



City of Emeryville
CALIFORNIA

July 11, 2018
James E. Davis, Acting Director
California Department of Transportation
District 4
111 Grand Ave
Oakland, CA 94612

I-80 WB from Powell Street WB - Transit only left turn lane

Dear Mr. Davis,

As directed by the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) Board of Directors and the Emeryville City Council, we are requesting Caltrans' support for the study and implementation of a **transit only left turn lane from Powell Street westbound onto Interstate 80 westbound (I-80 WB)** for AC Transit Transbay bus service through Emeryville.

The City of Emeryville and AC Transit are jointly focused on developing transit improvements to reduce congestion across the San Francisco Bay Bridge and the resulting emissions. Emeryville is a burgeoning hub of transit demand and need; however, the existing routing of buses onto the freeway limits the potential growth and utility of Transbay bus service in Emeryville.

To better describe our proposal, we will refer to the I-80 WB on-ramp along Powell Street eastbound as I-80 WB/Powell. Similarly, the I-80 WB on-ramp along W. Frontage Road and Powell Street westbound will be referred to as I-80 WB/Frontage. Please see the attached diagram of the existing and proposed bus access routes to I-80 westbound.

In the existing conditions, the bus route loops from Powell Street onto W. Frontage Road into the metering light queue to access I-80 WB/Frontage. Instead of the circuitous route in mixed traffic, our proposal aims to create a transit-only left-turn lane from westbound Powell Street to the I-80 WB/Powell on-ramp, currently only accessible by eastbound traffic. Ultimately, the implementation would require changing the geometry of the intersection and redesigning the hardscape along the on-ramp to allow for the left turn movement.

The reconfiguration of the intersection to include transit-only access onto I-80 WB/Powell would improve travel times for AC Transit Lines C, F, and J, collectively average about 3,600 riders per day. The estimated time savings per year is significant, assuming the proposal would save five minutes per westbound bus trip, this could translate to 78,300 hours per year, or 3,263 days per year. This would mean each Transbay rider could save as much as a day per year, a significant savings.

The City of Emeryville and AC Transit will continue to pursue our combined efforts to mitigate congestion, improve local air quality, and provide reliable bus service to riders. Before proceeding with a formal study, the City of Emeryville and AC Transit would like to invite Caltrans to comment on their interest in allowing the study and implementation of the proposed reconfiguration.



We thank you for your consideration. AC Transit and the City of Emeryville look forward to your comments on our proposal and to continue our collaborative efforts towards better transportation in the East Bay Area.

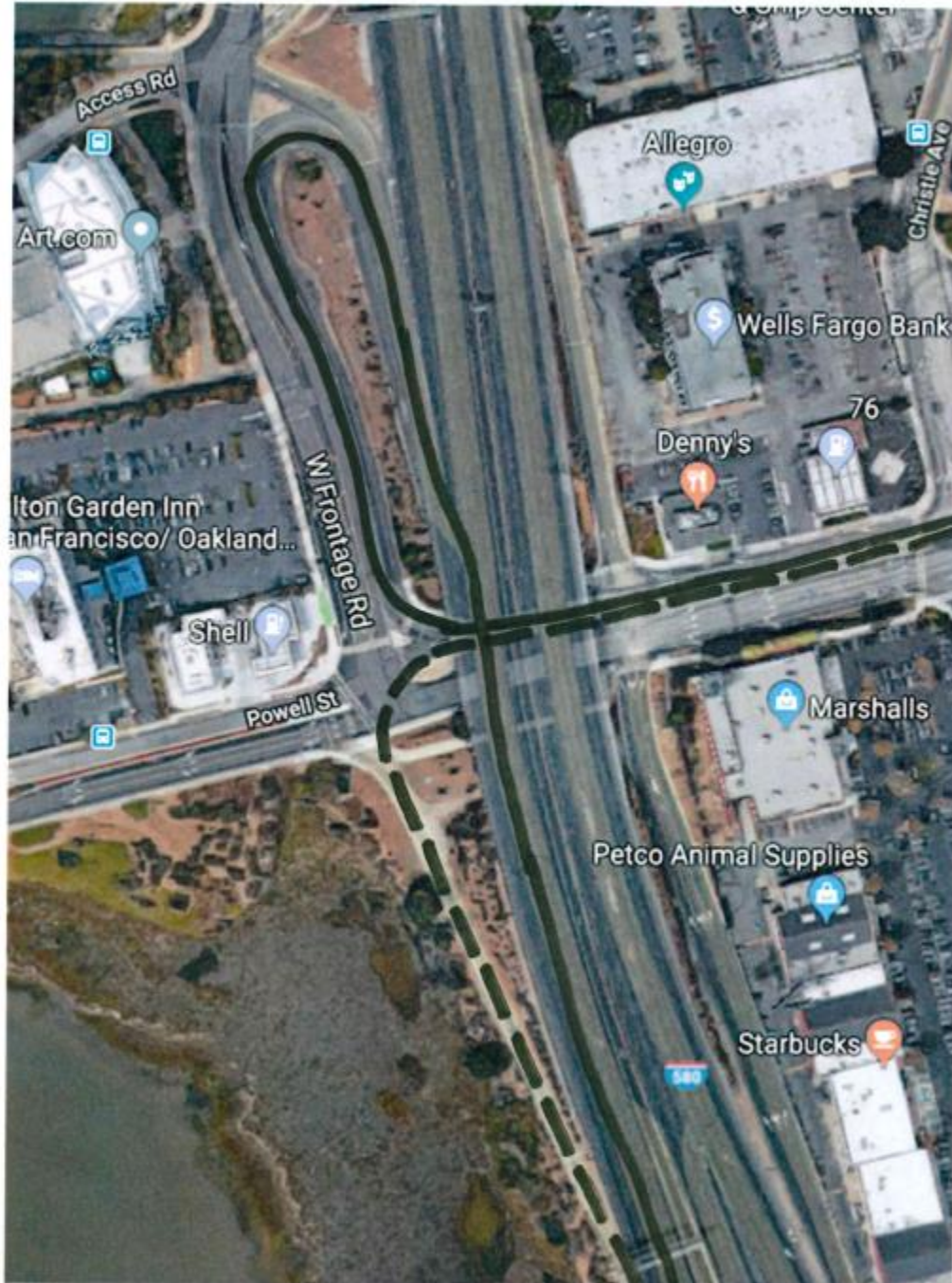
Yours truly,



Michael A. Hursh
General Manager
AC Transit
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Oakland, CA 94612

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Interim City Manager
City of Emeryville
1333 Park Avenue
Emeryville, CA 94608

Attachment: Diagram of existing and proposed I-80 westbound bus access routes at Powell Street, Emeryville

Current and Proposed Route onto I-80WB



 Current Route
 Proposed Route