

From: [James Hongyi Zeng](#)
To: [MTC-ABAG Info](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Capitol Corridor - South Bay Connect
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 10:24:12 PM

External Email

Hi MTC,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the [South Bay Connect](#) project proposed by CCJPA. I would like to bring your attention to the current online petition regarding this project (**there are 1100+ signatures and counting**)

<https://www.change.org/p/say-no-to-rerouting-capitol-corridor-to-coast>

I am concerned that this plan directly contradicts the Union City's plan of expanding the current Union City BART intermodal station, since the railway will bypass the Oakland/Niles subdivision.

I am also concerned that the project will add more horn noise to the quiet Hayward/Union City/Fremont/Newark residential areas, causing more traffic in the commute hour (especially in the already congested Ardenwood P&R and SR-84 intersection). There are many more reasons on why we are concerned in the petition.

Even for the Capitol Corridor as a whole, it's not clear how much additional ridership will the project bring - the plan seems only suggesting very marginal improvement with an "up to 13 minutes" time saving. I don't think it's a smart way to spend **\$264 million**, especially during COVID-19 where many people were struggling (likely for years to come).

A much more efficient way to spend these money is to add feeder buses to the current Union City BART stations in commute hours, which will encourage more people to use BART and take more cars off the road (=less greenhouse gas). I believe it may not be a good idea to continue the EIR (costing millions of \$) given strong opposition from the community.

I believe given the current COVID situation, MTC should take a second look into this project. We should not waste our funding like this. Thanks!

Thanks,
James