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**From:**  
**To:** Michael Eshleman; John Urgo  
**CC:** Robert Del Rosario; Linda Morris  
**Sent:** 7/3/2019 10:50:34 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Amtrak San Joaquins Request for Letter of Support for SB 742

Great. Thanks all!

Mike – forgot to get an org chart from you. If you have that, please feel free to send over.

Finally, on a different note, I'm sharing an electronic version of the A's Howard Terminal presentation I gave yesterday to our City Council Community & Economic Development Committee. I'll be modifying this for a presentation to full City Council on 7/16.

**From:** Michael Eshleman <meshleman@actransit.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 3, 2019 7:42 AM  
**To:** Ferrara, Nicole <NFerrara@oaklandca.gov>; John Urgo <jurgo@actransit.org>  
**Cc:** Robert Del Rosario <RDelRosa@actransit.org>; Linda Morris <lmorris@actransit.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Amtrak San Joaquins Request for Letter of Support for SB 742

I'm looping in Rob and Linda because we've actually talked with Capital Corridor folks about this with regard to a service we're planning for Emeryville Amtrak. My understanding is we would support this measure but I'll defer to Rob and Linda as they are closer to the issue. I'll bring you an org chart from our budget so you have a better idea. In general for legislative questions, Claudia Burgos and Rob are good contact people with whom to start.

See you today at 9:30!

Michael Eshleman

**From:** Ferrara, Nicole <NFerrara@oaklandca.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 03, 2019 7:23 AM  
**To:** Michael Eshleman <meshleman@actransit.org>; John Urgo <jurgo@actransit.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Amtrak San Joaquins Request for Letter of Support for SB 742

Hi Mike and John- I've been hearing about this policy idea but haven't had a chance to check in with AC about whether you're supporting, opposed or neutral. Would either of you know? And generally, who's the best person to connect with on your end? Maybe you can bring an org chart today? :)

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**From:** Mukta Kelkar [<mailto:m.kelkar@circlepoint.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 2, 2019 4:12 PM  
**To:** Blanchard, Lauren <[LBlanchard@oaklandca.gov](mailto:LBlanchard@oaklandca.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Amtrak San Joaquins Request for Letter of Support for SB 742

Dear Lauren,

Please see the attached draft letter of support for abill (SB 742) introduced by Senator Allen. Assemblymember Gray has agreed to co-author this bill and we expect others in the Legislature to sign on soon. Senator Allen would greatly appreciate a letter of support from the City of Oakland for SB 742.

The purpose of SB 742 bill is to remove portions of Section 14035.55 of the CA Government Code which require state supported Amtrak Thruway bus passengers to have a rail trip as part of their ticket.

Amending Section 14035.55 provisions would enable the Joint Power Authorities (San Joaquin, Capitol Corridor, and LOSSAN) to pick up and drop off passengers on their Amtrak intercity thruway bus routes without requiring them to have a train ticket as part of their trip. Amending Section 14035.55 provisions would increase revenues for the state at virtually no additional cost, would provide improved access to priority and underserved communities, and would reduce the amount of greenhouse gases and air pollution emissions by diverting trips that would have previously been taken by an automobile. This change will also provide better utilization of current infrastructure and reduce congestion on some of the nation's most congested freeways.

California's Amtrak Thruway Bus Network is one of the largest intercity bus networks in the United States connecting over 250 communities throughout California and major cities in Nevada. This network is underutilized because of the restriction on who can use this network, being limited to only those who ride a train on a segment of their travel. Amending Section 14035.55 could have a very positive effect on California's underserved priority and rural communities by providing a convenient and inexpensive alternative to the rising costs of automobile and airline travel. Connecting these communities to each other and to California's large economic centers would increase safe and affordable transportation options between these communities.

Please see the sample letter of support attached. On April 23, SB 742 passed through the Senate Transportation Committee with a **12-0** vote. Next up will be Senate Appropriations and then the Senate Floor in the next few weeks. It would be great to receive a letter of support as soon as possible. A pdf of the letter of support can be e-mailed directly to Zak Castillo-Krings ([Zak.Castillo-Krings@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Zak.Castillo-Krings@sen.ca.gov)). Please also e-mail a pdf copy of the signed letter of support on your letterhead to Dan Leavitt ([dan@acerail.com](mailto:dan@acerail.com)). If you have any questions please contact Dan Leavitt by e-mail or phone (209-944-6266).

Sincerely,

Mukta

**Mukta Kelkar**, Project Coordinator

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