolution to Provide Fiscal Gap Funding for Public Transit

WHEREAS, transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in California, and despite having adopted aggressive goals to reduce vehicle miles traveled as an essential component of reducing transportation emissions, the state has been unsuccessful in encouraging mode shift to transit due to already insufficient service levels, and

WHEREAS, public transportation ridership is still below pre-pandemic levels, and is not expected to fully recover until the end of the decade or later, and nearly all agencies face a budget shortfall (the fiscal cliff) in 2024 or not long thereafter when the one-time federal relief funds received in 2020 run out, and

WHEREAS, without additional funding, transit agencies will need to make very large service cuts, and enter a downward spiral of decreasing ridership, budget shortfalls, and layoffs that could become impossible to recover from,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party supports additional state and federal funding needed to maintain current transit service and restore service until ridership fully recovers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that state and local leaders in each metropolitan area work together to identify regional funding options for funding transit service.

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