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CITY OF FRESNO
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Agenda Date: 2/18/2021
Council Meeting

FRESNO CITY COUNCIL

City of
FRESNO 

Information Packet

ITEM(S)

File ID 21-284 (1:00 P.M.)

The Zero Fare Clean Air Act.

Contents of Supplement: Community Emails.

Item(s)

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

Bernard Canez

From: Deep Singh <deep@jakara.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 6:41 PM
To: Clerk
Cc: District4
Subject: Zero Fare Clean Air Act - Support
Attachments: ZFCA - JM.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

To the City Clerk:

Attached you will find a letter of support from the Jakara Movement. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

ਮਦਾ ਚੜ੍ਹਦੀ ਕਲਾ (eternal optimism in the face of struggle),
deep.
559-647-4700

Naindeep Singh
Executive Director
Jakara Movement
www.jakara.org
together, we are the movement.

www.jakara.org

@jakaramovement

6089 N. First St. #102; Fresno, CA 93710



JAKARA MOVEMENT

Fresno City Clerk's Office

2600 Fresno Street

Fresno, CA 93721

February 11, 2021

RE: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act

Dear Mayor Dyer & the Fresno City Council,

As leaders in the City of Fresno we urge you to support funding equitable transportation opportunities for all residents through the Zero Fare Clean Air Act (ZFCAA).

The Jakara Movement works with Sikh and Punjabi-speaking community members across the city. Many of our elderly are dependent on the bus to commute around town, go to health-related appointments, and travel to meet family members. Their autonomy, despite often being monolingual immigrants, is related to being able to travel on the bus. Many low-income families, students (especially foreign students and new immigrants), and others utilize the bus.

By eliminating the city-wide costs of bus fare, the City of Fresno would help reduce carbon emissions, increase FAX efficiency & safety, promote infill development, and build a more walkable City. The Zero Fare Clean Air Act would suspend bus fares immediately so that our city can address the dire consequences of COVID-19, heal our economy, and confront many of the social inequities Fresno has faced long before COVID-19 by achieving the following outcomes:

1. Getting more people vaccinated
2. Stimulating our local economy
3. Getting Fresnans back to work

The Jakara Movement believes this proposal will provide our Fresno community safe and affordable transportation to work, school, leisure activities, as well as medical appointments. We are proud to be supporters of this initiative. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (559) 647-4700 or vial email at deep@jakara.org.

Sincerely,

Naindeep Singh
Executive Director

cc: Mayor Jerry Dyer Fresno City Councilmembers

Bernard Canez

From: Ashley Rojas <ashley_rojas@fresnobarriosunidos.org>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 8:31 AM
To: Clerk
Cc: District4
Subject: LOS: Zero Fare Clean Air
Attachments: ZFCA Letter of Support from FBU.docx.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Hello,

Please see attached.

thank you,
A

for scheduling please visit: https://calendly.com/ashley_rojas
in community,

Ashley Crystal Rojas

Executive Director

Pronouns: They/Them/She/Her

"the future has an ancient heart"

4403 E. Tulare Avenue

Fresno, CA 93702

Office: 559.453.9662 x102

www.fresnobarriosunidos.org

[Like Us on Facebook](#) | [Follow Us on Twitter](#) | [Follow Us on Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Fresno Barrios Unidos transforms communities by empowering youth and families through advocacy, education, and wellness. We are inclusive, respectful, and appreciative of the youth and families we serve.

Confidentiality notice: This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity which it is addressed to and may contain privileged information, confidential, and exempt from disclosure under applicable laws. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please return the message to us via return email immediately and delete the message and reply message from your system. Thank you.



FRESNO BARRIOS UNIDOS

Advocacy • Education • Wellness

Fresno City Clerk's Office
cc: Mayor Jerry Dyer & Fresno City Councilmembers
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721

February 16, 2021

RE: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act


Dear Mayor Dyer & the Fresno City Council,

As leaders in the City of Fresno we urge you to support funding equitable transportation opportunities for all residents through the Zero Fare Clean Air Act (ZFCAA). Fresno Barrios Unidos' youth leaders and its community partners at the Youth Leadership Institute and Fresno Building Healthy Communities have been advocating to improve Fresno Area Express (FAX) public transportation system since 2018 when our youth leaders and adult allies from Womxn Empowered and Fresno Boys and Men of Color launched the #WhatTheFAX campaign, which added Wi-Fi at two major bus stations and on the new BRT buses. Our youth leaders also advocated to make bus rides free for all students, make FAX safer, and more accessible for riders. Councilmember Tyler Maxwell's Zero Fare initiative to make bus rides accessible to all Fresnoans is responsive to youth needs in our community! By eliminating the citywide costs of bus fare, the City of Fresno would help reduce carbon emissions, increase FAX efficiency & safety, promote infill development, and build a more walkable city. The Zero Fare Clean Air Act would suspend bus fares immediately so that our city can address the dire consequences of COVID-19, heal our economy, and confront many of the social inequities Fresno has faced long before COVID-19 by achieving the following outcomes:

1. Getting more people vaccinated
2. Stimulating our local economy
3. Getting Fresnoans back to work

Fresno Barrios Unidos believes this proposal will provide our Fresno community safe and affordable transportation to work, school, leisure activities, as well as medical appointments. We are proud to be supporters of this initiative. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach at (559) 453-9662 or via email at ashley@fresnobarriosunidos.org.

Sincerely,


Ashley Crystal Rojas
Executive Director
Fresno Barrios Unidos

Bernard Canez

From: Christopher Jalomo <Cjalomo@readingandbeyond.org>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 1:26 PM
To: Clerk
Cc: Jerry Dyer; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District6; District7
Subject: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act - Reading and Beyond
Attachments: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Dear Mrs. Spence,

I have attached the support letter for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act from Reading and Beyond. Please ensure our support letter is provided to Mayor Jerry Dyer and Fresno City Councilmembers.

Thank You,

-Christopher

Christopher Jalomo
Reading and Beyond
4670 E. Butler Ave Fresno, CA 93702
PH: 559-342-8600 FAX: 559-387-5160
cjalomo@readingandbeyond.org
www.readingandbeyond.org



Mission: To empower children and families to achieve productive, self-reliant lives.

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are the property of READING AND BEYOND, are confidential, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom this e-mail is addressed. If you are not one of the named recipients or otherwise have reason to believe that you have received this message in error, please notify the system administrator (administrator@readingandbeyond.org) and delete this message immediately from your computer. Any other use, retention, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of the e-mail is strictly prohibited. Computer viruses can be transmitted via e-mail. The recipient should check this e-mail and any attachments for the presence of viruses. Reading and Beyond accepts no liability for any damage caused by any virus transmitted by this e-mail.



February 12, 2021

Fresno City Clerk's Office
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act

Dear Mayor Dyer and the Fresno City Council,

As leaders in the City of Fresno we urge you to support funding equitable transportation opportunities for all residents through the Zero Fare Clean Air Act (ZFCAA).

Reading and Beyond is in support of the Zero Fare Clean Air Act because we believe this will be helpful for the population we serve during the past two decades. As you may know, Reading and Beyond provides services to build foundations for children and families to the impoverished Fresno neighborhoods and surrounding counties. Our mission is to reduce the number of families who need to access the safety net because they have found self-reliance pathways. Reading and Beyond current programs include - Preschool Facilities; K-12 afterschool programming; COVID-19 education and support; Food and Housing assistance; and employment and training through our program- California Bridge Academies (CBA). This program has helped thousands of families exit poverty every year doing so while generating a positive return for taxpayers.

By eliminating the city-wide costs of bus fare, the City of Fresno would help reduce carbon emissions, increase FAX efficiency & safety, promote infill development, and build a more walkable City. The Zero Fare Clean Air Act would suspend bus fares immediately so that our city can address the dire consequences of COVID-19, heal our economy, and confront many of the social inequities Fresno has faced long before COVID-19 by achieving the following outcomes:

1. Getting more people vaccinated
2. Stimulating our local economy
3. Getting Fresnans back to work

Reading and beyond believes this proposal will provide our Fresno community safe and affordable transportation to work, school, leisure activities, as well as medical appointments. We are proud to be supporters of this initiative. Should you have any questions,

I can be reached at (559) 342-8625 or via email at lsantana@readingandbeyond.org

Sincerely,

Luis Santana, MSW
Executive Director
Reading and Beyond

cc: Mayor Jerry Dyer, Fresno City Councilmembers

Bernard Canez

From: Sonia Arreguin <soniaarreguin71@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:39 PM
To: Clerk
Cc: District4; Sonia Arreguin
Subject: Zero Fare Clean Air Act letter of support
Attachments: Letter of support Clean Air Act.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments



CENTRAL CALIFORNIA
HISPANIC CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

Fresno City Clerk's Office
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721
February 15, 2021

RE: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act

Dear Mayor Dyer & the Fresno City Council,

As leaders in the City of Fresno we urge you to support funding equitable transportation opportunities for all residents through the Zero Fare Clean Air Act (ZFCAA).

The mission of the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is to promote business from start up to fruition, utilizing the success of our diverse community and their resources of our chamber members. We provide education and networking opportunities along with access to capital and other business connections. We foster economic growth that creates and sustains prosperity for the benefit of all people while promoting the awareness and preservation of the Hispanic culture in our area.

By eliminating the city-wide costs of bus fare, the City of Fresno would help reduce carbon emissions, increase FAX efficiency & safety, promote infill development, and build a more walkable City. The Zero Fare Clean Air Act would suspend bus fares immediately so that our city can address the dire consequences of COVID-19, heal our economy, and confront many of the social inequities Fresno has faced long before COVID-19 by achieving the following outcomes:

1. Getting more people vaccinated
2. Stimulating our local economy
3. Getting Fresnans back to work

The Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce believes this proposal will provide our Fresno community safe and affordable transportation to work, school, leisure activities, as well as medical appointments. We are proud to be supporters of this initiative. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (559) 392-4758 or via email at sonia@cchcc.biz.

Sincerely,

Sonia Arreguin
2021-2022 President
Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonia Arreguin", written over the printed name and title.

cc: Mayor Jerry Dyer Fresno City Councilmembers

Bernard Canez

From: Al Brofman <albrofman@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 8:39 AM
To: Clerk
Subject: Supporting Free FAX

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

I am writing to support free bus transportation for all. This would help clean the air, lower car accidents, and facilitate people getting needed health care; including getting timely Covid vaccinations.
Thank you

Bernard Canez

From: David Case <david.allen.case68@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:02 AM
To: Clerk
Subject: City Council Meeting, Feb 18, 2021. ID 21-284

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

My name is David Allen Case. I have been a Bus Driver with Fresno Area Express for over 12 years.

If we learned anything from removing fares to ride the bus with the introduction of the "Q" is that the homeless ride the bus and bring with them total disregard for the rules while on the bus. They would try to bring on the bus open containers of alcohol, fuel containers like gas cans and propane tanks, and their pets. They create an atmosphere that would make the other passengers get up and move to a different part of the bus to get as far away from the situation that they can. For about a year the City would not enforce the fare on the "Q" and for a year everyone had to endure the homeless situation. To bring that to the whole system would remove the ability for people trying to get anywhere on the bus because the homeless would fill up the available 10 passenger rule we have in effect during this pandemic. We already must leave passengers at stops because we have too many on board.

I would ask the City Council to ride the bus for a week and see what the situation is before trying to fix a problem. There are more we could do to improve the system that would have a far greater impact on ridership than removing fares.

By allowing free rides on the bus, you are allowing the lawlessness of the homeless to create once again a system that leaves people wondering if it is safe to ride the bus. You remove the ability for people to get to work with the reduction of available seats taken by the homeless. You create problems for everyone when we must stop the bus and have the passenger that is not complying with the rules removed from the bus.

Thank you for your consideration of my words.

David Allen Case
David.allen.case68@gmail.com
559-801-7469



Virus-free. www.avg.com

Bernard Canez

From: Michaela Bennett <michaelab2297@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:10 PM
To: Clerk
Subject: Contact City Clerk Form submitted on City Clerk

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

First Name	Michaela
Last Name	Bennett
Email	michaelab2297@att.net
Subject	Public Comment in Support of Free Buses/FAX
Message	<p>Hi,</p> <p>Would you please log my comments, 1 thru 28 on Twitter, about the Fresno City Council's considering a no fare public bus system in the city, which I support.</p> <p>Please distribute to all Fresno City Council members. (Regrets I am having tech and PDF problems today.)</p> <p>Thank you. Stay safe</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Ms. Michaela Bennett C/o Hope Lutheran Church 364 East Barstow Ave. Fresno, CA 93710</p> <p>*****</p> <p>https://threadreaderapp.com/thread/1361710688733831171?refresh=1613505641</p>
IP Address	12.219.200.254
User-Agent (Browser/OS)	Google Chrome 88.0.4324.152 / Android
Referrer	https://www.fresno.gov/cityclerk/contact-clerk/

Bernard Canez

From: Luke Gilbert <lgilb3@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Clerk
Subject: Zero Fare Clean Air Act ID 21-284

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

To Whom it may concern,
I'm writing to express my support for the Zero Fair Clean Air Act undergoing discussion today at 1pm

Thanks,
Fresno Resident
Luke Gilbert

Bernard Canez

From: Jose Espinoza <jespinoza@yli.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:36 PM
To: Clerk
Cc: District4; Marco Martinez-Velasquez
Subject: YLI and Youth Commission Letters of Support
Attachments: YLI -ZFCA Letter of Support.docx - Google Docs.pdf; FYC - ZFCA Letter of Support.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Hi City Clerks office,
I hope you are all doing well. I have attached Youth Leadership Institute's (YLI) and the City of Fresno Youth Commission's letter of support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act that will be heard at the City Council meeting this Thursday. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,
Jose Espinoza



Jose Espinoza

Pronouns: He, Him, His

Program Manager

Youth Leadership Institute

700 Van Ness Ave., Suite #013, Fresno, Ca. 93721

Office: (559)492-9501

www.yli.org



Fresno City Clerk's Office
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721
February 12, 2021

RE: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act

Dear Mayor Dyer & the Fresno City Council,

As leaders in the City of Fresno we urge you to support funding equitable transportation opportunities for all residents through the Zero Fare Clean Air Act (ZFCAA).

The Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) builds communities where young people and their adult allies come together to create positive social change. Our work is based in the conviction that when we empower and train youth to use their voices well, the entire community will prosper as a result. Founded in 1991, YLI has sparked the leadership of 90,000 young people to solve pressing social issues and serve communities. YLI implements programs throughout California in Marin, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties. Across 70 cohorts, YLI serves 1,700 youth leaders ages 12-26 each week, 90% of whom are youth of color, and 67% of whom qualify as low income.

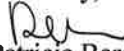
ZFCAA aligns with the vision and priorities of the more than 350 young people we serve in Fresno. Youth across our programs rely on public transportation to get to school, to get to work, and to move about their community. In 2017, our Fresno Boys and Men of Color youth leaders partnered with Womxn Empowered youth leaders to lead a transportation justice campaign, *#WhatTheFAX*, to uplift and advocate for priorities important to youth bus riders, like improved frequency, Wi-Fi access, and lower or free fares. These and many other youth would stand to benefit greatly from this policy.

By eliminating the city-wide costs of bus fare, the City of Fresno would help reduce carbon emissions, increase FAX efficiency & safety, promote infill development, and build a more walkable City. The Zero Fare Clean Air Act would suspend bus fares immediately so that our city can address the dire consequences of COVID-19, heal our economy, and confront many of the social inequities Fresno has faced long before COVID-19 by achieving the following outcomes:

1. Getting more people vaccinated
2. Stimulating our local economy
3. Getting Fresnans back to work

Youth Leadership Institute believes this proposal will provide our Fresno community safe and affordable transportation to work, school, leisure activities, as well as medical appointments. We are proud to be supporters of this initiative. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (732) 735-3830 or via email at pbarahona@yli.org.

Sincerely,


Patricia Barahona
CEO, Youth Leadership Institute

cc: Mayor Jerry Dyer Fresno City Councilmembers

yli.org



Fresno City Clerk's Office
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721
February 15th, 2021

RE: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act

Dear Mayor Dyer & the Fresno City Council,

As leaders in the City of Fresno we urge you to support funding equitable transportation opportunities for all residents through the Zero Fare Clean Air Act (ZFCAA).

The City of Fresno Youth Commission, which is subcontracted out to the Youth Leadership Institute, is made up of youth ages 15-21 and serves as an advisory board to city council and the Mayor's office on issues impacting youth. The commission ultimately serves as a voice for youth to city council and the Mayor. Every fiscal year, the Youth Commission provides City Council with at least 1 recommendation based on needs that youth have heard from youth in their public meetings and town halls. The Fresno Youth Commission has voted to support the Zero Fare Clean Air Act as this is a solution in which many youth will benefit from.

By eliminating the city-wide costs of bus fare, the City of Fresno would help reduce carbon emissions, increase FAX efficiency & safety, promote infill development, and build a more walkable City. The Zero Fare Clean Air Act would suspend bus fares immediately so that our city can address the dire consequences of COVID-19, heal our economy, and confront many of the social inequities Fresno has faced long before COVID-19 by achieving the following outcomes:

1. Getting more people vaccinated
2. Stimulating our local economy
3. Getting Fresnans back to work

The City of Fresno Youth Commission believes this proposal will provide our Fresno community safe and affordable transportation to work, school, leisure activities, as well as medical appointments. We are proud to be supporters of this initiative. Should you have any questions, the Fresno Youth Commission Program Manager, Jose Espinoza, can be reached at (559) 492-9501 or via email at jespinoza@yli.org.

Sincerely,

Jose Espinoza
Program Manager
City of Fresno Youth Commission/ Youth Leadership Institute

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jose Espinoza", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bernard Canez

From: Thilani Grubel <tgrubel@bitwiseindustries.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:37 PM
To: Clerk; District4; Tina Robertson
Subject: Zero Fare Clean Air Act
Attachments: BW ZFCA Act.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Please see the attached letter voicing our support for the Zero Fair Clean Air act. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you.

Thilani Grubel (she/her)
Vice President, Bitwise Fresno
(559) 269-7223
[Stay up-to-date on everything Bitwise](#)

February 16, 2021



Writer contact:
Thilani Grubel
tgrubell@bitwiseindustries.com
559.269.7223

Fresno City Clerk's Office
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Delivered Electronically

Re: Letter of Support for the Zero Fare Clean Air Act

Dear Mayor Dyer & the Fresno City Council,

As leaders in the City of Fresno we urge you to support funding equitable transportation opportunities for all residents through the Zero Fare Clean Air Act (ZFCAA).

Bitwise Industries creates a bridge between humans from marginalized communities and stories of systemic poverty to skills and resources necessary to access opportunities in the tech industry. By leveraging public-private partnerships, Bitwise provides paid apprenticeships to students to learn tech skills, connects them to meaningful tech opportunities, and builds vibrant buildings in underestimated cities to house their work. By upskilling disenfranchised humans, it empowers them to change their own lives—which ignites and transforms the regional economies of the cities in which Bitwise serves.

By eliminating the city-wide costs of bus fare, the City of Fresno would help reduce carbon emissions, increase FAX efficiency & safety, promote infill development, and build a more walkable City. The Zero Fare Clean Air Act would suspend bus fares immediately so that our city can address the dire consequences of COVID-19, heal our economy, and confront many of the social inequities Fresno has faced long before COVID-19 by achieving the following outcomes:

1. Getting more people vaccinated
2. Stimulating our local economy
3. Getting Fresnans back to work

Bitwise Industries believes this proposal will provide our Fresno community safe and affordable transportation to work, school, leisure activities, as well as medical appointments. We are proud to be

supporters of this initiative. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (559) 269-7223 or via email at tgrubel@bitwiseindustries.com.

Sincerely,

Thilani Grubel

Vice President, Bitwise Fresno

Bitwise Industries

cc: Mayor Jerry Dyer Fresno City Councilmembers