July 20, 2021

MTC Public Information
Attn: Draft EIR Comments
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA, 94105

RE: The Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) (SCH# 2020090519) for Plan Bay Area 2050

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) regarding the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s (MTC) Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for Plan Bay Area 2050. The Draft EIR for Plan Bay Area 2050 programmatically assesses and discloses the potential environmental impacts of implementing the Draft Plan Bay Area 2050, including its housing and economic strategies to accommodate forecasted regional growth, its transportation strategies to invest expected forecasted transportation revenues and its environmental strategies to protect the region from expected sea level rise inundation.

WETA has worked collaboratively with MTC over the past few years with the goal of improving and expanding water transit in the San Francisco Bay Area. This collaboration is evident in the Draft Plan’s goal of “invest[ing] in new ferry service and in increases in frequency to existing service to complement investments in regional transit. Such investments include new ferry service to Berkeley, Redwood City, Treasure Island and Mission Bay, alongside frequency boosts across the Golden Gate and WETA systems.” The inclusion of ferry service enhancement and expansion projects highlights the region’s commitment to water transit and the important role WETA will play in the future of Bay Area transportation.

One clarification is needed; on page 2-21 of the Draft EIR, the Mission Bay Ferry Expansion project is titled as, “San Francisco — Alameda — Richmond — Vallejo”. To avoid confusion and stay consistent with the DRAFT Plan Bay Area 2050 language, this project should be retitled “San Francisco Mission Bay — Alameda — Richmond — Vallejo” in the DRAFT EIR.

WETA looks forward to continuing to work with MTC and the regions stakeholders to plan, construct, and deliver the vital projects included in the DRAFT EIR for Plan Bay Area 2050.

Sincerely,

Kevin Connolly
Manager, Planning & Development