

January 24, 2018

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Air Quality Division
Implementation Grants Section, MC-204
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087
ATTN: VW Settlement

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing on behalf of the McKinney Avenue Transit Authority (“MATA”) located in Dallas, Texas with respect to the use of funds in Texas received from the Volkswagen State Environmental Mitigation Trust (“Trust”). The funds allocated to Texas from the Trust will be available to be used for projects that reduce nitrogen oxides (NOx) in the environment. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“TECQ”) has requested public input to assist it in the development of a beneficiary mitigation plan that it will apply to assist in the allocation of funds received by the State of Texas.

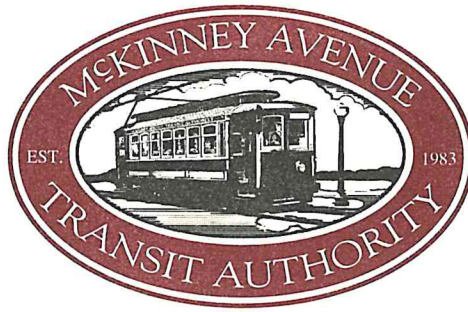
We are writing to express our support for a beneficiary mitigation plan that will include organizations like MATA as potential beneficiaries. We believe that MATA should be considered as a potential beneficiary because it provides public transportation with zero nitrogen oxide emissions into the environment.

We understand that the beneficiary mitigation plan is only now in the process of development and that the TCEQ is not currently receiving requests for funding from the funds that will be allocated to Texas. MATA, of course, respectfully requests the opportunity to submit an application at the appropriate time.

MATA and its historic trolley cars do not produce any nitrous oxide or other direct emissions. MATA is proud of the fact that Rosie, our 1909 trolley car, has not produced any harmful emissions in her nearly 110 years!

MATA is a 5.2 mile historic trolley system that serves residents and visitors in Dallas’ Uptown neighborhood and Downtown Dallas, which is one of the most highly populated areas in North Texas.

MATA owns and operates a fleet of seven historic trolley cars. MATA’s trolley cars run on a steel track that is owned by the City of Dallas. MATA is powered by electricity that is provided through an overhead wire system. MATA has been in continuous service since 1989.



MATA is a non-profit organization and has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from tax under Federal law.

MATA served more than 613,000 passengers in 2017 with travel needs including commuting to and from home and work, entertainment and tourism. MATA provides safe, clean, reliable and convenient public transportation.

MATA has ongoing funding needs that include operations and capital investment. Operational needs include, for example, repairs, maintenance and safety. Capital needs include acquisition of new trolley cars and major overhauls on trolley cars, track and overhead wire. MATA's specific funding priorities change from time to time and are set forth in MATA's budget which is approved each year by its volunteer Board of Directors.

Additional information about MATA is available at our website, www.mata.org.

MATA would welcome the opportunity to submit a Request for Funding as part of the beneficiary mitigation plan for Texas, and MATA encourages the TCEQ to adopt a beneficiary mitigation plan that recognizes the important role that MATA performs in serving North Texas in a way that preserves air quality in the North Texas region.

On behalf of MATA, we would be happy to provide additional information that may be necessary to assist in the formulation of the beneficiary mitigation plan and welcome the opportunity to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Cobb".

Phil Cobb
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Executive Committee