

From: Wendy Ring <wring123@gmail.com>
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To: COB
Subject: comment on item J3

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I'm concerned about changes in the draft which will make it harder to reduce the county's transportation emissions.

- 1) considering rural road repair as a transit expenditure and
- 2) only spending money on transit that is specifically earmarked for transit

We can't increase the percentage of trips made by transit without increasing the percentage of transportation funds spent on transit. Those 2 proposals look like a set up to reneging on the board's promise to spend a significant proportion of Measure O funds on transit improvement. We already have a problem in this county of representing road improvements for cars as improving safety for pedestrians and cyclists where there is no evidence that projects of those types increase safety for non-drivers. We don't need to start doing the same thing for transit.

While improving transit service in rural areas is a good goal, the purpose of this plan is reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and that can't be done by shifting funds from improving transit in urbanized areas where most of the trips are taking place to repairing rural roads.

Wendy Ring