September 5, 2025

Land Use and Transportation Committee City Hall, Room 250 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: San Francisco Street Safety Act (File #250851)

To the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

San Francisco Transit Riders writes to urge you to approve the San Francisco Street Safety Act. As a nonprofit organization fighting for better, more accessible public transportation in San Francisco, street safety is critical to our mission.

Street safety incidents like crashes and road disputes create delays on our streets, which lead to slower, less reliable Muni service. Crashes along Muni routes can force delays as lines are rerouted – or in the case of rail service – cancelled entirely. Preventing such incidents would speed up service for thousands of Muni riders and everyone else on the road.

Improving street safety will also save the City and the SFMTA money, during a time when every penny counts to preserve Muni service in the face of a budget deficit. Traffic-related injuries and deaths cost the City \$12.2 million every year, and San Franciscans \$500 million per year. That's money that could be better-spent providing residents with the services that they need.

Most importantly, though, improving safety on our streets will save lives.

Last year, we were heartbroken when an entire family was killed by a speeding driver while waiting for Muni near West Portal Station – a tragedy that should not have happened, and could not have happened with smarter, safer street designs around the city's largest pedestrian and transit spaces.

But the crash at West Portal was not an isolated incident, and car crashes near transit stops and with transit vehicles remain depressingly common. In 2023, a 4-year-old girl was killed by a driver at 4th and King station. And last month, an 83-year-old was killed walking on Ocean Avenue near two Muni stops. These are but a handful of examples of the preventable tragedies that this act seeks to address.

We applaud the Street Safety Act's systemic approach – encouraging San Francisco's agencies to work collaboratively to eliminate the causes of crashes before they occur. San Francisco Transit Riders asks that you approve this important resolution and continue the work of implementing the actions it recommends for our city's agencies.

Sincerely,

Dylan Fabris

Community & Policy Manager

San Francisco Transit Riders