



December 14, 2022

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Dear Chair Pedroza and MTC Commissioners,

We write to you jointly as Chair and Vice Chair of the Network Management Business Case Advisory Group to express our support for the Regional Network Management (RNM) proposal presented by staff at our final, December 12, 2022, Advisory Group meeting. The proposed RNM framework provides a thoughtful approach to advancing the integration of our region's transit system in a manner that will benefit customers in the near term while also providing the flexibility to adapt and evolve over time and we are excited to see it move forward.

Every day, our buses, ferries and trains carry tens of thousands of customers around the region, bringing them to their destinations safely and conveniently. When customers use transit, everyone in the region benefits. A robust and well utilized transit system reduces congestion on our streets, supports compact development and intensified land uses, eliminates air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions and ensures that all members of our community can rely on a foundation of equitable access and mobility. For these reasons, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and local jurisdictions around the Bay Area are counting on transit ridership and mode share to grow over the coming decades. Without a strong, well-utilized transit system we will not be able to achieve the sustainable, equitable future we envision for our region.

Yet our transit system faces real challenges. Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Bay Area Transit was troubled by stagnant ridership, institutional fragmentation and escalating costs. Now, while the worst of the pandemic is behind us, shifts in mobility and travel patterns have resulted in significant loss of ridership and the collapse of revenue streams that have long been essential to the business models of our transit operators. If we are to stabilize and grow our transit system over the coming years we need to work together as a region to deliver the services our customers need. The development of a coordinated, Regional Network Management function is a key step in making this transformation happen.

The proposed Regional Network Management framework is a significant and practical step toward a more integrated, customer focused transit system. It provides a dedicated forum and staff resourcing to address regional transit and empowers a decision-making structure that

leverages the existing authorities of the MTC Commission and individual transit agencies to implement needed customer improvements quickly. Further, the proposal harnesses the expertise and formalizes coordination of the transit general managers and elevates the voice of the customer and its importance throughout the framework. The near-term RNM structure also provides flexibility to evolve and strengthen over time, allowing us to understand what works well and what changes may be needed as we navigate the years ahead. This proposal is the result of a collective regional effort that began with the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Taskforce in 2020 and has continued with the Network Management Business Case process. The work has shifted and changed a number of times based on input from stakeholders, transit operators and policymakers and the final result is a proposal that has been shaped and guided by all of these voices. We are grateful for the sustained efforts of the consultant team, MTC and transit agency staff, and all who dedicated their time and energy to this important work.

As we reach the conclusion of the year and of this Advisory Group, we look forward to advancing this important work for consideration by the MTC Commission and by individual transit agency boards. Working together we are confident that we can build a large and thriving regional transit system that is financially sustainable and delivers the value our customers and our public need and deserve.



Denis J. Mulligan

Chair, Network Management Business Case Advisory Group



Alicia John-Baptiste

Vice-Chair, Network Management Business Case Advisory Group

cc: Therese McMillan, Executive Director, MTC