



August 23, 2016

Mr. Ed Reiskin, Director of Transportation
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
1 South Van Ness Avenue, 7th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103

RE: Downtown Traffic Plan

Dear Mr. Reiskin:

As we near the end of some major and very traffic disruptive downtown projects, the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce believes it is time to develop a comprehensive plan for the movement of people and goods throughout the greater downtown area.

It seems that many transportation projects are undertaken in a vacuum, whether it is the addition of a bike lane on Golden Gate Ave., discouraging of private vehicles on Market Street, closure of Powell to most vehicles, suggested closure of Stockton St. to all but Muni vehicles. While our robust economy may partially be the cause, many businesses believe that the growing amount of congestion is, in large part, the result of these actions.

It would seem that the movement of all vehicles, especially on streets shared with MUNI, would be a priority for the MTA. Express bus streets like Bush and Pine, cross town routes like 3rd and Kearney or Stockton and 4th must receive priority for smart signals, turn arrows, traffic control officers at peak times, whatever you can do to move traffic. For example, will traffic on Post and Montgomery Streets, which have been impacted by the Stockton subway project closure, ever recover if the MTA decides to permanently close Stockton to all but Muni vehicles?

We urge your department to convene all the downtown stakeholders to help us better understand the changes to street use the MTA is currently contemplating and to seek consensus on the appropriate sharing of the downtown street grid. The Chamber would be happy to work with your staff to set up a series of such meetings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Lazarus', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President, Public Policy

cc: Supervisor Peskin, Karin Flood, Rose Pak, Kevin Carroll, Jon Ballesteros, Carolyn Diamond, Jon Handlery, Charles Miller, Gwyneth Borden, Ken Cleaveland, Chris Wright, Tom Hart