

April 24, 2019

The Honorable Kevin Mullin  
California State Assembly, District 22  
California State Capitol, Room 3160  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 659 (Mullin). Transportation. Emerging Transportation Technologies. California Smart City Challenge Grant Program.**  
**Notice of Support**

Dear Assembly Member Mullin,

The City of Fremont supports your AB 659, which would establish the California Smart City Challenge Grant Program to compete for grant funding for emerging transportation technologies. The program would encourage cities to incorporate advanced data and intelligent transportation system technologies to accomplish certain goals, such as:

- Reducing congestion;
- Keeping travelers safe;
- Meeting environmental and climate change goals;
- Enhancing mobility;
- Connecting underserved communities;
- Supporting economic vitality;
- Attracting private investment; and
- Spurring innovation.

The City of Fremont is at the crossroads between where the jobs are and where the employees are living. Many new jobs have been created on the Peninsula and in the South Bay at companies like Facebook, Apple, and Google. As workers increasingly commute to their Silicon Valley jobs from homes in the East Bay, Tri-Valley and the Central Valley, the imbalance between jobs and housing induces commute trips through Fremont and sends traffic crawling along the three highway corridors of Interstate 880, Interstate 680, and State Route 84. Besides the regional traffic congestion challenge, Fremont also needs to address local traffic congestion issues to serve the internal travel demands of Fremont's growing population of 230,000 residents. This includes access to all areas of the city, for getting to work, schools, shopping, appointments, friends and youth activities among their day-to-day travels. Accordingly, it is necessary to maintain and improve the interconnected network of roads to provide safe and efficient travel throughout Fremont for its residents.



Fremont has already taken initiative to try to solve these problems, but support at the State level will be crucial to our success. In March 2019, with support from the City and input from the greater Fremont community over a two- year planning period, representatives adopted a 5- year Mobility Action Plan to address traffic congestion, improve local multimodal circulation, reduce traffic crashes, and adapt new transportation technologies in the City of Fremont. Many of the initiatives in the Mobility Action Plan call for increased usage of technology to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety. The ability to apply for state funding to support the piloting of important initiatives described in the Mobility Action Plan will further assist the City of Fremont in being innovative to ensure the safety our residents.

For these reasons, the City of Fremont supports your AB 659.

Sincerely,



Lily Mei  
Mayor  
City of Fremont

cc.

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski & The Honorable Kansen Chu  
League of California Cities, [cityletters@cacities.org](mailto:cityletters@cacities.org)