External Email

Dear MTC,

I want to make a few brief points highlighting my personal disagreements regarding the proposal for the RNM structure. To preface, I am a frequent Bay Area transit rider myself, and feel that in the short-term a strong RNM Executive Board is essential for ensuring there is equitable, high-quality, fast, and frequent public transportation systems in the Bay Area.

First and foremost, I question the efficacy of a case of MTC oversight. MTC already has seemingly infinite duties, so why an additional layer of oversight? As an example, MTC has been presiding over the Network Management Business Case, yet there are only a few times where they have commented on proposals or offered wisdom to shape its goals.

Secondly, the ability for transit riders and advocates to have any influence within the RNM is small. The bulk of power within the RNM goes to GMs who seldom have time to listen directly to constituent concerns. Nowhere within the RNM are board members of large Bay Area transit agencies; these board members often have more direct contact with riders and more personal experiences with transit that could positively influence the RNM compared to GMs.

Ultimately, my ask is simple: I believe in Seamless Bay Area's vision of appointing more riders and transportation planning professionals to the RNM board. In the long-term, more efficient options must be considered—perhaps options that align with successful network management cases globally.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Davis Turner, Burlingame