



Circulate San Diego

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August 7, 2020

Senator Wiener
State Capitol
Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bill 288

Dear Senator Wiener,

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to promote excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 288.

Circulate San Diego supports this legislation because it would streamline the implementation of sustainable transit projects during a time of economic uncertainty. SB 288 provides California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions for transportation options known to be beneficial to the environment including transit, bicycle, and pedestrian focused transit projects. This Bill would allow the state to jumpstart sustainable transit projects for the benefit of residents while providing jobs and economic opportunities for California cities.

While we support this Bill as is, we do not think the amendment to sunset the CEQA exceptions in 2023 is necessary. The need for sustainable transportation options does not end when the state recovers from the current COVID-19 crisis. The streamlining of sustainable transit options should continue for transportation projects known to be environmentally beneficial beyond 2023.

SB 288 would create more sustainable transportation options and connect communities while helping local economies and lowering greenhouse gas emissions in our communities, a crucial step in fostering vibrant and healthy neighborhoods throughout the state.

We look forward to working with you on SB 288. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be a resource to you or your staff.

Sincerely,

Maya Rosas
Director of Policy