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To: MTC-ABAG Info <info@bayareametro.gov>
Subject: BATA oversight committee comments

External Email

Kim and Martha, please forward this message to the BATA Oversight Committee for the Meeting of 8 September, 2021.

Good morning Chair Amy Worth and Members.

Aleta Dupree for the record. (she, her).

I bring you today my various comments concerning the work of BATA, and your oversight portfolio.

Things are happening in the toll collection space. About a week ago, I read of the last toll barrier on the New York State Thruway being demolished. Over the next month or so the finishing work will be completed, bringing the entire system into full open road tolling operations.

I did take a few trips over the Bay Bridge recently, on a bus as I usually do. I am impressed with the way things seem to be going, things look like they're moving along nicely. I am not able to see much of that activity, given that buses use the bypass lane.

I have been able to travel on the Dulles Toll Road, in Northern Virginia for a bit, while riding in a bus. There is a partial sense of all electronic tolling, with the use of EZ Pass, and the automated collection of coins. It is not yet known when full all electronic tolling will commence.

I am looking forward to your presentations at the Meeting. I appreciate the continued work in improving customer service. With new things there will always be questions. And I think BATA is the leader in this work. I do ask for continuing our reporting on the progress of our open road tolling work, and the various subsets of work that go along with it.

Given the progress we are making, I advocate the work towards all electronic tolling needs to continue, with the goal of removing the toll barriers and the new equipment installed in their place.

Thank you.