



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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December 24, 2020

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Mr. Keith Haydon, Jr
Chair, Board of Directors
Central Contra Costa Transit Authority
2477 Arnold Industrial Way
Concord, CA 94520-5327

RE: Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force

Dear Chair Haydon, Jr:

I wanted to provide you and your colleagues an update on the activities of the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force (Task Force) convened by MTC as part of our action last spring to distribute the first phase of CARES Act funding to transit operators. After focusing initially on COVID-19 health and safety protocols and encouraging the adoption of common messaging that all of the region's transit operators could agree upon, the Task Force has now moved to the next critical stage—long-term recovery and transformation. The Task Force's vision of transit transformation is to:

Design, adequately invest in and effectively manage a public transit network that is equitable, inclusive, frequent, affordable, accessible, reliable; is integrated with unified service, fares, schedules, customer information and identity; and serves all Bay Area populations, resulting in increased transit ridership and reduced growth in vehicle miles traveled.

At its meeting on November 16, the Task Force adopted four specific goals and objectives for the Transformation Action Plan, attached. Goals 1 and 2 are foundational to the remainder of the plan: First, acknowledge the fiscal crisis facing operators and defer post-recovery service planning to allow agencies to prioritize difficult fiscal and service choices in the midst of increasing uncertainty. Second, prioritize equity. Third, identify near-term actions to implement network management & governance reforms, and fourth, identify how current MTC and state initiatives can help advance those reforms.

Notably, this effort is related to, but separate from, two other initiatives that MTC is working on with the Bay Area's transit operators of which you may also be aware: A Fare Coordination/Integration Study and a Transit Mapping and Wayfinding Project, both of which seek to improve the transit rider experience and encourage ridership as we recover from the pandemic. Work on those efforts is ongoing, with updates to the Task Force planned for January 2021.

The Task Force currently consists of 32 members, including California State Transportation Agency Secretary David Kim and, Assemblymember David Chiu, eight MTC Commissioners, nine transit agency general managers and 9 stakeholders representing various interests, including labor, business, social equity, and persons with disabilities. Knowing what a difficult time this is for your agency, we very much appreciate the time your staff are devoting to this effort.

MTC staff will schedule a virtual meeting for the region's transit agency board members early next year to provide an opportunity for you to learn more and ask questions. In the meantime, meetings of the Task Force are open to the public and held via Zoom. Prior meeting materials are available for review on MTC's website [here](#). The final Transformation Action Plan, anticipated to be completed in June 2021, will likely include legislative recommendations and Assemblymember Chiu has made it clear he is interested in authoring legislation on this subject. If you have questions or would like to request a presentation regarding the work of the Task Force work at a future board meeting, please contact Rebecca Long, MTC Manager of Government Relations at rlong@bayareametro.gov or 510-504-7914.

Sincerely,


Scott Haggerty
Chairman



cc: MTC Commissioner Jim Spering (Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Chair)
Rick Ramacier, General Manager, Central Contra Costa Transit Authority