

November 13, 2001

**Dear Friends of Free Bus Passes for Schoolchildren:**

*Thank you for the enthusiastic support for free bus passes from every corner of the East Bay! It is time again for our monthly update on the **Aroner/Carson/Gioia school bus pass proposal** to provide low-income middle and high school students in the AC Transit service area with free bus passes. The proposal remains before the MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission), where they have been considering the pilot **since July!** We are down to the wire...**4 more weeks** and counting until the **FINAL MTC Vote** that will seal the fate of the bus passes.*

**THE MTC needs to hear from as many supporters of the school bus pass as possible. Now, more than ever, your continued public support is CRUCIAL. If the MTC doesn't approve something in December, the bus pass cannot be resurrected for another 3 years! Here is the timeline of events and things that YOU (and your friends) can do to keep the pressure on the MTC:**

**1) Attend Kids First! Oakland's community forum on the Bus Pass proposal on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26 at 6pm at 1625 BROADWAY in Oakland.**

*The sub-committee that will make recommendations to the full commission on the school bus pass pilot is the Planning and Operations Committee:*

**2) Attend the MTC's Planning and Operations committee meeting FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. ( 101 ~ 8<sup>th</sup> St, Oakland, 94607 in the auditorium).**

- Tell them that you don't want a watered down version of the school bus pass proposal
- Tell them that the proposal should cover the *WHOLE* AC Transit area, not just certain select parts

**3) ATTEND THE 2 FINAL (AND WE MEAN FINAL) Meeting of the MTC on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> & DECEMBER 19, 2001 at 10 am—We need you in person (Bring friends! Bring signs! Location: 101 8th St., Oakland, CA 94607)**

- This is it! If the school bus pass doesn't get enough votes to include it in the **transportation plan, it goes away!**

**4) TELL MTC How you REALLY feel: Send ANOTHER Letter (101 8<sup>th</sup> St, Oakland, CA 94607), e-mail them ([info@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:info@mtc.ca.gov)) fax them (510-464-7848)...JUST Talk to them. If they don't hear from us, they will think we don't care.**

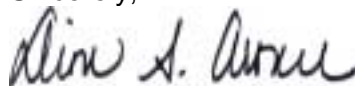
**5) Visit the MTC website and fill out their survey, tell them you support the originally proposed school bus pass proposal and getting kids to school should be a transportation priority!**

- [http://apps.mtc.ca.gov:8080/rtp\\_survey/survey.jsp](http://apps.mtc.ca.gov:8080/rtp_survey/survey.jsp)

**6) Send a letter to the editors of the San Francisco Chronicle ([letters@sfchronicle.com](mailto:letters@sfchronicle.com)), Oakland Tribune ([triblet@angnewspapers.com](mailto:triblet@angnewspapers.com)) and West County Times ([http://www.contracostatimes.com/contact\\_us/letters.htm](http://www.contracostatimes.com/contact_us/letters.htm)) !**

**Thanks again** for your support of the free bus pass program. Please come to these public meetings to express your opinions. Help us build even more support by forwarding this letter to your friends and associates!

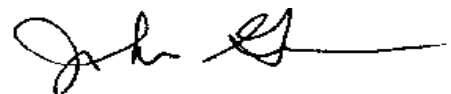
Sincerely,



Dion Aroner, Member  
CA State Assembly  
(510) 540-3660



Keith Carson, Supervisor  
Alameda County  
(510) 272-6695



John Gioia, Supervisor  
Contra Costa County  
(510) 374-3231