



SAN  
FRANCISCO  
**CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

February 17, 2017

Cheryl Brinkman  
Chair  
Board of Directors  
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency  
1 South Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94103

**Re: Commuter Shuttle Program and Policy**

Dear Chair Brinkman,

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 2,500 local businesses with over 200,000 employees in San Francisco and across the Bay Area, would like to commend the SFMTA Board and staff for their dedicated work to develop the proposed Commuter Shuttle Program.

According to the Commuter Shuttles Mid-Term Status Report, current regulations under the Commuter Shuttles Program have been very successful. The shuttle fleet is cleaner, with 79 percent of vehicles now meeting 2012 or better emissions standards, up from 59 percent during the pilot program. Shuttles operations are also more efficient, with ridership up 15 percent despite stop-events remaining flat. Shuttles' use of MUNI zones has been reduced from 72 to 57 percent, and the use of non-arterial streets has plunged from 26 percent to 9 percent. In total, SFMTA staff have determined that the shuttle system eliminates 2 million single passenger car trips annually, reducing vehicle miles travelled by 52 million miles per year. At a time when Caltrain and highways 101 and 280 are operating beyond capacity, the shuttle system provides critical congestion and air quality relief for the entire region.

In our view, the proposed ongoing Commuter Shuttle Program thoughtfully incorporates lessons learned over the past 2.5 years to ensure the continued mobility of San Franciscans within and outside San Francisco to their places of employment and study. We respectfully urge you to make the Commuter Shuttles Program permanent.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus  
Senior Vice President of Public Policy