Resolution urging continued state and federal funding and regulatory relief for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) to remain operational in light of operational and budget declines due to COVID-19; and affirming the role that BART and MTA play in transporting people to essential activities.

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) provides rail transportation to the greater Bay Area region including the counties of San Francisco, Contra Costa, Alameda, and San Mateo; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) connects San Francisco through a comprehensive transportation system and has oversight over the Municipal Railway (MUNI) public transit, as well as bicycling, paratransit, parking, traffic, walking, and taxis; and

WHEREAS, Public transit is critical to the region’s economy and environment, and especially during the Coronavirus pandemic, is critical to transporting people performing Essential Activities or traveling to and from work to operate Essential Businesses or maintain Essential Governmental Functions; and

WHEREAS, BART and MTA strive to maintain adequate service levels during this critical “Shelter In Place” time, especially to accommodate for our first responders, healthcare professionals, service providers, and grocery store clerks who rely on transit to get to work; and

WHEREAS, BART and MTA ridership levels have significantly declined since March 11, 2020 following the declaration of a pandemic by the World Health Organization,
and have continued to see declines since the San Francisco Health Officer ordered San
Franciscans to “Shelter in Place” on March 16, 2020, followed by the Governor issuing
statewide shelter in place order on March 19, 2020 until further notice; and

WHEREAS, BART has suffered from a 90% ridership decline as a result of the
COVID-19 and the shelter in place order; and

WHEREAS, BART’s operating budget is funded in large part (60%) by fare dollars, and
the agency estimates that a sustained ridership loss of 90% and a 50% reduction of economic
activity impacting other revenue sources could reduce BART’s monthly revenues by $57M;
and

WHEREAS, According to BART, a complete 100% ridership loss due to service
shutdown and a 75% reduction of economic activity impacting other sources could reduce
BART monthly revenues by $71M; and

WHEREAS, These events have led the BART Board to decide to temporarily reduce
service hours, including ending service at 9 pm instead of midnight, based on ridership data
as a cost reduction measure; and

WHEREAS, Essential workers that rely on BART for late night trips have been severely
impacted by the reduction in BART’s night service and would benefit from a subsidized taxi
program supporting those important workers; and

WHEREAS, MTA has suffered from a 90% decrease in Muni ridership as a result of the
COVID-19 and the shelter in place order; and

WHEREAS, MTA anticipates the combination of losses from fare revenue, parking
revenue, and declining City sales tax revenue will be approximately $180 - $260 million
through the end of Fiscal Year 2020s; and
WHEREAS, These events have led the MTA to decide to reduce operations to a core network service of their 17 most used lines, focused on attempting to serve San Francisco’s medical facilities and on equity; and

WHEREAS, MTA and BART need additional long-term funding to cover expected continued transit operating revenue losses that are critical to providing transportation service during and after this crisis; and

WHEREAS, As of March 22, 2020, neither the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention nor the State of California had issued guidance on whether a local special district, such as BART, could directly apply for funding provided by The Federal Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act; and

WHEREAS, BART has requested a direct allocation of $57M from Governor Newsom to offset their loss in revenue during the statewide Shelter in Place Order; requested an immediate operating subsidy from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC); and on Monday, March 23, 2020, BART General Manager Bob Powers and SFMTA Director Jeffrey Tumlin joined other transit leaders across the nation in sending a letter to Senate and House leadership requesting that any federal relief package include at least $25 billion of dedicated support for public transportation agencies; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 748, the CARES Act, dedicated $25 billion to provide emergency financial relief to public transit agencies nationwide, of which The Bay Area will receive $1.3 billion in funding that will be disbursed to local transit operators by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and address immediate, emergency needs; and

WHEREAS, In the interest of keeping our disaster service workers in motion, the MTA and BART need continued long-term funding focused on equity for transit-dependent riders, in

Supervisors Haney; Preston, Walton, Mandelman
addition to emergency relief funding for the local and regional transit system to continue
operations at appropriate levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges
State and Federal leaders to identify and authorize additional funding for the San Francisco
Bay Area Rapid Transit District and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to
continue providing essential public transit service and restore transit service for those
essential workers who must access jobs that are providing public safety, health and social
services for the people of San Francisco and the Bay Region; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports additional regulatory
flexibility within State and Federal grant programs; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit a copy of this
resolution to Governor Newsom, the California Office of Emergency Services, the California
State Transportation Agency, State Senator Scott Wiener, State Assemblymembers Phil Ting
and David Chiu; President Donald Trump, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senator Dianne Feinstein,
Senator Kamala Harris, and Representative Jackie Speier.
Resolution urging continued state and federal funding and regulatory relief for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) to remain operational in light of operational and budget declines due to COVID-19; and affirming the role that BART and MTA play in transporting people to essential activities.

March 31, 2020 Board of Supervisors - CONTINUED
   Ayes: 10 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee
   Absent: 1 - Peskin

April 14, 2020 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING NEW TITLE
   Ayes: 11 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

April 14, 2020 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED
   Ayes: 11 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 4/14/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed
Mayor

4/24/2020

Date Approved
I hereby certify that the foregoing, Resolution No.165-20, not being signed by the Mayor within the
time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2,
became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the
Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

_______________________________             __________________________

Angela Calvillo            Date

4/27/2020

Clerk of the Board