



November 16, 2020

Gwyneth Borden, Chair of San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency  
Jeffrey Tumlin, San Francisco Director of Transportation

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Great Highway Closure**

Dear Chair Borden and Director Tumlin:

We write in strong support of maintaining Great Highway's closure to vehicles.

Since April 8<sup>th</sup>, Great Highway has provided valuable open space for residents to socially distance outdoors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since its closure, it has become vital to the physical and mental well-being of thousands of San Franciscans. The Great Walkway (as it is now known) has essentially become San Francisco's newest park, a gathering place for families, musicians, and artists, and a place where the general public can enjoy wide open space without fear of being injured or killed by automobiles.

Any further traffic mitigations in the surrounding area must ensure pedestrian safety with a car-free Great Highway as its centerpiece. By discouraging car use, San Francisco can achieve not only its environmental goals through reduced carbon emissions, but also its Vision Zero goals by limiting interactions between cars and people.

While the pandemic has been horrific on so many levels — causing untold human tragedy — it has also allowed us to re-learn how we can use our streets for activities other than driving cars. Street closures such as Great Highway help build community and are highly beneficial to our community's health and well-being.

We urge you to maintain the Great Highway closure while taking action to ensure traffic calming and pedestrian safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Wiener".

Scott Wiener  
**Senator, 11<sup>th</sup> District**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Y. Ting".

Philip Y. Ting  
**Assemblymember, 19<sup>th</sup> District**