

SAMTRANS
CORRESPONDENCE
as of 2-5-2021

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Subject: Could you pressure the FDA to approve the Astra Zeneca vaccine
Date: Friday, February 05, 2021 10:11:09 AM

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Hi,

So there are two vaccines that are legal in the US right now. A third - the AstraZeneca vaccine - is legal in the UK and EU, is very easy to produce and distribute, and has so far been 100% effective or very close to it at preventing deaths from COVID. A fourth - Johnson and Johnson - may be approved 3 weeks from now, or at 3,000 deaths a day, about 60,000 deaths from now.

San Francisco and San Mateo counties are basically ready to distribute the vaccine on a wide scale as soon as they get more of it, but right now, they don't have more of it, and as a result more people are getting sick and dying and the Samtrans budget hole is growing.

I know the transit union wants the vaccine and I think your riders want the vaccine too. But the FDA has been really, really slow to approve these drugs that have been through massive trials and been shown to be safe, even though at the end of the day everyone expects they will approve them.

Could you put out a statement calling on the FDA to move faster to approve these safe drugs that would help get bus drivers vaccinated, and help riders feel more confident riding the bus?

Thanks,
Kevin

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