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To: [MTC-ABAG Info](#)
Cc: Senator.Wiener@senate.ca.gov
Subject: Tolling on all lanes: Is this for real?
Date: Thursday, August 20, 2020 1:01:05 PM

External Email

<https://www.sfgate.com/driving/article/Tolls-coming-to-many-if-not-most-Bay-Area-freeways-15492804.php>

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission stated "eventual transition to congestion pricing on all freeway lanes in corridors with robust transit options."
The letter also outlines a plan to "lower the speed limit to 55 mph on freeways to improve safety."

I hope this is an example of media sensationalism, but while we are on the topic,

- Transit is horrible

Bart is dangerous, gross, and slow. It was designed for nowhere near this many people. There are numerous agencies, with no real way to get around. San Jose to Petaluma? Santa Cruz to San Francisco? Night Time?!?!? Forget it! The modes make absolutely no sense, and are obviously influenced by socio economics and blatant racism!
How is there no bart service in the peninsula? There really should be a line that circles the bay. Commuter rail makes no sense there. No train from Marin to SF? Commuter rail and ferries have hours between trips. Add in connections to other services, and your commute is hopeless. In practice, our transit system breaks down every day during commuting times for even the simplest intra-city trips.

- It is already too expensive to get around for residents of urban areas

These policies are designed with modifying commuter behaviour in mind. For me to leave my house for the weekend and come home costs damn near \$20 in tolls. Yeah, lets add congestion charges on the neighborhood, city, county, and region levels. Then put another dangerous and invasive tollbooth everywhere. Why should anyone be able to go grocery shopping without paying \$100 in fees?

- The express lanes are horrific

HOV is a good enough concept, many times there are delays even there. Why are we spending a fortune on weird technology to let the wealthy cut in line? It looks shady. I tried to get the toll tag that lets you access the express lane as an HOV lane, and it's completely insane. Not only is it nigh impossible just for a resident to get the tag in the first place, but if you are not a local, there is no way you will ever get that tag. The clean air version is even more Kafkaesque. Then there is a weird switch in your car, that when it is forgotten about, generates violation fines. I hate it.

So in essence, we have stolen the HOV lane and delivered it to the wealthy...

- Did I say transit was horrible? Transit is horrible.

Yes, I voted for that toll increase. There is no second BART tunnel, no extended hours, no fewer cops shooting at passengers, no fewer muggings and shakedowns, no cleaner cars, and no reliable service. I want my money back.

55 mph speed limit. Sounds familiar. <https://imgtfy.com/?q=failed+55+mph+speed+limit>

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