SAMTRANS

CORRESPONDENCE

as of 9-18-2020
Dear Mr. Hartnett: I'm writing to request a response to my attached letter, which I originally emailed you on August 28.

Thank you for your courtesy.

Richard Marcantonio, Managing Attorney
Public Advocates Inc.
August 28, 2020

BY EMAIL: board@samtrans.com
Jim Hartnett, General Manager/CEO
San Mateo County Transit District

Re: SamTrans Board Resolution to Endorse and Implement MTC’s “Healthy Transit Plan”

Dear Mr. Hartnett:

The safety of transit riders and workers is of the utmost importance during the pandemic. We write to request details of SamTrans’s process for completing a plan to implement the Bay Area regional “Healthy Transit Plan” (attached).

As you know, at its August 26 meeting, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission voted to support the implementation of the “Healthy Transit Plan,” and will require each Bay Area transit agency board to adopt the attached “agency commitment resolution.” The proposed resolution “endor[es] the Riding Together: Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan as a baseline set of measures that … Bay Area transit agencies will implement,” and commits that SamTrans “supports the implementation of the Riding Together: Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan on our system.”

At that meeting, MTC Executive Director Therese McMillan stated that it was “a common expectation” that the regional “Healthy Transit Plan” was “a broad guidance document” that each transit agency would “be translat[ing] on an agency-by-agency basis.” Specifically, she stated that the resolution MTC is requesting “is built on the assumption that each agency is in fact putting together those specifics that align with the needs of their particular services.”

In addition, the Commission at that meeting adopted a motion that stated MTC’s expectation that transit agencies would implement “the healthy transit plan or state standards, whichever is stronger.”

Riders, workers and the general public have a keen interest in being involved in the development of your agency’s implementation plan, and a right to comment publicly on the details of that implementation plan before the Board vote on MTC’s proposed resolution.

Please respond by September 9 to inform us of the process and timeline for developing that implementation plan, including opportunities for public input and comment on drafts before the Board adopts the MTC resolution. If SamTrans has already completed that process, provide us with your implementation plan, or a link to that implementation plan on your website.
Thank you for your courtesy, and please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard Marcantonio, Managing Attorney
Public Advocates Inc.
rmarcantonio@publicadvocates.org


Cc: Board Members
   Eduardo Gonzalez, Youth Leadership Institute
   Miguel Navarro, Jr., President/Business Agent, ATU Local 1574